



# Issue 1 NCSF ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

June 2016

er to alums regarding the NCSF, its activities, and our scholarships

## this issue

**Byron Flanders – Our 2015 Advisor of the Year** P.1

**Alumni Association President John Lane’s Column** P.2

**Financial Aid Report from Nik Baer** P.3

**Treasurer’s Report from Alana Maxwell** P.4

## Call for Alums Interested in Leadership Roles

For many of us who have worked in various NCSF Alumni Association roles over the past decades, we recognize it is time for new leaders to emerge and pick up the reigns of this organization. Many of the old time officers of the Alumni Association remember a time before e-mail and even before computers. Moving into the new world requires leaders from that new world. If you have an interest in working with the alumni association, please contact:



## Byron Flanders, NCSF Trustee and Our 2015 Advisor of the Year

Decade long NCSF Trustee Byron Flanders was elected by the Alumni Association to be our 2015 Advisor of the Year. Congratulations Byron! The presentation was made at the October NCSF Banquet at the Round Hill Country Club by our Alumni President John Lane. Unfortunately, Byron was not able to attend that evening, but he was available to discuss his role as an advisor at the May 2016 interview of High School Students at the Oakland Scottish Rite Building.

Secretary Clyde Minar (also a former Advisor of the Year recipient), Byron was encouraged to serve as an advisor to several of the college students who had become scholarship recipients. Eventually, Byron served as an advisor to about seven scholars at a time, and has done so for the past twenty years. He estimates that he has had roughly 25 to 30 advisees over his years of service to the NCSF. He has enjoyed the young people he has mentored and gotten to know immensely.

Byron is originally from Massachusetts, spending time in New York until his father decided to come out to California. Byron eventually enrolled at St. Mary’s University in Moraga, and pursued a degree in electrical engineering. Byron made his career in the quickly emerging field of electronics, becoming an electrical engineering manager at several companies, and eventually becoming a Vice President of Manufacturing at his last company.

We encourage advisees who receive this newsletter and who know Byron to congratulate him on this recognition. We all know how important the scholarship was to our lives. We should, in reflection, thank those who gave of their time to make our college years memorable.

Byron started his career as a Mason in his Blue Lodge in Oakland, California. Through his association with NCSF



### PERSONAL NOTES

We’d like to make this your newsletter. Tell us what has occurred in your life that you’d like to share with the alumni community. New jobs, new careers, new babies, etc. Let us know what news you’d like to share.



## WHO ARE THE OFFICERS OF THE SCAIFE SCHOLARSHIP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

The officers for 2015-2016 are as follows:

PRESIDENT: John Lane

EXECUTIVE VP: Caleb Holtzinger

TREASURER: Alana Maxwell

SECRETARY: Heather Ross

VP OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS:

Jennifer Miller

STAFF VP OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS:

Andrew Fisher

ALUMNI AID OFFICER:

Nik Baer

ALUMNI AID COMMITTEE:

Byron Toma

Chris Karlovich

Nikolus Baer

Jennifer Miller

NOMINATIONS OFFICER

Kevin Cornish

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

(2013-2015)

John Lane

Gina Raible

(2015-2017)

Byron Toma

Caleb Holtzinger

Jennifer Miller

## A few thoughts from John Lane NCSF Alumni President

Remembering to help those in need and honoring the moral commitment to help others



If you are like me, you remember fondly the joy of being selected to receive generous financial aid from the NCSF. Many years may have passed, but the fruits of that generosity shown by the Oakland Scottish Rite no doubt continues to provide the community with the amazing skills and talents of our fellow alumni.

It is all too easy to accept the gifts we receive without much reflection. This year I will ask you all to reflect upon your bounty and be thankful for all that we have been given.

If you have an interest in working with the Alumni Association, I invite you to contact me. If you are able to offer a financial contribution to support our projects, we sincerely appreciate your generosity.

I thank you all for your thoughtfulness and generosity as I reflect upon the generosity of the Founders of the NCSF that made such a difference in my life.

By John Lane

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## Financial Aid Officer's Report

The last two years were markedly different from earlier years as we have continued our mission assisting NCSF graduate and fifth year aid students. For the 2015-2016 academic year, we had fewer than normal applicants and were thus able to concentrate our assistance. This April, we found ourselves in a very different situation. We had our normal number of applicants, but did not have enough donations to match the level of assistance given in past years. Luckily, the association has put aside some savings for such a "rainy day." The Alumni Aid Committee and the Board of Directors conferred and decided to supplement the donations with a portion of the association's savings. This, of course, emphasizes the importance of remembering to support our alumni each year.

