



the SCHOLARSHIP SCOOP

SPRING 2011

the state of SPSF NWA...

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010-2011

Justin DeLille
Board Chair

Susan Brandt
Lisa Brown
Debra Broyles
Ruth Collier
Doris Cordes
Jennifer Downer
Sarah Godfrey
Karen Hodges
Frank Johnson
Shana Kasperek
George Knight
Matt Machen
Marcia McCain
Kyle Mooty
Carolyn Rehbock
Donna Samples
Karen Seller
Deniece Smiley
Joanna Taylor
John Threet
Brandy Tuft
Sofia Vawter
Pam Yarberry

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Events	2-3
Student Spotlight	4
Program News	5
Board Spotlight	5
Calendar	6

Jody Dilday, Executive Director

2010 was a remarkable year for Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas. In addition to providing 160 single parent families with \$322,150 in scholarships, 33 of those recipients graduated! We also achieved three important strategic goals for the organization.

First, we completed a comprehensive survey of past applicants and recipients to determine the impact of the scholarship. The data we collected is used to demonstrate SPSF NWA program outcomes in the various grant applications we make each year. The results also guide our decision making in program design as we continuously work to improve our services. (Find the complete report at <http://www.spsfnwa.org/2010/06/facts/>.)

Second, in March of 2010 we relocated our office to an affordable, professional space convenient to where our students live and go to school. Our new office is at 601 W. Dickson St., Suite 2 in Fayetteville, just blocks from Old Main lawn.

Third, in our efforts to develop brand awareness, we adopted a new logo and tagline. The new logo portrays education as the roots of a solid foundation, our organization as a support for single parent families and the impact of our mission for generations. Our tagline sums up our work in 3 words: **Scholarships. Support. Success.**

2011 is shaping up to be another exciting year for SPSF NWA. The spring semester is well underway

with 102 students on scholarship, and the summer semester is just around the corner! The Spark of Hope campaign for scholarships is in full swing and we'll celebrate those results and award **3 new endowed scholarships** in June. A new corporate volunteer initiative is also in the works with which we will engage supporters in the mission of our organization in a customized and meaningful way.

Thank you for your continued support of SPSF NWA. We look forward to **creating better, brighter futures** in 2011!

(Find the complete 2010 Annual Report online at <http://www.spsfnwa.org/latest-news-2/#annualreport>.)



We love hearing from our students! Thank you to SPSF NWA recipient Brittney Peace and all our scholarship recipients and supporters for thinking of us during the holidays.

Events

(Board Member Jennifer Downer with SPSF NWA Recipient Kiayanna Foster)

"If you wish to experience peace, provide peace for another."

Tenzin Gyatso,
14th Dalai Lama

(L-R Team Splenda: Brian Lang, Sean Belke, Rebecca Lang with kiddos Aiden and Connor)

(SPSF NWA Recipient Judith Yanez with her kids Nicole and Keith)

Events



Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas rang in the holiday season Thursday, December 2, 2010 at The Trees at Waterside. Approximately 150 guests dropped in from 6-to-9 p.m. to mix and mingle with board members, scholarship recipients, graduates, staff and supporters of SPSF NWA.

This annual event also serves as a fundraiser and resulted in approximately \$20,000 in end-of-year giving for the scholarship fund. SPSF NWA Board Chair

Jingle Mingle

Justin DeLille welcomed the crowd and introduced scholarship recipient Toni Beeman and graduate Amy Jamison-Casas, who spoke about the significance of the scholarship in their families' lives. Jamison-Casas wowed the crowd with her testimony of now giving back to the scholarship fund with an automatic withdrawal each month and increasing the amount of her giving each year.

The Jingle Mingle is SPSF NWA's annual holiday event to celebrate the season and thank donors and community partners for giving the gift of education. In addition to automatic withdrawal, supporters were encouraged to "give the gift of education" in honor or memory of a loved one for Christmas.

