Goodwill of Mississippi’s annual salute was held on August 18, 2016, at the Country Club of Jackson. This year’s honorees deserve the praise they received. Erin Pickens, 16 WAPT-TV News, served as emcee.

Robin Sharp Browning’s love of volunteering began with involvement in Girl Scouts in her hometown of Laurel, Mississippi. A graduate of Mississippi State University, Robin has worked in advertising, fund development and for the past 26 years as an account representative for Mahaffey’s Quality Printing. Robin has served as President of the Central Mississippi MSU Alumni Association, the Jackson Symphony League, the Greater Jackson Area Phi Mu Alumnae and Goodwill Industries Volunteer Services. She is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Jackson, joyfully participating in the elder therapy singing project, Joyful Noise. Robin has also volunteered with Mississippi Children’s Museum Partners, Friends of Children’s Hospital, Art for Heart, the USA International Ballet Competition, Mississippi Society for Disabilities and her church, Northminster Baptist. Robin and her husband, Troy, feel their lives have been greatly enriched through serving as a host family for international exchange students.

Joanne White Girod is a native of South Jackson, having grown up in the country at Apple Ridge Farm. She has always been an outdoor girl and joined the Girl Scouts at an early age. Continuing throughout her youth and later as an adult volunteer, Joanne retired in 2008 as the Property & Camp Director at the Middle Mississippi Girl Scouts Camp Wahi after twenty-five years with the Girl Scouts of America. Joanne is very active in her community, serving the Epilepsy Foundation of Mississippi, Metro Chamber of Commerce, Madison Tall Pines Service Unit, Boy Scouts of America, Presbytery of Mississippi, Community Stewpot, St. Columb’s Episcopal Church, Mustard Seed, The Little Light House, and the Mississippi Society for Downs Syndrome. She and her husband William share three sons, two daughters, two sons-in-law, two daughters-in-law, ten grandchildren, four granddaughters, two great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter.

After years of traveling the world and spreading the Gospel, Amy Lancaster and her husband David turned their eyes to Jackson and founded We Will Go Ministries, located right in the heart of downtown. We Will Go trains disciples, ministers to the poor and needy, and takes teams around the globe to share the Gospel. The whole operation started small: simply reaching out to neighbors and inviting them over for coffee, Bible study or prayer. It quickly grew, however, and WWG currently has several homes, three ministry bases and WWG Arts. Amy relies on her trusted team of missionary interns and church partners to help spread God’s word.
Honorees, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sam Lane is the Vice Chairman of the Wilson Research Foundation, the fundraising arm of the Methodist Rehabilitation Center. In addition, he sits on the Junior League of Jackson’s Keystone Fund board and has been on the board of the Mississippi Kidney Foundation since 1979 — serving as president in 1997. Past board member appointments include Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, Metropolitan YMCA, Neighborhood Christian Center and Jackson Prep, where he was fundraising chairman for the Guyton Science Center, a $2.5 million state of the art science laboratory. He is a member of St. Andrew’s Cathedral where he has served on the vestry and as stewardship chairman, Sunday school superintendent and teacher.

Since 2008, Charlie Lott has been volunteering at the Methodist Rehabilitation Center, where he has contributed over 925 hours of service. Epitomizing the ideal of a servant’s heart, Charlie has proven to be a great example to the staff, patients and their families at MRC with his vibrant personality and caring nature. In addition to volunteering, he also raises money for the MRC and the Wilson Research Foundation. Charlie spends what free time he has singing in an adult choir, visiting nursing and retirement homes, delivering Meals on Wheels, and assisting on a work crew at his church called Helping Hands.

A native of Selma, Alabama, Michael Montgomery currently serves as a volunteer for the Anderson United Methodist Church Food Pantry. He has served with the Central Mississippi Chapter of the Red Cross, Andrew Jackson Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Advisory Board of the Metro Jackson Habitat for Humanity. Michael and his wife Sharon are active members of Anderson United Methodist Church. They have two daughters, Tamara (Wesley) Everman and Shannon Bradley, as well as two grandchildren, Ashlynn and Nicholas. Michael strives to be a continuous blessing to others and encourages everyone to do the same, no matter what.

