



# Newsletter

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## 2016 GEF Scholarships

Our GEF scholars filled the stage at the 2016 Honors and Awards ceremony held in the Garinger auditorium on May 25. Seventy-six graduating seniors will be attending Central Piedmont Community College for the Fall 2016 term. The Foundation has partnered with CPCC to offer these scholarships. Ten scholars will be going to other schools. We awarded 25 Memorial Scholarships in memory of our 18 KIAs and Drew Hager, Lewis Hooper, Bob Elmore, Coach James Edwards, Raheim Brown, Officer John Burnette, and Officer Robert Louis Smith.



On May 22<sup>nd</sup> three additional names were added to the Vietnam Memorial in the front of the school. Built in 2014, the memorial honors those Garinger students who died in combat in Vietnam. The Foundation awards a scholarship to a graduating senior in memory of each fallen classmate. There are now 18 Vietnam Memorial scholarships. Contributions to the Garinger Education Foundation make this possible.

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## A Perfect 4.0 Scholar!

Savannah Wilson is our first scholar to graduate with an associate degree and transfer to a four-year school, and she did it with honors! Savannah finished Central Piedmont Community College with a 4.0 GPA, and will attend Appalachian State University in the fall. While at CPCC Savannah said, "I learned so much more about myself, my personality, what I am passionate about, and to follow that passion. I got to learn who I really am."

Her plans for Appalachian State University include pursuing a major in cell molecular biology with minor in chemistry. After receiving her bachelor degree, Savannah plans to attend medical school and study internal medicine. Her ultimate dream is to become a cardiologist. Her scholarship will follow her to Appalachian. Savannah's final words of gratitude to our donors—"I want to say thank you to the donors because without you this would not be possible."



**Garinger Education Foundation**  
1100 Eastway Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28205

Make a contribution by  
downloading a donation form at:  
[www.garingereducationfoundation.org](http://www.garingereducationfoundation.org)

## A Message from the President



**Ron Tucker, President  
Garinger Education  
Foundation**



**Jim Beatty, Incoming  
2017 President Garinger  
Education Foundation**

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as President of the Garinger Education Foundation for the past three years. I have witnessed tremendous growth in every aspect of the Foundation's work. In 2014 we awarded 15 scholarships. Now many of these young men and women are moving on to four-year colleges. This year we are

offering an unprecedented 101 scholarships. These are all students who would otherwise not be able to continue their education beyond high school.

Our Foundation has built and dedicated a Memorial to our fallen classmates killed in combat in Vietnam, enhanced the beauty of the campus, and helped renovate the baseball stadium. These have been three

remarkable years. I thank you for your encouragement and support.

I am happy to announce that Central High School graduate and US Olympian, Jim Beatty, has graciously accepted the presidency of the Foundation for the coming year. I am confident that in 2017 great things will continue to happen under Jim's tenure as president.

## Working and Studying

In February, 2015 scholarship recipient, Keith Sizer, sat down with Board Member, Jane Suitt, to discuss his plans for the upcoming year. Keith has dreams of becoming a Civil Engineer and is dedicating his time to completing general education at Central Piedmont Community College where he is carrying a full load of 5 classes. In addition to that he is working 40+ hours a week. Keith is in class before 10:00

AM most mornings. Then after a day of classwork and study, he goes to work for another 6-8 hours, returning home in the early morning hours. After another year at CPCC, Keith plans to transfer to UNC-C and pursue his degree in Civil Engineering.



## Raheim Brown Memorial Scholarship

Raheim Brown was born on November 15, 1988 in Fayetteville, NC. His joy in life was to make those around him laugh, so they could forget about their worries and stress in their life even if it was just for a moment. Raheim was known for being kind-hearted, passionate, and ultimately goofy. His outgoing and charismatic personality led him to participate in his true love... the marching band. As a dedicated and passionate leader of the Blue Funk Sound Machine at every football game he would get the crowd pumped by

dancing in the stands while clashing the cymbals. All he wanted was for everyone to have as much fun as he was having; he was truly the life of the party. After graduating from Garinger High School in June 2007, Raheim attended Fayetteville State University (FSU) in North Carolina where he pursued a degree in Mass Communications. At FSU, his personality shined bright as he made friends left and right. He soon became the Vice President of Joyner Residence Hall. Raheim had planned to

participate in FSU's marching band, join a fraternity, and play basketball. Raheim ultimately lost his life in a car accident a few blocks from Garinger's campus in January 2008.

Raheim believed everyone should chase after their dreams and that they should find different paths to succeed in their life so they could have everlasting joy. Raheim Brown's family, in honor of that concept, thought we should help a fellow Wildcat become the life of their party and chase after their dreams in full speed.

~by Amber Simmons



*The 2016 recipient of the Raheim Brown Memorial Scholarship, Areanna Townsend, is pictured with Amber Simmons, sister of Raheim Brown. Areanna will be attending Fayetteville State University in the Fall—the same university Raheim attended.*