

ARChiveS

ARCS[®] Atlanta Chapter Newsletter

Volume No. X, Issue No.2

Winter, 2009

A Letter from our President

Dear ARCS Members:

Thanks to the hard work. innovation, generosity, progressive thinking and teamwork of all our members, the Atlanta Chapter of ARCS continues to be one of the strongest and most successful chapters in the 14 chapter composition of the ARCS National Foundation. We continue to improve, update and renew all aspects of our organization from varied events to fundraising to membership to communications to scholar relations.

In this issue you may take note of our past accomplishments - like the very successful Scholars' Luncheon, the January Board/General membership meeting at Northern Trust and the educational field trip to the Structures Lab at Tech. Several committees will be meeting these next few months including Membership and Funds Development. If you would like to sponsor a new member, call Susie Deyo or if you are willing to work with Funds Development to generate vitally needed scholarship funds, please call Debbie Shelton.

We can all agree that the ARCS gift is valuable to the institutions and to the scholars. The economic downturn we have seen over the past months has negatively effected most institutions' endowments. It is imperative now more than ever for ARCS Atlanta to raise funds for our scholars. We can look at the gifts ARCS gave to the institutions for the 2008-09 academic year. Morehouse would need an endowment of \$1,175,000 invested at 3% interest to spin off an annual



gift of \$35,000; UGA would need \$1,400,000 to generate \$42,000; Tech \$2,200,000 for \$66,000; and Emory \$1,800,000 for \$54,000.

So are you willing to work with Funds Development to generate these vital funds needed to make an impact on the education of these young men and women at a time when it is crucial to prepare our best minds to make a dramatic breakthrough in the realms of science and technology? Can you offer a contact name of an individual or corporation we could call upon to tell the ARCS story? If so, please contact Debbie Shelton and let her know.

Our goal for the coming year is to maintain our 34 scholarships!! We do not want to fund any less. Please help us by continuing your gift to the scholarship fund, becoming a new scholar donor, or working on the Funds Development committee to generate new donors! We need each of you – it is vital to ADVANCING SCIENCE IN AMERICA!

Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for our annual Cocktail Party honoring our new members at John & Sue Wieland's home on April 26th and the Spring Luncheon and Membership meeting on May 13th at 103 West.

See you there! Sherry

Save the Date Spring Retreat 2010

The Spring Retreat, chaired by Bette Mori, will be held in Washington DC, April 29 – May 2, 2010. Stay tuned for details for this fabulous trip next spring.

Upcoming Events

03/18 Board Meeting

04/26 Spring Cocktail Party at the home of Sue and John Wieland

05/13 Annual Meeting & Luncheon at 103 West

05/27 – 30 ARCS National Meeting in San Francisco

6/10 Old/New Board Meeting

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January Meeting and Luncheon at Northern Trust

Madeline Adams is honored as the newest MonARC having contributed \$25,000 or more.



Jeanne Berry is congratulated by Sherry Lundeen





Sally Boice, Dr. Richard Franklin and Susan Higley chat at the luncheon.

The General Membership Meeting and luncheon was held on January 14 at Northern Trust. Special Events co-chairs, Susan Higley and Sally Boice, organized the event. President Sherry Lundeen welcomed the group and its eight new members. Sherry's first order of business was to recognize and honor Madeline Adams as the newest MonARC having contributed a cumulative gift of \$25,000 or more to the ARCS scholarship fund. Next, Membership Committee Chair, Susie Deyo, introduced each new member of the class of 2008-09 and told about their outstanding civic and community contributions.

An extensive and informative business meeting was held and committee chairs presented their reports. National ARCS president Janie Wilson gave an update on news from National. The biggest announcement coming from National was that a new ARCS logo had been adopted after 51 years of using the original logo. Debbie Liss played a prominent role in overseeing the voting process between the final 2 logos. The logo that was chosen was designed by Mark Montgomery, a local art student from SCAD. Everyone was thrilled when Debbie shared a rendering of the new logo.

The highlight of the business part of the meeting was the announcement of the 2009 ARCS Light. Anne Boyd, 2008 ARCS Light and chair of the Selection Committee, had everyone in suspense as she read about the outstanding contributions of the nominee. Everyone cheered and applauded as Anne revealed that Jeanne Berry was the 2009 ARCS Light.

Following the business meeting and lunch, we were honored to have as our featured speaker, Dr. Robert Franklin, president of Morehouse College and husband of ARCS honorary member Cheryl Franklin. Dr. Franklin was excited to share the history and mission of Morehouse. At the college, there is a special emphasis on the holistic approach of educating minority students through group mentoring which combines peer teachers and faculty mentors. This has contributed to an improved passing rate from 49 % to over 70% in chemistry. Additionally, character education is stressed and Dr. Franklin emphasized that all 7 ARCS scholars are Renaissance men with a social conscience. Dr. Franklin summarized his remarks when he explained that the success at Morehouse College is based on a three-pronged approach: their strong recruitment program, the dedicated staff and faculty, and the group mentoring program. Indeed, any of our members who have met and interacted with the Morehouse scholars can attest to the success of this approach.

