

The official publication of the BHMA National Alumni Association

# Summit II Highlights/Property Update

Alumni vote to accept donated acreage offer and negotiate asking price on unsold property



t the Summit II gathering in Camden the weekend of Aug. 8-10, 1997, the 50 BHMA alumni in attendance voted to pursue an

offer from the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church, to donate two acres of the remaining Mather property for a memorial.

Alumni also agreed that President Agnes Thomas-Abernethy ('46) would begin negotiating with the Women's Division for the purchase of the remaining property for the Tent of Reconciliation (adopted at 1996 Summit I).

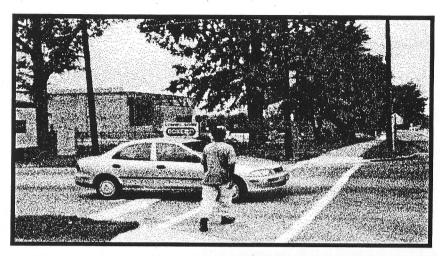
In Spring 1997 after commercial rezoning, Eckerd's Drugstore paid the Women's Division \$350,000 for 1.44 acres at the corner of Dekalb and Campbell streets. Also, 8.36 acres were sold to Dekalb Associates for \$150,000. For the approximately 6.9 acres remaining (excluding the donated acres), the Women's Division is asking \$475,000 cash. The unsold portion is still zoned Residential 6.

A special alumni committee, formed at the Aug. 9 business session, drafted a proposal letter, which was due six days later on Aug. 15. Designated the "Mather Memorial Park", the site would consist of a pavilion featuring the school bell, cornerstone and sign. A plaque would relate the Mather story, and names in honor of and in memory of family and friends would be inscribed on bricks or brass plates. Long-range plans call for a museum. Alumni specified that the acreage should border Campbell Street.

Summit II attendees gave nearly \$2,000 in an impromptu fundraiser at the meeting as a demonstration of their commitment to the park proposal, and to signal the beginning of a campaign to finance the project.

The Property Committee of the Women's Division was slated to review the Memorial Park proposal Sept. 15. and the full body Oct. 15. ■

WOMEN'S DIVISION RESPONDS Just before presstime, a letter from Connie Takamine, Treasurer, Property Committee, arrived stating (1) a "formal request" must be made for the donated land; (2) donating land is against policy; and (3) the unsold land price remains at \$475,000. Pres. Abernethy sent a reply letter asking that the proposal letter be accepted as the formal request.



An Eckerd's drug store is being built on the former site of BHMA's Browning Home at the corner of Campbell and Broad streets (photo above), which is now zoned commercial. The Women's Division has offered to donate up to two acres of the unsold property, which starts near the intersection of Campbell and Rutledge streets (photo at right). The unsold property (approximately 8.9 acres), is still zoned residential. The Women's Division asking price for the unsold portion is \$475,000 cash.



## **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Higher Dues Proposed**

A motion passed to raise annual dues from \$10 to \$25, effective in 1998.

#### **Future Meetings**

Summit III: Aug. 7-9, 1998, in Camden, to break ground on Mather Memorial Park; Next Reunion: Aug. 13-15, 1999, in the Washington, DC area; Summit IV: Aug. 14-16, 2000, to dedicate Mather Memorial Park.

#### Love Speaks

Jonathan Love ('79), in formal remarks, urged alumni to have faith beyond bricks and mortar, suggesting starting another Mather to help today's youths.

Largest Class at Summit II The class of '77, with 15 members.

#### **City Councilmember Speaks**

Mary Clark, described as a strong supporter of the Mather property, praised alumni for efforts to preserve the "hallowed land".

**COMMITTEES FORMED** Standing Committees

Fundraising --- Hansel Boykin ('50), chair; Jonathan Love ('79); James McGirt ('52); Knorphe Byrd ('73); David Seaman ('77); Ruby Minton ('52); Hayes Samuel ('61). History --- Leonard Boykin ('56 ), chair; Paul McGirt ('44); Mike McClendon ('55); Henrietta Carrigan ('49); Martin Robinson ('74). Membership --- Sara Morgan ('40), chair; Carolyn Duren Cooke ('71); Minnie Dannelly McGirt ('40).

Nomination -- Nat Taylor ('50 ), chair; Dale Driska ('77 ); Martin Robinson ('74); Brian Bergman ('77); Gwendolyn Boyd Wright ('72).