Guests jingled to the jazz of The Claudia Burson Trio and mingled with hors d'oeuvres by Catering

Concepts: pan-seared, herb-crusted pork tenderloin, Cajun roast beef, chicken bistro cakes, smoked salmon dip, spinach feta tartlets, stuffed mushrooms and an array of cheeses and desserts. Wine was sponsored by Liquor World. University of Arkansas men and women of Sigma Chi and Kappa Kappa Gamma, respectively, served as volunteers.



Amy Jamison-Casas, SPSF NWA Graduate and CLC member



SPSF NWA hosted its annual Golftoberfest fundraising event Saturday, October 16, 2010 at Gator Golf in Fayetteville. Golftoberfest 2010, presented by Splenda, is Northwest Arkansas's original miniature golf tournament that raises funds and awareness for

SPSF NWA. **More than \$6,600** was raised through local business sponsors and team registrants for the two-flight tournament. Over 200 supporters attended Golftoberfest 2010 as golfers or volunteers, including SPSF NWA scholarship recipients, graduates and their children.



This fun, family-friendly event offered a festival type atmosphere with lunch sponsored and served by Liberty Bank of Arkansas, kettle corn popped on site by Old Tyme Foods, and extra activities for children. Golftoberfest also serves as a Make a Difference Day project for the University of Arkansas, and approximately 20 U of A students volunteered at the event. Golftoberfest 2011 is scheduled for Saturday, October 15. We hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE!

Spark of Hope

June 16, 2011

Fayetteville Town Center

Cocktails @ 5:30

Dinner & Program @ 7



the Social Scene...

SPSF NWA held its first after-hours social on January 27, 2011 from 5-to-7 p.m. at West End in Fayetteville. More than 60 guests gathered for "Cheers for Charity" to learn about the 27-year-old organization that serves Carroll, Madison, and Washington counties and enjoy complimentary beer and wine. Executive Director Jody Dilday welcomed the crowd and introduced the staff, scholarship recipients and graduates present. Graduate Beth Main briefly addressed guests about her experience as an SPSF NWA scholarship recipient and graduate. Approximately \$500 was raised in donations from the event. SPSF NWA plans to continue these after-hour socials on a quarterly basis. The next "Scholarship Social" will be held April 28 from 5-to-7 p.m. at SAVOR in Fayetteville.



Janine Parry, SPSF NWA Graduate Beth Main, Laura Kellams

*"Kindness
in words
creates
confidence.
Kindness
in thinking
creates
profoundness.
Kindness
in giving
creates
love."*

Lao Tzu

THANK YOU!



SPSF NWA Executive Director Jody Dilday accepts a \$10,000 grant from the Walmart Compensation and Global OE department.

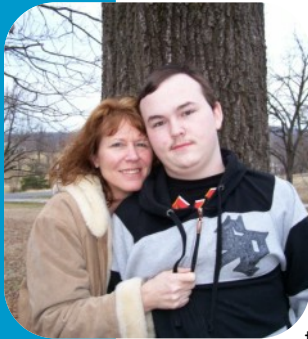


SPSF NWA received a \$500 donation from Ozark Natural Foods in December 2010. This locally owned consumer cooperative recently began donating to one organization per month.

Events

Student Spotlight

meet VALERIE THOMPSON



My son's name is Rupert. He is 15 years old and attends high school in Berryville. We have lived in the Berryville area all of his life. He says it's his home and he'll never leave.

Something I would like to do but haven't had time lately is to play games with my son. We usually have a no-technology night one day a week, but my school work doesn't allow for that freedom right now. We usually play darts, cards, or Battleship- things like that. But my school load is more demanding the further along I get into my degree.

I decided to go back to school because I realized I was at a stagnate point in my life. Without a degree I was at my maximum earning potential and there was so much still available out there to experience; things I couldn't accomplish with-

out a degree. Additionally, none of my family, with the exception of a few cousins, ever went to college. But most of all, I wanted more for my son and me both. Attaining my degree will have a grand effect on his future no doubt. Just my being in school has affected him in a positive way.

I am studying to receive a bachelor's degree in accounting at *Franklin University. I intend to sit for the CPA exam when that time comes.

My biggest challenge being a single parent and student is the balancing act. It is important for me to have a variety of time with my son. We always have dinner together and sometimes do homework at the same table. For summer break we are hoping to get out of town for the weekend to go to the museum in Kansas City. Of course he would rather go to the beach, but that will come later.