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Ann Klamon and Betty Mori share Jeanne Berry's delight at being selected 2009 ARCS Light



New ARCS Members Standing: Molly Eskew, Camille Buice, Linda Kay McGowan, Susan Bledsoe, Judy Schmidt Seated: Christan Wojcik, Penny Seawell



New Member Judy Schmidt displays the centerpiece she won. Special Events cochairs Susan Higley and Sally Boice designed the centerpieces.

ARCS says Good-bye to Two Members

It is with great sadness that we mark the passing of two beloved ARCS members, Betsy Hansen and Anne Shearer. Both were consummate volunteers and highly respected community leaders. They will be sorely missed in the Atlanta community.

In Memory of Betsy Gamble Hansen

We regret to announce the recent passing of Betsy Hansen. Betsy passed away on February 15 at Piedmont Hospital from complications following surgery. She was a Charter Member of the Class of 1992. Betsy is a past-president of ARCS having served in 1998-99. Betsy and her husband, Harald, sponsored an ARCS scholar from Georgia Tech. We express our deepest sympathy to Harald, their children and their friends.

In Memory of Anne Morse Shearer

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to ARCS member, Anne Shearer. Anne passed away at home on December 4, 2008, after fighting a valiant battle for nine years of a form of arthritis that created chronic pulmonary fibrosis. Anne was a member of the Class of 2004. Our deepest condolences are extended to Anne's husband, Bill, their family and friends.

Betsy's and Anne's leadership and friendship in our chapter will be missed by all of us.

ARCS Scholars Honored at Annual Luncheon

On November 11, the 2008 Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon was held at the Ritz Carlton, Atlanta. Thirty four scholars from Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Morehouse College and the University of Georgia were recognized and awarded a total of \$197,000 in scholarships. Prior to the luncheon, the scholars were honored at an informal private reception attended by their family, professors, and guests. All current college and university presidents from these institutions attended the reception and luncheon.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Donald G. Stein, a world-renowned physiological psychologist and the Asa G. Candler Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Stein's remarks focused on his major research regarding recovery of function after traumatic injury to the brain. He explained the importance of the study stating, "Brain injury causes more deaths in young men under the age of 35, and every 15 seconds someone suffers from brain injury." Dr. Stein elaborated on his research which demonstrated sex differences in the outcome of severe injuries to the frontal cortex. Dr. Stein's team of researchers found that recovery was highly related to the hormonal state of the females at the time of injury, and later showed that progesterone promotes functional recovery by re-



ducing cerebral swelling in both males and females thus reducing the mortality rate by 13.6%. His laboratory now studies the actions of progesterone and its metabolites in pediatric, adult and aged models of TBI and stroke. He stressed that we have to overcome the stereotypical view of progesterone in that it is not just for females and it will not feminize men if treated with it for brain disorders.

Dr. Stein concluded his speech with a special message to the scholars. He implored them to, "Defy the dogma and be willing to take chances. You should know more than your professors at some point. Stick with your ideals and don't always go after the money."

The Question & Answer Session was quite lively as the audience had many follow-up questions. Bill Liss, Business, Financial & Consumer Editor, WXIA-TV and husband of ARCS member, Debbie Liss, did an excellent job of moderating the session.

Sincere thanks and appreciation is extended to the co-chairs, Helen Jancik and Gracia Conn, and the entire Scholars Luncheon Committee for all their hard work to make this a memorable day for our scholars, members, and guests. Congratulations on the huge success of the annual luncheon!



Georgia Tech scholars and professors



Moderator Bill Liss takes questions

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University of Georgia scholars with President Adams and faculty



Betts Love, Susan McGonigle, Marie Foster and Brooke Weinmann ready the registration table.



Luncheon co-chairs Gracia Conn and Helen Jancik meet to discuss last minute details.



Morehouse scholars, President Franklin and staff.



Emory University scholars and faculty



Peg Cooley and Deede Stephenson welcome scolars and guests to the Medallion reception.

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ARCS Foundation National Board News

Greetings from ARCS National! After spending last year evaluating and celebrating our past 50 years and developing a strategic plan for our foreseeable future, your National Board this year is focused on implementing this ambitious Long Range Plan (LRP) agenda. Most of the elements of this LRP advance chapter support.

A two-year initiative of Communications and Marketing was to develop and adopt a new logo, which was voted on by the National Board at our recent January meeting. This dynamic, graphic "elevator speech" (with our new tagline, Advancing Science in America) will now be incorporated into all of our print and electronic materials as soon as possible. This leads to another major program we have put on the fast track - website development. A recently appointed Website Task Force is currently working on the elements and capabilities we need on a website, developing a Request for Proposal to solicit bids from website design companies, and selecting a website design vendor. The next step will be to secure funding and/or underwriting. As the song goes, "There ain't no mountain high enough..."