The alumni and fifth year aid applicants were once again extremely impressive and I believe all of us are very happy to be able to support their continued education. The following individuals were selected to receive aid for the

2016-2017 academic year:

### Fifth Year Aid Recipients:

Brianna Stocks; Chris White; Haley Gordon; Joseph Grinstead; Rosemary Nurse; Stephanie Cantu;

### Graduate Recipients of Benjamin Scholarships:

Alina Andrade; Ashley Higgins; Ga (Monica) Rhee; Hank Davis; Madison Fesperman; Samantha Trout; Taylor Crouch; Taylor Wright

### Graduate Aid Recipients:

Amy Holland/Burkholder; Hillary Kao; Hua (Wenwen) Ni; Justin Tonooka; Mary Rose Swarts/Simonson; Meredith Whittaker; Sheila Sepehri

By Nik Baer



## Financial Report from Alana Maxwell

The Alumni Association awards scholarships to NCSF graduate and fifth year aid applicants. On an annual basis, the total amount awarded exceed the contributions received, with investment income from the Alumni Association's investment portfolio funding the difference. The investment earnings also pay the Alumni Association's minimal operating expenses, which mainly consist of the costs to print and mail the newsletter. The Alumni Association is grateful to all of the individuals and businesses that have contributed to our organization, allowing us to support our promising scholars.

In 2015, we received 49 contributions totaling \$13, 328 and averaging \$272. As of April 30, 2016, we have received \$1,677 through 7 contributions, averaging \$240. Based upon the contributions received, we were able to provide \$15, 500 of scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year. The investment portfolio was valued at \$224, 411 at December 31, 2014. While the funds declined in value to \$206, 410 as of December 31, 2015, as of April 30, 2016, the investment portfolio has recovered with an overall value of \$223, 672. The funds are invested in various securities,

with a portion held in cash/money market accounts, so that it is available to supplement the contributions in funding scholarships on an as needed basis.

In 2014, the invested funds generated about \$8,968 in interest and dividend income. 2015 interest and dividend income totaled \$8,096.

By Alana Maxwell

## ALUMNI NOTES:

NOTE FROM TAYLOR CROUCH

Dear Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Owen, Mr. Baer, and Members of the NCSF Alumni Committee:

It is my joy to continue as a Benjamin Scholar with the Northern California Scholarship Foundation and Saife Alumni Association. Thank you! I am deeply grateful!

\* \* \*

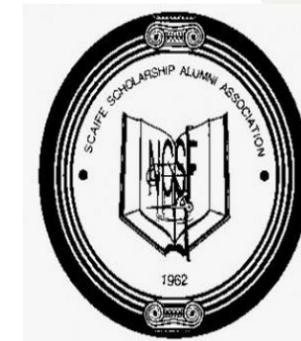
I look forward to updating you along the way as I work through my masters program. It continues to be my joy to represent the Northern California Scholarship Foundation and the Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association as a Benjamin Scholar.

With deep appreciation,

Taylor Crouch

## EYE ON IT

The Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association Seal



What is the symbolism behind the NCSF alumni seal?

If you've read the article to the left you know that the Trustees passed over our beautiful seal as their own. The images in the center of our seal are a Greek column and a compass referencing the Scottish Rite Temple and the Masons who made our scholarships possible. The open book, so reminiscent of the UC seal, is a tribute to UC Chemistry Professor Walter B. Scaife who made the original scholarships possible with his Pittsburg Paint fortune. The year 1962 makes reference to the year the Association was reorganized, not the year of its founding. Why does the seal reference the name "Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association" rather than the "NCSF Alumni Association"? Because that name continues to be the organization's legal name as an entity incorporated in the State of California.

## This issue's trivia question



Q: Why does the NCSF seal feature a temple different in appearance from the current Scottish Rite building?

A: The third Scottish Rite Temple in Oakland was actually originally adorned with a façade that looked exactly like the ionic columned Greek temple on the NCSF Seal. See photo above.

The NCSF seal was designed as part of a competition sponsored by the Trustees over a decade ago. At one of the Oakland NCSF Banquets the three finalists were unveiled. Joanne Kuo (an NCSF alum) had designed the winning seal. The current seal for the alumni association owes its origin to that competition. Sadly it didn't place -- but it looks good on our alumni pins anyway!