

To the Clarke College Family,

What a joy it is to be able to serve the family of Clarke College. When asked to consider the office of President, I was overwhelmed but then humbled to be asked to serve you in this way. Having graduated from Clarke in 1966, having served as Financial Aid Director and Alumni Director from the 70's until the closing, and having served in the Alumni Association during the years after the closing, it gives me a great desire to serve you in this capacity. My desire is to make this the best alumni association there can be and that we reach as many of the family as possible. Clarke College may not be here but the spirit of Clarke College was not in the college but in all of those who attended. If you attended Clarke College, you are a part of this wonderful family.

I would like to express appreciation to Paul Lee who served in this position during the last two years and has served us well. He will continue to serve as an ex-officio member during my first year to help in this transition. Also I would like to express appreciation for the service that Bryan Burt rendered as our treasurer. He did an exceptional job in being our treasurer and thank you, Bryan. To those who are continuing to serve, I appreciate your desire to continue in your position. Looking forward to working with our two new officers – Dianne Nelson as secretary and Phil Smith as treasurer. It is my desire to encourage YOU as part of the family to join us in serving in one of the positions as they come available.

Please know that my desire is to keep all informed of the happenings of the association. If you do Facebook, then I will be posting on The Clarke College Alumni Facebook page and The Clarke College Circle page. Posting will also be made on this site- www.clarkecollege.com- as well. Also, we now have the opportunity to use email, and I am so thankful for the work that Danny Jones has done and is doing to make this possible. Information will also be sent out through this means to make you aware of the happenings of the Association.

Our meeting next year will be June 23 and 24, 2017 as noted in the Constitution and Bylaws. Hopefully giving the date out now, more may be able to join us for this reunion. The class of 1972 will be responsible for the activities on Friday evening and Saturday. The Clarke College Alumni Association Business session will be at 11:00 a.m. The class of 1967 will be honored as this will be their 50th Anniversary.

As you are aware, the scholarship has been established at William Carey University and was awarded this past year. We are in the process of establishing the scholarship for Blue Mountain. We have \$1,225.00 designated for this and more is being committed. It is required to have \$10,000.00 given before the scholarship is able to be awarded. Should you desire to contribute to this, please contact me and we will let you know how to do so.

We will also be establishing a scholarship for Mississippi College. They already have in place to honor any Clarke student's children or grandchildren with an Alumni Scholarship. This was such a joy to know that my granddaughter is being awarded the scholarship this next year. So, even if you did not attend Mississippi College but did attend Clarke you are eligible to take advantage of this scholarship.

The Clarke College Circle raised \$1107.00 for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering as they honored the life of Bro. Costilow during their meeting on Friday evening.

As far as the Clarke College house, we are progressing on getting the outside complete. The Clarke College raised \$1,000.00 for repairs on house, and then a love offering was taken at the meeting in the amount of \$771.00. The house has been checked for termites and is free of them. More work will be done on the inside of the house as well. The sheet music was given to the Newton County School Music Department for their choirs to use. There is a project they are working on to use some of the music and when it is complete, I will inform you of it.

Leslie Hughes, our former librarian, has agreed to scan all of the paper products, annuals and pictures located at the house and put them on CDs. This will preserve all of the history of Clarke and will be a wonderful way to search for items of interest. He has begun this endeavor, and I deeply appreciate he and Liddia committing to do this for us.

Hopefully, you see that we are making every opportunity to continue to keep the spirit of Clarke College Alumni Association alive and well. We also encourage you to join the Alumni Association and then join us each year as we meet. The spirit of Clarke College made a difference in each of our lives, and now we have opportunity to keep that spirit going as we each participate in the Clarke College Alumni Association.

In Him,

Evelyn Williams {'66}, President
Clarke College Alumni Association