

National Capital Chapter

P.O. Box 2671, Arlington, VA 22202

WEBSITE: www.dcbamafans.com

Newsletter 1 • Chapter Year 2008-2009 • March 2009

President's Message

As I look back at the past year, I see a lot for the National Capital Chapter to be proud of and to use as motivation going forward. This year has been successful on many fronts. The growth and productivity we have experienced as a group have been impressive, and should push us to continue that trend.

The thing that stands out most to me is the amount of participation we have witnessed this year. From a very good gathering at the Bama Bound BBQ to huge crowds at football game viewings, we have never wanted for people at our events. Central to this trend is the fact that our membership number has skyrocketed, increasing by more than 90 percent! In addition, scholarship donations this year have reached a new high, which will help enable more students from this area to attend the University. This is especially important as we see the number of students from the Washington D.C. area enrolling at the University of Alabama increase annually.

But more than simply the increase in membership, I have been impressed and sometimes overwhelmed by the number of people who have sent e-mail or approached me or the other officers to ask about getting involved. There have been questions I've heard all year from our members and friends, but the question I've heard more often than any other has been "Do you need any help?"

What I will take away from my experience as President of the National Capital Chapter is the relationships that have been cultivated throughout the year. I have made new friends, improved existing friendships, and strengthened working relationships. I know that I have grown and been blessed by these ties and look forward to continuing to make and grow friendships in the future.

I would like to thank, in no particular order, several people for helping to make 2008-2009 an extremely successful year for the NCC: Chris Bayham, Kevin McCall, Bob Keith, Amy Landry, and Deborah Moore have been a magnificent group of officers and committee chairs. I know I could not have gotten much done without you. To Hanny Chan and all the staff at Old Dominion Brewhouse, I thank you for hosting game viewings and other events. Also, thanks to Elizabeth Dugas, Cary Haney, Emily Nelms, Brian Sims, David Price, Erick Francis, Shannon Shelton, and Tim Williamson. You all know what you did.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for your support this year. It has truly been my honor and pleasure to serve as chapter President. I look back on this year with tremendous pride and look forward to continuing my involvement with the chapter and all our members and friends.

Thanks and Roll Tide,

Brandon Powell
National Capital Chapter President, 2008-2009

New Officer Slate for 2009 - 2010

We are pleased to announce the following slate of officers for the 2009-2010 chapter year. New officer posts begin April 1, 2009 and end March 31, 2010. An official ballot has been provided in the newsletter for you to complete and return. **Please be sure to submit your ballots by March 29th.**

President

Chris Bayham -Chris graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Alabama in 1998 with a B.S. in Business Administration and a concentration in Management Information Systems. He received his MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management in 2003. Chris is currently Senior Director of Client Services at Freddie Mac; prior to joining Freddie, he was a Principal with Diamond Management and Technology Consultants, a premier global consulting firm. He previously held the roles of Secretary and Treasurer of the National Capital Chapter and is currently the Vice President and Webmaster. Chris and his wife Valerie reside in Arlington, VA.

Vice President/President-Elect

Kevin McCall -Kevin graduated from the University of Alabama in 1998 with a B.S. in Business Administration and a concentration in Marketing. Kevin is currently a Vice President with Larsen Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc. / ONCOR International and serves as the current NCC Secretary. Kevin returned to the DC area in mid 2006 after stints living in Salt Lake City, Australia, Greece and Italy, working for NBC Olympics, Inc. Kevin previously managed business relationships directly related to NBC's broadcast of the 2002, 2004 and 2006 Olympic Games. Kevin and his wife Vanessa reside in Reston, VA.

Secretary

Emily Nelms - Emily attended the University of Alabama for three years prior to transferring to the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she graduated in 2005 with a B.A. in History. Emily also attended the Graduate School at UAB pursuing a M.A. in History. During her years at the Captstone, Emily was active in university intramurals, WVUA 90.7 Radio, Baptist Campus Ministries, and First Baptist Church. Emily was heavily involved in Phi Alpha Theta (History Honors), and served as a creative layout editor for the Vulcan Historical Review. She moved to Washington, D.C., in 2008 and currently works at the General Commission on Religion and Race, an agency of the United Methodist Church.