My favorite parenting moments are when it is time for Rupert to go to bed. He always finds the time to come ask me if he can help me with my homework.

Before I became a mom my mother used to tell me that if I didn't have kids I would never know what it was like. She said you can't explain to someone how it feels to be a parent. She told me I would be missing out on something spectacular if I didn't have children. Boy was she right! There are no words for it, and it is pretty spectacular...The most important event in my life.

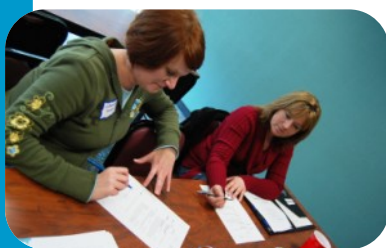
One word to sum me up is "disciplined." Without discipline, I would be nowhere.

*Franklin University based in Columbus, Ohio offers online courses in articulation with North Arkansas College and NorthWest Arkansas Community College.

"Without discipline, I would be nowhere."

Valerie Thompson

support BEYOND the scholarship



Graduate LaDeana Du... and Recipient Angie Jo...

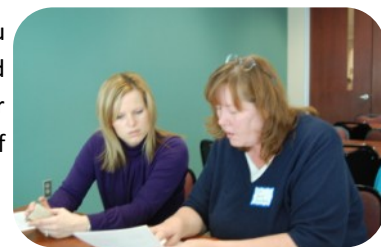
SPSF NWA is proud to offer a variety of support to our scholarship recipients! Providing scholarships for education is our primary focus, but we know that through our local supporters and community partners, we can provide additional resources to aide in the personal and professional lives of our students and their children.

With thousands of employees and experts in a variety of fields, corporate sponsors like Tyson Foods are a great resource to SPSF NWA and our scholarship recipients. On Saturday, February 26, 2011, Kristen Stout, Corporate Recruiting Manager at Tyson Foods, Inc. presented a resume building seminar

for current recipients as well as graduates of the SPSF NWA program. She not only shared information from a corporate perspective to the group, but she also worked one-on-one with the students reviewing their resumes.

The event was held at the Jones Center for Families in Springdale. SPSF NWA staff and volunteers entertained recipients' children during this informative session.

A special thank you to Kristen Stout and Tyson Foods, Inc. for your support of SPSF NWA!



Kristen Stout with Recipient Caren Carrothers

Support



If you've been to the SPSF NWA office in the past few months, you've probably been greeted by our new **Administrative Assistant Courtney Pacheco**. Courtney is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and holds a degree in Elementary Education. At SPSF NWA, Courtney serves a dual role—as accounting clerk and development assistant. She is ideally suited to work on the front line of the agency meeting and greeting potential and current scholarship recipients. Courtney is married to Eddie Pacheco, and they have two beautiful little girls, Isabel and Sophia. When not at work or being a mom, you can find her on the tennis court!



Also new to our SPSF NWA family is our **Program Intern Laveda Joseph**. Laveda is a graduate student at the University of Arkansas studying Communication. She is originally from St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and came to Northwest Arkansas from Kennesaw, GA. In what spare time she has with a busy school schedule, Laveda enjoys reading, eating unique food, sleeping and going to the theater. Laveda received a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Columbus State University in Georgia, and is expected to graduate with her master's degree this summer. She is excited to be part of an organization that helps parents and kids develop their futures.

Matt Machen Board Member

Matt Machen is the Assistant Vice President of Commercial Lending for First Security Bank and is the newest member of the SPSF NWA Board of Directors. Matt is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and is involved in a variety of civic and community organizations: Springdale Chamber of Commerce, Springdale Schools, Springdale Rotary Club, and Sigma Chi Fraternity Housing Corporation. He was recently elected President of the Fayetteville Country Club Board of Directors.



Matt appreciates Northwest Arkansas because of the people and the variety of things to do. "It's an area with unlimited potential," he said. Specifically, Matt enjoys playing golf and anything Razorback related.