#### Special Committees

Proposal --- William Durant ('66), chair; Leonard Boykin; Henry Brevard; Mike McClendon; Eddie McGirt ('40 ); Delmarcia J. Mitchell ('75); Robyn Pearson ('75); Gwendolyn B. Wright. Constitution --- W. Durant, chair; Lynne Thomas ('74); Henrietta Carrigan ('49). Finance — Brian Bergman ('79), chair; James McGirt ('52); Knorphe Byrd ('73). BHMA Academic Records --- Jonathan Love ('79), chair; Gordon Owens ('77). Reunion '99 --- Roberta Dannelly Durant ('40), chair; Ruby Minton ('52 ); Delmarcia J. Mitchell; David Seaman; Flora Darby; Jonathan Love; Gordon Owens ('77); Barbara Bean; Leonard Gettis; Robyn Pearson; Deborah Boone.

Camden, SC 29020 P.O. Box 825 Vational Alumni Association, Inc. Boylan Haven-Mather Academy

### Boylan Haven-Mather Academy Officers for 1996-1999

**REMINDERS!** 

 Make reservations early for the Summit III meeting on Aug. 7-9, 1998 at the Holiday Inn in Lugoff, I-20 Exit 92 just west of Camden. Call (803) 438-9441 or 1-800-HOLIDAY to reserve a room. Invite friends to the Summit.

• Calling all classes whose years end in "8" (1898-1978)! Plan to hold your reunion at the Summit III in 1998. The class of 1948 is already planning its reunion. Families and descendants of graduates are welcome!

Reach out and tell the Mather story to people in your family, church and com-munity who can be friends of our cause. That's how we enlarge our membership.

President Agnes Thomas-Abernethy ('46) P.O. Box 3477 Annapolis, MD 21403

**1st Vice President** William Durant ('66) 7786 Wethersfield Drive Jonesboro, GA 30236

**2nd Vice President** Hansel Boykin ('50) 7006 Liberty Hill Road Camden, SC 29020

Treasurer James McGirt ('52) P.O. Box 825 Camden, SC 29020

Assistant Treasurer Knorphe Byrd, Jr. ('73) 115 Honeysuckle Lane Quinby, SC 29506

**Recording Secretary** Lynne A. Thomas ('74) 2714 Noble Avenue Sarasota, FL 34234

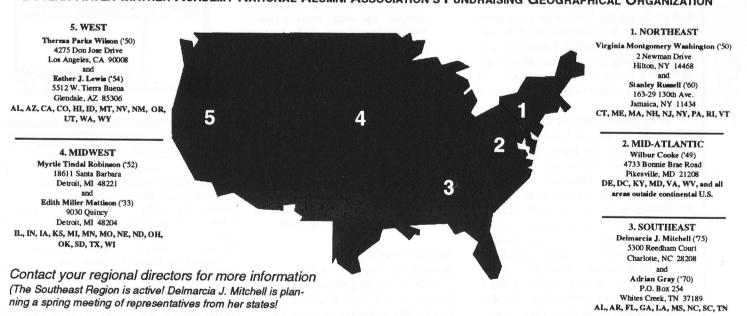
**Executive Secretary** Roberta D. Durant ('40) 409 W. Marion Street Florence, SC 29501

**Corresponding Secretary** Sara Morgan ('41) 392 Central Park West #11-B New York, NY 10025

Chaplain Hayes F. Samuels, Jr. ('61) P.O. Box 452 Manning, SC 29102

Parliamentarian Madeline Dash -Pickett ('50) 172-22 133 Avenue, #3A Jamaica, NY 11434

## BOYLAN HAVEN-MATHER ACADEMY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S FUNDRAISING GEOGRAPHICAL ORGANIZATION



Contact your regional directors for more information (The Southeast Region is active! Delmarcia J. Mitchell is planning a spring meeting of representatives from her states!

**BHMA** National Alumni Association Dues are 51 per year Send dues to: James McGirt, Treasurer P. O. Box 825 Camden, SC 29020

## ADDRESS CORRECTION

If you did not receive this newsletter by direct mail, or if you know someone who is not receiving mailings, please return the form below to: Sara Morgan, Corresponding Secretary, 392 Central Park West #11-B, New York, NY 10025. Telephone: (212) 866-3247.

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Address.

City, State, Zip\_