Treasurer

Deborah Moore - Deborah served as chapter President for the 2006-07 chapter year and currently serves as chapter Membership Chair. Deborah graduated from Alabama in 1995 with a B.A. in History and a Minor in International Studies. Originally from New Hampshire, Deborah spent the better part of her formative years in Sarasota, FL. She has lived in the Northern Virginia area for 11 years and currently works in Tysons Corner as a Senior Administrative Assistant in the Aerospace·Defense·Government Group at Houlihan Lokey, a top international, middle-market investment banking firm. Deborah resides in Arlington, VA.

2008-2009 Chapter Recap

Professional Networking Happy Hours

We are in our 3rd year of hosting Professional Networking Happy Hours in the Tyson's Corner area. These happy hours are great ways to network, share resumes, gain professional knowledge, discuss Alabama football/recruiting, and enjoy your pride in the University. Networking happy Hours are held the 3rd Wednesday of every month at McCormick and Schmick's in Tysons Corner. We are always looking to start networking happy hours in other locations around the DC area so please contact one of the chapter officers at officers@dcbamafans.com if you are interested in organizing a networking event in another part of the metro area.

"Since I moved to DC immediately after graduating last year, being involved with the DC Chapter of the NAA really helped me to meet people and feel tied to the University while I was transitioning. "

--Adam Harbison

Student Recruitment

Student recruitment in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC has recently experienced a dramatic increase, thanks in no small part to the fact that we now have a regional recruiter, Elizabeth Dugas. Recruiting fairs all over the region have been a staple of her effort, and NCC members frequently serve at these events. Often, multiple fairs are held concurrently, and the only way for the University to have representation at each is for our members to take the initiative to go. Also this year, several NCC members and friends who work in the education field have expressed interest in getting involved with student recruitment efforts, oftentimes unsolicited.

Heart of Dixie Happy Hour

This event was started 3 years ago as a way to continue our camaraderie with the alumni from Auburn outside of the football season. This happy hour also provides a chance for everyone associated with the state of Alabama to come together and have a great time. Money is donated by the National Capital Chapter, the Auburn Alumni Club, and the Alabama State Society to set up a bar tab for two hours. This year's Heart of Dixie happy hour took place on Feb. 26th at the Union Pub on Capitol Hill. All three groups were well represented, leading to a huge crowd this year.

University Row at the Virginia Gold Cup Races

For the fifth consecutive year, the National Capital Chapter participated in University Row at the Virginia Gold Cup. Held on the first Saturday of May, the Virginia Gold Cup is more than a world famous steeplechase race – it is a grand spring tradition and a fixture on the Washington D.C. social calendar. University Row had the largest gathering of tents in the 82-year history of the Virginia Gold Cup Races. The NCC partnered with over 60 college and university alumni groups through the Alumni Events Alliance and organized transportation to and from the event, catering and tent space. We had over 20 Alabama alumni, friends, and family in attendance. University Row enables our chapter to reach out to a wider audience of alumni in the Washington, D.C. area. We will be participating once again this year, so stay tuned for information about taking part in 2009 University Row at Virginia Gold Cup.

UA in DC

UA in DC is an ongoing program, sponsored by The University of Alabama Career Center, to bring interns and alumni together for shared interests.

A welcome reception and networking information session was held at the offices of Van Scoyoc Associates on May 21, 2008 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. At the reception, local alumni spent time with the interns discussing ways in which they can build a viable network of contacts for future use in post-graduate professions. The reception was free and was open to all alumni, current UA students and their families.

The UA in DC program also included a networking session sponsored by The Blackburn Institute where alumni living in the Washington, DC area shared their experiences on living and working in DC. This Blackburn Institute event was held Monday, June 9th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Longworth House Office Building. As with the welcome reception, this was a free event open to all alumni, current UA students, and their families.

Bama Bound Barbecue

The National Capital Chapter hosted the 23rd annual Bama Bound Barbecue on Saturday, July 26. For the third straight year, the event was held at Lacey Woods Park in Arlington, Virginia, with delicious down-home food provided by Dixie Bones BBQ. Every summer, the NCC hosts the Bama Bound Barbecue as a send-off for students in the region who are headed to Tuscaloosa. This year, we had a crowd of approximately 120 people with more than 25 new and returning UA students in attendance along with 30 members of their family and friends. Admission to the barbecue for students and their families is complimentary. Representing the University were Mark Roberts of the University Alumni Office and Meri-Glenn Freeman, who was the 2008 Miss University of Alabama. Our guest speaker was Samuel E. "Eddie" Conyers III, who has served since the early 1960s as a referee/official at University of Alabama football and after whom the football coaches' dressing room in the football complex was dedicated in 2006. Mr. Conyers kept alumni, students, and friends entertained with his hilarious and poignant stories of his time spent with Coach "Bear" Bryant and others during his storied career at the University. At the end of the day, we were blessed with great weather, tasty food, and wonderful company!

