

Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association Newsletter

Winter 2011

Special Interest Articles:

- Clyde Minor – Advisor of the Year.
- Treasurer's Report & Financial Aid Officer's Report.
- LinkedIn
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Clyde Minor – Advisor of the Year



At the October 2011 NCSF Banquet at the Round Hill Country Club, the Alumni Association continued the tradition of honoring an outstanding advisor. This year, the recipient of the Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association's Advisor of

the Year Award was Clyde Minor. He has served as the Secretary Treasurer to NCSF since his retirement in 1989.

In addition to his well known role with the NCSF, he has served as the president of the board of directors for the Childhood Language Disorder's Clinic and as president of the Oakland Scottish Rite Temple Association.

Clyde Minor has always been a friend of the Alumni Association and his tireless service keeps

the Foundation running smoothly. It was our privilege to recognize his dedication and service as an advisor to us all with an acrylic pylon bearing the Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association seal and his name.

Thank you, Clyde for your dedication to the students and alumni. It is an inspiration to all of us. Congratulations!

Treasurer's Report

Thank you to the Alumni Association members that have and continue to generously support our organization. In 2010, we received 50 contributions totaling \$13,438.43 and averaging \$269. To date in 2011, we have received \$12,753.55 through 53 contributions, averaging \$241.

The investment portfolio was valued at \$162,105.92 at December 31, 2010, up over \$15,000 from December 31, 2009. The portfolio's value continued to increase

through May 31, 2011, recovering from a low of \$102,998.41 in February of 2009. At May 31, the portfolio was at its high of \$175,590.51. The value decreased during June, July, August and September. At September 30, 2011, the portfolio was valued at \$157,678.35. By October 31, the portfolio had recovered to a value of \$169,248.21. The funds are invested in various securities, with a minimal amount held in cash/money market

accounts.

Through October 31, 2011, the invested funds have generated almost \$6,300 in interest and dividend income. 2010 interest and dividend income totaled \$7,068.96



"Only by suffering does man develop."
--Walter B. Scaife--

Financial Aid Officer's Report

On Thursday, April 28, 2011, the Financial Aid Committee met to evaluate 20 applications for financial aid. Of the 20 applications, five applicants were for 5th year aid, and 15 were for graduate aid. Sadly, over the years, the number of Benjamin Scholarships has declined due to the poor performance of the stock market. This year,

we were able to award eight (8) Benjamin graduate aid scholarships. This is down from a high water mark prior to the 2008 stock market crash of 15 Benjamin graduate aid scholarships, but up from the low water mark of 6.

We had a pool of fourteen thousand dollars to provide to primarily Fifth

Year Aid Students. This is up from our low water of six thousand dollars, but half of what we were able to provide to scholars a decade ago. Five of the six applicants for pre-graduate aid received assistance. In addition to the Benjamin recipients, the alumni funded some aid to one additional graduate student.

In terms of trends, the debt load of some graduate scholars has clearly increased. Among the persons awarded Benjamin scholarships, half were attending public institutions, and half were attending private institutions. Of those attending public institutions, three of four were within the State of California.

Announcing Our New LinkedIn Group

The Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association has started a LinkedIn Group for all alumni.

What is LinkedIn?

For those of you who don't know, LinkedIn is a social networking tool like Facebook or MySpace, but is solely for professional networking. Over 120 million professionals use LinkedIn to exchange information, ideas and opportunities. LinkedIn can be used by new and established alumni to communicate with each other. Nikolaus Baer has used the Alumni Group page to post an open position and share it with the other Alumni on the page. Jennifer Miller has posted information about tips on finding a job. In addition, the Alumni Group will be used as a place to share information with the active alumni.

How will LinkedIn help the Alumni?

- LinkedIn will help facilitate communication between alumni and start or continue the important process of professional networking.
- LinkedIn will allow for Alumni to connect with professionals in their chosen field all over the world.
- LinkedIn will serve as a central bulletin board for announcements and job opportunities from alumni.
- LinkedIn can create long term professional connections that can become beneficial in the future.

How do you join the Alumni LinkedIn group?

If you are interested in joining the alumni group and connecting with other professionals that are part of the Alumni Foundation please join our Alumni Group by sending an email to Jennifer Miller, Sr. Vice President of Alumni Affairs, at jenmiller610@gmail.com and we will send you an invite to the group. We hope to grow the group, so that we can all build our professional networks and share our stories. Once you are a member, please visit the discussion board and share what you are interested in and what you would like to get from the alumni association.

President's Message

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Officer's of the Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association, Inc., it is my pleasure as your current President to wish you all a Happy Holiday's; I hope that this letter finds you and your family with your health and happiness. The Alumni Association has had a busy year. The association held the first annual spring brunch meeting in April, where we elected new directors and officers. Several alumni were again asked to help with the foundation's selection process in late spring and many have stepped forward to volunteer to be advisors. We have started a LinkedIn group and updated the website, www.ncsfalumni.org, and the annual fall banquets passed with several alumni in attendance.

I had the honor of participating in the scholar interviews at the Scottish Rite in early May. The students were exceptional, with academic achievements and social contributions that were truly inspirational. As a father of an inquisitive and energetic two year old girl and one year old boy, I hope that as parents, my wife and I can guide them to be like the young scholars that we met that day. The Northern California Scholarship Foundation was able to award 50 new undergraduate scholarship awards in the amount of \$7,000 per year. This is truly incredible, and the foundations continued generosity in supporting these bright young minds is especially impressive and important in these difficult economic times, which have made higher education more and more financially challenging. According to the College Board, while family incomes and savings have declined, the average cost of tuition and fees at public four-year colleges has increased an average of 8.3% since last year. The College Board figures show that the average cost of tuition has almost doubled since I graduated in 2004.

This makes the work of groups like the NCSF and our own Alumni Association so much more important. We have all benefited from the generosity of the NCSF, without which many of us would not have been able to afford a college education, so we all know what a difference the assistance can make to undergraduate and graduate students facing these daunting economic challenges. As you read in our Financial Aid Committee Report, the Alumni Association was able to fund \$14,000 of aid to 13 fifth year undergraduates and one graduate student. This invaluable assistance would not be possible without the support that you all provide to the Alumni Association. The Alumni Association has always strived to help our continuing scholars, with your help we can continue to do so.

Best Wishes,

Nikolaus Baer

Please Visit Our Updated Website

The Alumni Association has put a fresh face onto our website, www.ncsfalumni.org. We hope that you will be as excited as we are, about the new format as well and the much needed update of the calendar, events, and listing of the board of directors, and officers. Please visit us and leave a comment or submit an updated address via the contact page, so that this newsletter can continue to reach you each year.



Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.ncsfalumni.org

How Can You Help?

For those of you who are able, a contribution to our scholarship efforts would be most appreciated. In the past the Alumni have suggested the following schedule for contributions:

One year	\$25
Up to 10 years	\$50
10-20 years	\$125
20-25 years	\$250
25 years+	\$300

Your contributions are tax deductible per IRS#94-6104364 and should be payable to the Scaife Scholarship Alumni Association, Inc. c/o Alana Maxwell, 555 Bluerock Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

Historically the recommended sums have been modest. People have contributed at levels that have hopefully been comfortable. In these times of record unemployment, we will leave your contribution to your own conscience. Please do what you can. If you have never contributed, consider starting small. Any sum is helpful. If you cannot contribute, please consider working with the alumni to improve our newsletter, our website, our activities as advisors, or – if possible – as networking resources for employment and career development.

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Moving? Please update your contact info at www.ncsfalumni.org.