

## NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Homecoming GENERAL MEETING REPORT October 6, 2023

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS** 

**DR. JOHNELLE L. SHERALD** 

"The mission of the National Alumni Association of Saint Augustine's University (NAA) shall be to support the University in its efforts to sustain a learning community in which students can prepare academically, socially, and spiritually for leadership in a complex, diverse, and rapidly changing world. To fulfill its mission, NAA shall (1) create student recruitment opportunities for alumni and other supporters to increase and maintain enrollments; (2) promote alumni giving and other and fundraising activity for student scholarships and operating funds for the University and the NAA; and (3) disseminate to alumni, supporters, and the community at-large information which communicates the academic excellence of Saint Augustine's University and foster meaningful support to the institution and its programs."

The National Alumni Association is committed to our mission and will continue to fulfill the objectives set forth in our Bylaws for the benefit of Saint Augustine's University. We ask that, as Alumni, we all respect the mission and objectives for which we are guided.

The NAA has had a momentous year! Our memberships are up, and we continue to work hard to support the university. None of this would be possible without the continued support of our dedicated Alumni. You make things happen! Thank you for all you do to support us and the University.

The National Alumni Association continues to support the President of the University and her vision to "Reimagine SAU." We ask that you as Alumni support SAU as they move forward. Dr. Christine McPhail keeps us abreast of major events and changes quarterly through our Webinars. The date for our upcoming webinar is October 19, 2023, at 7:00 pm. The link and instructions to send in your questions will be available shortly. On June 29<sup>th</sup> we had a highly informative webinar with Dr. McPhail and her Cabinet. Over 90 Alumni came on to hear an incredibly good update and all questions sent in were answered. Thanks to all of you who attended. Please plan to attend our October Update Webinar.

Local Alumni Chapters are working hard to raise funds for SAU. Please support their events when you can. Chapter fundraisers help them to be able to give back to our beloved SAU. Our Chapters donate to SAU at least once a year with funds and with their time through student recruitment. I commend our Chapter Presidents and their members for their dedication and efforts to give back to the University. We need Alumni to join a chapter and help them to grow for more Alumni involvement. Thank you for the giving of your time, talents, and financial support.

During Commencement Week we sponsored a Dessert Reception for our graduating seniors. We presented them with membership cards that are good for free membership for a year and a small gift of congratulations. We shared with them contact information about all local Chapters and the NAA. Our quest was to encourage their Alumni Participation after graduation. The students enjoyed the reception and we got to meet them and learn something about them.

We still have a few Alumni cardigans to sell if you would like one. We will not be ordering anymore, so get one while they last! Sizes are limited. We will have them available at our General Meeting!

Our Officers for 2022-2024 are:

Rev. Alexander Dabney '88, Vice President – Washington, DC Metro Alumni Chapter

Ms. Dolli Bradford '01, Secretary – Durham Alumni Chapter

Mrs. Lillian Scott Lee '72, Assistant Secretary– Raleigh Retired Alumni Chapter

Mrs. Kimberly Hayes-Johnson '89 - Treasurer

Mrs. Bernadine Jordan- Howard '76, Financial Secretary - Washington, DC Metro Chapter

Mr. Joseph Lynn '79, NAA Representative to the Board of Trustees – Raleigh Wake Alumni Chapter

Dr. John T. Larkins '66, Immediate Past President – South Florida Alumni Chapter

Mr. Felix Jackson '77, Parliamentarian – South Florida Alumni Chapter

Ms. Ortharine Williams '91, Chaplain – Metro Atlanta Alumni Chapter

Mr. Roland Otey, Jr. '71, Sargent-at-Arms – Washington, DC Metro Alumni Chapter

Our Alumni Chapters are led by the most dedicated Presidents and Officers. Our chapters have been busy with fundraising, student recruitment and increasing membership in their chapters and NAA. If you are interested in establishing a chapter in your area, please contact the Regional Coordinator in your area. Their contact information can be found on our website. Chapter Presidents contact information can also be located on our website. We have a few new Chapter Presidents this year. Our Chapter Presidents are:

Philadelphia Metropolitan Chapter – Ms. Jacynda Williams '90 Hampton Roads Chapter – Mrs. Daphne Miller '72 Richmond/Petersburg Chapter – Mrs. Annette McFarland '82 Washington, DC Metropolitan Chapter – Mr. Linwood Brockett '78 Metro Atlanta Chapter – Ms. Ortharine Williams '91 Charleston Chapter – Mrs. Lynnette Johnson '78 Columbia, SC Chapter – Dr. Johnelle L. Sherald '76 South Florida Chapter – Mr. Eugene Thomas '68 Charlotte Chapter – Ms. Candace Richardson '98 Durham Chapter – Ms. Dolli Bradford '01 Oxford, NC Chapter – Ms. Marva Davenport '91 Piedmont Triad Chapter – Dr. Esther Coble '76 Raleigh Retired Chapter – Ms. Cynthia Whitney '13

**Regional Coordinators:** 

- Region I Mr. Brent Watson '79 (Conn., DE, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT, Bahamas)
- Region II Mrs. Novella Ford Wright '72 (DC, MD, VA, WV)

Region III - Mr. Casdell Singleton '77 - (AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC, TN)

Region IV – Mr. LaVon Sessoms '80 – (NC) (Charlotte, Coastal Carolina, Raleigh Retired, Pitt County Chapters)

Region IV – Mrs. Beverly Neeley Davis '70 - (NC) (Durham, Piedmont Triad, Oxford, Raleigh Wake Chapters)

Region V – Mr. Brian Hurd '92 – (AZ, CA, CO, HI, NV, NM, OK, WA, WY)

Save The Date!!