SEC Football Kick-off Party

This year's SEC Football Kick-Off was held again at Crystal City Sports Pub in Crystal City, VA on August 21st. Alumni from 8 of 12 SEC schools attended the event. This event is always a great way for fans from the SEC to come together and enjoy a good time before the season kicks off.

Football Game Viewing Parties

Saturdays in the Fall mean one thing to the Crimson Tide faithful: Gameday! The NCC draws its largest crowds, raises the most money for operations and scholarships, and forges new and deeper relationships at these gatherings. The atmosphere for game viewings is the closest thing in D.C. to being in Tuscaloosa.

"Outside of Bryant-Denny Stadium, there's no place I'd rather be for a Bama game. Good people, good food, and great times!" --Tim Williamson

"The music, the Little Debbie oatmeal snack cakes, the raffles, all made for a very festive atmosphere. It was almost like being in the stands at the game – only better!" --Rebecca Richardson (Montevallo)

"We immediately felt like part of the group and thoroughly enjoyed the entire experience. In short, we had a GREAT time and appreciate the hospitality shown to us out-of-towners." --Cathy Jones (Birmingham)

The NCC watches football games at Old Dominion Brewhouse, located in downtown Washington, D.C. The staff and management are wonderful. They donate prizes for our raffles, provide a sound system for raffles and music, have banners made to welcome Alabama alumni, hang our flag year-round, sport Alabama buttons, hats, and t-shirts, and even cheer almost as loudly as the Bama fans in the restaurant. The relationship between the NCC and Old Dominion has blossomed into a great one, and Old Dominion has hosted several events other than game viewings for Alabama and other alumni.

Some highlights from game viewings this year include:

- Approximately 270 people at the Alabama/Georgia viewing, a record crowd
- More than \$1100 raised at the Iron Bowl raffle, a single-game high
- A new CD with "Yea, Alabama" and other cheers to keep the crowd pumped up
- Raffles for Georgia, LSU, and SEC Championship Game tickets
- Out-of-town visitors from across the country joining the NCC for game viewings
- More than 200 Bama fans celebrating the victory over LSU well into the night
- The crowd for the SEC Championship Game spilling into the restaurant next door
- Singing "Rammer Jammer" about four times at the end of the Iron Bowl
- Standing room only at many football game viewings

In addition to regular football game viewings, the NCC also had a game viewing gathering for the 2008 A-Day game and is planning a game viewing gathering for the 2009 A-Day Game on April 18.

UT Happy Hour

For the 2nd year in a row, we met up with the University of Tennessee alumni for a happy hour at Carpool in Arlington, VA the Thursday before this year's game. It was a fun time filled with joking around with friends and sharing stories about the fabled 3rd Saturday in October.

Southern Pride Happy Hour with LSU

This is a very interactive happy hour and probably one of our favorites. The President and Vice-President from each school's alumni chapters are the bartenders. All tips are given to the two schools' chapters. As in years past, the bartenders were kept on their toes and delivered impeccable drinks. Thank you to Brandon Powell and Chris Bayham for being this year's bartenders and to Old Dominion Brewhouse for hosting us again.

UA/AU Iron Bowl Happy Hour

This is a yearly tradition between our chapter and the Auburn alumni chapter. For one night, we put aside our differences and use this event as a chance to give back to our community through food and monetary donations. Everyone who attends brings 2 canned goods and \$5 or \$10 to gain access to the happy hour. This year, all the money raised went to Operation Injured Soldier and all canned goods were donated to DC Food Bank.

SEC Toys for Tots

The 2nd Annual SEC Toys for Tots was held on Friday, Dec. 12th at Union Jack's in Ballston, VA. Again, we had a great event for a wonderful cause. Across all of the schools, the SEC raised over \$300 and donated 120 toys. The National Capital Chapter was again named the School of Charity for donating the most. A huge thank you goes out to Emily White who donated over 20 toys.