"After meeting with other SPSF NWA board members and hearing their testimonies regarding the organization the decision to join was a no-brainer. Not only does SPSF NWA do great work for our communities, but the organization is an excellent steward of donors' dollars."

Board & Staff Spotlight

*"Go
confidently
in the
direction
of your
dreams.
Live
the life
you have
imagined."*

Henry David
Thorough

a NEW look for a NEW year!

Thanks to Ultra Salon and Studios in Fayetteville, two SPSF NWA recipients were chosen to participate in "Mom's New Year," a day of pampering provided at no cost. This generous opportunity was designed by the staff at Ultra to give back to the community in a meaningful way.

SPSF NWA recipients Tracy Pack and Tara Purser took part in this fun day. Tracy recounts the day:

"My experience at the salon was great. The girls that work there and the owner were wonderful. My hair is beautiful. I've had the same hair style and color for 26 years. They were concerned

that I wouldn't want it so short, but I assured them that I was ready for the change. I absolutely love it!

The rest of the day was great as well. We had lunch at the salon, nails done, and professional make up. We were also given a generous budget to pick out clothes from Ultra Studios, and I love the outfit they helped me choose.

They took us to dinner at Bordino's to finish out the day. I've never been there, and it was very different and nice. I had a wonderful and relaxing day.

The conversation with the women from Ultra Salon and Studios was so nice. Did I mention that I love my hair!!! Thank you very very much to SPSF NWA and Ultra Studios." Tracy L. Pack



Ultra Salon and Studios is located at 118 W. South Street at Archibald Yell in Fayetteville.

Program

Calendar

STAFF

Jody Dilday
Executive Director

Carrie Montgomery
Program Director

Anne Jackson
Development Director

Courtney Pacheco
Administrative Assistant

ADDRESS

601 W. Dickson St., Ste. 2
Fayetteville, AR 72701

PHONE

(479) 935.4888

FAX

(479) 439.1179

WEBSITE

www.spsfnwa.org

 www.facebook.com/spsfnwa

 www.twitter.com/spsfnwa

March

15:
Summer Scholarship
Deadline

17:
St. Patrick's Day

June

16:
Spark of Hope
Fayetteville Town Center

April

10:
Family Movie Day

20:
SPSF Night Out at
U.S. Pizza

24:
Easter

28:
Scholarship Social
at SAVOR 5-7 p.m

May

3:
Development Committee
Meeting at Jose's 5:30 p.m.

7:
Graduation Social
SPSF Office, 2-5 p.m.

13:
Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m.

19:
Rock the Runway at the
Arkansas Air Museum

SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORT SUCCESS

Fall 2010 Graduates

Angela Franklin	<i>U of A, Fort Smith</i>	<i>Assoc. of Nursing</i>
Danna Lee	<i>North Arkansas College</i>	<i>LPN</i>
Meghan McConnell	<i>NWACC</i>	<i>Assoc. of Science</i>
Tina Scott	<i>University of Arkansas</i>	<i>Assoc. of Health Science</i>
Olivia Shumard	<i>Paul Mitchell, The School</i>	<i>Cosmetology</i>
Linda Taber	<i>NWACC</i>	<i>EMT</i>
Samantha Towles	<i>U of A, Little Rock</i>	<i>Criminal Justice</i>

Dean's List

Paula Alvarez	Danny Henry	Meghan McConnell	Kelly Story
Justina Arriaza	Candice Hill	Sharon O'Grady	Nancy Taylor
Andrea Bannister	Natasha Johnson	Tracy Pack	Valerie Thompson
Toni Beeman	Angie Johnson	Brittney Peace	Paula Thomsen-Perez
Mandi Beesler	Shannon Kiger	Amanda Prince	Melissa Veach
Heather Byrum	David Klotzbuecher	Amanda Ramsey	Rachel Weber
Ashley Carson	Ashley LaHue	Cassie Reid	Judith Yanez
Melissa Emery	Danna Lee	Scot Ripple	
Angela Franklin	Karen Lindsay	Crystal Shoffit	
Nancy Grizzle	Misty May	Olivia Shumard	
Sonnia Harmon	Patricia McClendon	Kathryn Stonesifer	