A second task force to address Office and Staffing is up and running to determine our needs both for National and Chapter support and to investigate the where, when, who, and how. Their first task was to inventory what was currently housed in our Santa Monica office and how much of that could be disbursed or disposed of. We just received word this week that we have found a permanent home for our National Archives. Stay tuned for details at a later date.



Debbie Liss unveils the new ARCS logo as National president Janie Wilson looks

Another key component of our future growth is New Chapter Development. Blasting ahead with a goal of five chapters in five years, this committee now has three budding chapters in the hothouse – Minnesota, Tampa Bay and Utah. This has not happened overnight. Bringing most of these locations towards fruition has required several years, many miles and many hours of work.

By now, many of you will have taken the Membership Survey designed to help us at the National level know where we stand as an organization, how we can better support the chapters and provide a benchmark with which to compare how we look at the end of our LRP initiatives. Chapters will also be able to mine your own data to see how you can best serve your own members. A new National Vice President for Membership has been slated this year, and she will coordinate support for your chapter Membership Chairs. There is so much more happening at the National level and you will be able to read a complete account in our National Annual Report at the end of the year.

I want to close by letting you know some recent exciting news. The ARCS Foundation, Inc. has been nominated by President David W. Oxtoby and Pomona College for the CASE (Council for the Advancement of Education) for the James L. Fisher Award for Distinguished Service to Education. This nomination is a testament to the vision of our founders and 50 years of dedicated labor by each and every one of you. We will wait anxiously for word from the selection committee!

I look forward to seeing you in May at our National Annual Meeting (NAM) in the fabulous city of San Francisco. Our theme is, "Some Like It Hot." We will explore the front-burner issue of ENERGY, and our keynote speakers and scientific panel are global experts in this field. This is a meeting not to be missed!

Best always, Janie Wilson, President ARCS Foundation, Inc.



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Members Tour Structures Lab at Georgia Tech

On February 25, ARCS members and guests attended a lunch and presentation at Georgia Tech which focused on the research of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), the newest department at Georgia Tech to participate in the ARCS scholarship program. Dr. Lawrence Kahn, a renowned civil engineer and professor at the college, presented an overview of civilization and technology. He explained how civil engineers have always worked to improve the quality of our lives by studying and improving our sewer systems, roads, railways, and airports. This set the stage for the tour of the Structures Lab and to view the experiments being conducted there. ARCS scholar, Jonathan Hurff, presented his research on the stability of high performance concrete for prestressed concrete bridge girders and high rise buildings. The participants were fascinated with the structure that Jonathan has created which tests steel and high performance concrete weighing up to 600,000, pounds. Other presenters included Georgia Tech doctoral and master students who shared their research which fo-

cused on improving concrete and steel to make our bridges, roadways, and high rise buildings safer. One of the highlights of this informative day was the breaking of a high performance concrete girder under extreme pressure in a secure chamber.

Special thanks to Liz Troy, VP for Education, and Jane Dolinger for arranging this very informative and educational field trip. Everyone enjoyed all the presentations and the interaction with Dr. Kahn, ARCS scholar Jonathan Hurff, and the other Georgia Tech students.





Kathy Rainer, Clare Whitfield, K Maier and Dr. Kahn board the bus to visit the Structures Lab.



Georgia Tech Masters Candidate, Jennifer Dunbeck, gives an overview of her research.



ARCS Members with scholar, Jonathan Hurff, in front of the structure he created.



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Achievement Rewards for College Scientists

ARCS Atlanta Chapter P.O. Box 52125 Atlanta GA 30355

Jeanne Berry is 2009 Atlanta ARCS Light

In early January, the ARCS Light Committee met to select the 2009 ARCS Light. This annual award recognizes a member who continues to serve and make significant contributions to ARCS. Nominations for this honor are submitted to the committee from the other Chapter members. The committee was comprised of past ARCS Lights and chaired by Anne Boyd, 2008 ARCS Light. In announcing this year's ARCS Light at the January meeting, Anne explained, "The person chosen as the 2009 Light not only fulfills all the criteria - but goes way beyond. She has worked on committees, held Board positions and begun special projects. Most of all, she has the respect of all and is an outstanding representative of our chapter. The

2009 ARCS Light is Jeanne Berry!"



Jeanne has been an ARCS member since 1994. Over the years, she has held numerous leadership positions including the following: Special Events Co-chair, Public Relations Co-chair, Vice-president for Membership, Co-chair of the Scholars Luncheon, Vicepresident for Communications, Assistant Treasurer, and Assistant to the President. She has faithfully supported the special events, field trips, retreats, and attended the national meetings to represent our Chapter. Additionally, after her years of chairing the Membership Committee, she saw a need to design a program to orientate the new members so that they were fully knowledgeable of our mission and to ensure that every new member felt needed and useful while enjoying new friendships in ARCS. Consequently, the Mentoring Program began under Jeanne's leadership.

Congratulations to Jeanne! We thank Jeanne and honor her for her many years of service and her contributions over the years to ARCS.