Capital Alumni Network (CAN)

The Capital Alumni Network is a network of over 200 alumni clubs in the Washington, DC area that exists to foster activities, networking, friendship and intercollegiate spirit between local alumni club members; to create a social forum where there is interaction between university and college alumni chapters and their members; to provide a source for activity-planning information and resources; and to participate in activities that display the diversity and strengths of the various Capital-Area alumni chapters.

The NCC was the organizer for this year's CAN golf tournament, as well as providing volunteers and participants in the event. Service events, like Hands on DC, in which volunteers clean up schools around the city, also featured Alabama alumni participation. In addition, the National Capital Chapter has a member who sits on the Presidential Advisory Board of CAN. The participation in CAN has given the NCC recognition among peer groups in the community and also improved the chapter by way of idea sharing and generation.

SAVE THE DATE

University Row at the Virginia Gold Cup

*Celebrate the 83rd running of the world famous
Virginia Gold Cup steeplechase race*

at University Row along the celebrated North Rail

*Saturday, May 2, 2009
Great Meadow The Plains, Virginia!
(www.universityrow.org)*

Distinguished Alumnus Award

After a few years' hiatus, the National Capital Chapter is proud to reinstate the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The award goes to a chapter member who consistently contributes to the chapter, financially or otherwise, and strives to make the NCC a great resource for Alabama alumni, friends, family, and fans. Nominees are solicited from chapter members, with the winner then selected by the officers.

The 2008-09 National Capital Chapter Distinguished Alumnus Award goes to Brian Sims. Brian has been a chapter member in good standing for several years, has served as a chapter officer, and has always offered to help the chapter whenever possible. Always willing to offer up ideas and help with events, Brian has not shied away from any opportunity to help the chapter. Moreover, Brian has been extremely generous with scholarship donations and is probably the best raffle ticket salesman in NCC history.

Congratulations, Brian, and thank you for your support and contributions to the NCC. Without members like you, we would not be nearly as successful as we are.

Scholarship Endowments

The National Capital Chapter has six endowed scholarships. Last year, the chapter was able to raise and send over \$4000 to the University to participate in the University of Alabama National Alumni Association Collegiate License Tag Program, which matches the monetary contributions from our chapter to add additional funds to our endowments. (This is a separate activity from our chapter's efforts to offer Bama-branded license plates through the DMV; more details about our license plate campaign can be found on the next page.)

The University awards the NCC's scholarships, and last year the following contributions were made:

<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Contribution</u>
Donald J. Cronin Endowed	\$2615
Louise Bryant Tate Memorial Endowed	\$615
Dr. Frank A. Rose Endowed	\$415
Marshall H. Groom Endowed	\$668
Richard A. Mason Endowed	\$415
William Jennings Dyess Memorial Endowed	\$415

This year, the chapter anticipates a contribution of more than \$8000, which would be the most the NCC has raised in recent memory.

Membership

The National Capital Chapter had a very active year with memberships. Currently, we have 97 paid memberships and have brought in over \$2,600.00 in membership revenue over the past 11 months. In April, we transitioned to a rolling membership structure where chapter memberships can be paid at any time during the chapter year and are good for 12 months from the date of purchase.

Our current membership dues are \$25.00 for a single membership and \$40.00 for a family membership. In September we began offering a discounted membership of \$10.00 for recent grads. Our online membership option has been a huge success.

As an added benefit to chapter members, we introduced Members Only Raffles to reward those who joined the chapter and participated in chapter events. Prizes included an iPod Shuffle, a set of signed and numbered Daniel Moore collector's mugs, a Dreamland Rib Package, and a Nick Saban Gift Pack that included 2 Clint Eastwood DVDs, a box of Little Debbie Oatmeal Crème Pies, and a Nick Saban straw hat. The last Members Only Raffle for the 2008-2009 chapter year will be drawn in March.

