

Rocky Mount TELEGRAM

Patillo alumni launch new scholarship programs

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Special to the Telegram

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

The W. A. Pattillo High School National Alumni Association recently held its winter Board of Directors meeting at Princeville Elementary School.

A warm welcome and a report of the association's financial assistance to Princeville Elementary School was provided to the board by Principal Annette Walker.

Two new scholarships were added to the association's Scholarship and Awards Program and will be offered to students graduating from Edgecombe County Public Schools in 2016. They are The James E. Wood Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 to be awarded to a first-year engineering student who will matriculate at N.C. A&T State University in Greensboro, and The Marva Jeanne Pitt Riley Education Scholarship for \$1,000 to be given to a first-year education or English Major who will attend N.C. Central University in Durham.

The families of each scholarship are providing the funding and have requested that they be administered and awarded annually by the Pattillo High School Alumni Association. Scholarship applications are available to students online via the association's website at <http://pattillohswebs.com>.

The 35th annual reunion scheduled for July 1-3 is being planned by the Pattillo High Class of 1966, which will celebrate its 50th high school graduation anniversary. The plans will incorporate a change in venue for the Saturday Night Gala, which will be held at the Hilton Convention Center in Greenville instead of the Gateway Convention Center in Rocky Mount, which has closed. Round-trip bus or van transportation will be provided to this event by the association for a nominal fee of \$5.

The association continues to operate with a balanced budget under the leadership of national President Dr. Fred E. Wood Jr. Under his direction, the association constantly seeks ways to improve administratively, fiscally and programmatically. The association has established a stronger connection with the Edgecombe County Public Schools, alumni, family, friends and the Tarboro-Princeville communities and other constituents during his tenure as president.

Operational costs for the Association basically come from the payment of annual membership dues and donations specified for the general fund. Delia W. Perkins, former mayor of Princeville who is an alumnus and member of the association's Board of Visitors, recently made a donation of \$3,800 to the general fund to help defray the cost of running the association. Such commitment to the cause is highly appreciated.

Community partners, alumni and other interested parties are requested to support the W.A. Pattillo High School National Alumni Association in its quest to improve the lives of Edgecombe County Public Schools students and their families through education. Eligible individuals are invited to join, participate or serve in some capacity. Donations are welcomed and appreciated. Follow the association via its website at <http://pattillohswebs.com> or on facebook at W. A. Pattillo Alumni Association.