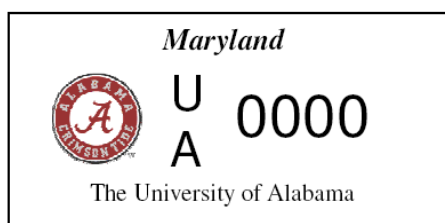
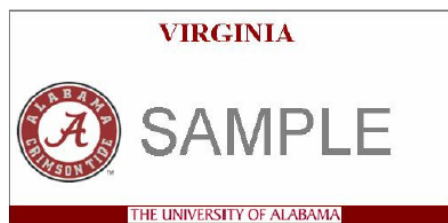


We're in the process of updating our contact information for all of our 3,500+ members living in the area. Please visit www.dcbamafans.com and click the **Update My Record** button at the top of the page or return the membership form located in the back of this newsletter! You can also sign up to get involved with the chapter by chairing or joining one of the following committees:

- Membership
- License Plate Campaign
- Social
- Fundraising
- Website
- Sports
- Student Recruitment
- Public Relations

FOR THE NCC

The University of Alabama License Plates effort for Virginia, Maryland and Washington DC is still ongoing!



The application process for Virginia, Maryland, and Washington DC are all-different. Below is a brief summary about each location. For the full application process, visit the NCC website (www.dcbamafans.com) and inquire about your location.

For Virginia Residents:

The Virginia DMV requires us to collect and then submit, all at once, at least 350 **paid** applications before they will start the process of stamping out the tags. How long will that take? That answer depends on you! The quicker we can get 350 paid applications, the sooner you can get your plates. We already have received signoff from the University on the design and have submitted it to the Virginia DMV for approval. Based on our initial discussions with DMV personnel, they believe that our design will be approved.

The price is \$25 per tag, plus an additional \$10 if you currently have or want personalized tags. Please send your money AND the application form (*Form VSA10*) as soon as possible to the address provided below, as we want to get this process "rolling" in! The form can be found www.dmv.virginia.gov/webdoc/pdf/vsa10.pdf. Note that you can type your information directly into the online form on your screen, and then print it off. Please make your check out to "University of Alabama Virginia License Plate Fund" and mail it and your form to:

Courtney Rogers
3907 Exeter Road
Richmond, Virginia 23221

For Maryland Residents:

For you, the process is very simple. The state of Maryland requires at least twenty-five (25) individuals who are Maryland registered drivers. All you have to do is go to www.dcbamafans.com and register your name and current Maryland license plate number. Once we receive twenty-five (25) signatures of intent, the Chapter will submit the list to the Maryland DMV and work with them to get the plate design approved. The plate design is notional and has not been approved by Maryland or the University of Alabama. Please note that personalized license plates are not available in Maryland.

For District of Columbia Residents:

For you, the process is very simple. The District of Columbia requires at least twenty-five (25) individuals who are DC registered drivers. All you have to do is go to www.dcbamafans.com and register your name and current DC license plate number. Once we receive twenty-five (25) signatures of intent, we will work with both the University of Alabama and the District of Columbia for plate design and approval. The plate design is notional and has not been approved by the District of Columbia or the University of Alabama. Please note that personalized license plates are not available in DC.

National Capital Chapter Dues · Scholarship Donation · Contact Information Update

PAY YOUR DUES USING YOUR CREDIT CARD ONLINE AT WWW.DCBAMAFANS.COM

PLEASE BE SURE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR THE 2009-10 CHAPTER YEAR

New Member? Check here and fill out the form below.

Already a member? Check here and fill in any information below that you wish to update.

Name: _____ Graduation Year (if UA): _____ Work Phone: _____

Spouse (if joining): _____ Graduation Year (if UA): _____ Work Phone: _____

Mailing Address-Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

\$ _____ Annual National Capital Chapter **dues donation** for chapter year.

_____ \$25 single membership _____ \$40 couple membership

\$ _____ **Scholarship Donation:** _____ General Fund _____ Cronin _____ Dyess _____ Groom
_____ Rose _____ Tate _____ Mason

\$ _____ **Total Amount Enclosed - Make checks payable to the National Capital Chapter**

Please indicate your interest in assisting the Chapter with the following activities:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Recruitment | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Social Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Website Design & Updates |

Please indicate your vote for 2009-2010 Chapter Officers:

Per the Chapter By-laws, the current Vice President/President-Elect, Chris Bayham, will be the 2009-2010 Chapter President

Vice President/President-Elect	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin McCall	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Deborah Moore	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Emily Nelms	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Please mail completed form to:
**National Capital Chapter
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Arlington, VA 22202**