A life-long Mississippian, Charlotte Seals was born in Forest but moved to Vicksburg at an early age where she lived until college. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree in biology and secondary education from Millsaps College, and received her Master’s degree in school administration from Mississippi College. A 28-year education veteran with the Madison County School District, Charlotte serves as associate superintendent for instructional services and formerly served as both a teacher and principal. While serving as principal at Madison Station Elementary School, she implemented the award winning Arts Create Excellence Program. Madison Station later became a model school for arts integration in the state of Mississippi and throughout the region. Charlotte has also served with the Junior Auxiliary of Madison County, Junior League of Jackson, Mississippi Metropolitan Ballet Company, Millsaps Principals Institute Advisory Board, Holy Family Catholic Church, Stewpot Ministries and Habitat for Humanity. With her husband Calvin, she has two children: Austin and Ashley.

J. Kelley Williams, Jr. has a long history of volunteering in education and athletics, and has even managed to combine the two every now and then: serving as a football and basketball coach at Jackson Academy; co-founding and coaching the Jackson Colts football team; and coaching North Jackson Youth Baseball. Williams has also been a board member of the Children’s Scholarship Fund Metro Jackson, Community Foundation of Greater Jackson, Jackson Preparatory School and REAL Christian Foundation. Mr. Williams is also heavily involved in Northminster Baptist Church, where he is a deacon and has served in many different capacities.

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Youth Honorees,
CONTINUED FROM PAGES 1 & 2

Owen Ivan is a busy young man. Apart from his studies, Owen devotes his time to volunteering for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, MadCAAP, Mississippi Children’s Home, and his church. He is heavily involved at Germantown high school, devoting his time to student government, St. Jude Steering Committee, Spanish Club and the Beta Club — through which he has raised money for March of Dimes and St. Jude. Upon graduating high school he hopes to attend the University of Notre Dame, where he plans to study Biochemistry.

Matthew Matheny is considered many things: ambitious, compassionate, considerate, kind and possessing a servant’s heart. A rising senior at Germantown High School, Matthew balances his rigorous schoolwork with athletics and volunteering for organizations like Joni and Friends, Topsoccer, Vacation Bible School, Mississippi Disability Mega Conference, Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church, and local missions with Christ Covenant School. He also has a particular interest in caring for children with disabilities, a theme that can be seen in his volunteering activities. Matthew has been the recipient of several awards, including the Fellowship of Christian Athlete’s Leadership Award and the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award.

Brotherhood From Overseas

Recently, Cameron Bauer, the Development Officer for an organization called Yooz DIY & Re-use, based in Bellshill, Scotland, visited the Metro location. He’s pictured here (center) with Robin Stricklin and Bill Walker. Yooz DIY & Re-use is a social enterprise with a focus on providing volunteer and work experience opportunities for disabled and disadvantaged people within the North Lanarkshire area of Scotland. Believing our businesses to be similar in many ways, he toured the facility and spoke with our folks there.

Cameron was in Mississippi (Fondren) for two weeks while his wife, a veterinary student at the University of Glasgow, was on an internship at the Mississippi Veterinary Research & Diagnostic Laboratory.

He took the opportunity to meet with members of the Goodwill Mississippi team to have a casual conversation about our organizations and discuss the differences and similarities between the two.

Cameron was interested in discussing development of persons with physical and mental disabilities and the programs and structures surrounding that, as well as our work with local structures for moving people back into employment after long idle periods.

We hope that he took a great deal back with him and update us on anything we need to do to assist him and his endeavors. We look forward to a long and lasting long-distance relationship.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GIVS Thanksgiving Lunch
November 16th

Thanksgiving! Nov. 24th
All locations closed.

Goodwill Night at the Braves, July 14, 2016

Ben Schlick threw out the first pitch, and the Goodwill family had a great time. The game was called in the bottom of the 6th inning due to inclement weather, but the Braves won!
“I started out at Goodwill as a Vocational Rehab client, but I’ve come a long way with my sobriety. After working with Ms. Janet, I eventually was hired as a full-time employee,” says Katherine Hanigan.

“I love to show up to work and meet customers, see my co-workers, and keep God in my picture for the workday. I work hard and have fun doing it.

Working with Goodwill has given me faith! On tough days, I’ll hear a co-worker say, ‘You can do this…Don’t stop…Keep going.’ This encouragement helps me keep happy and motivated. However, understanding the customers’ needs and wants can be challenging when I’m tired. I hope to keep on loving my job, maybe move to a higher position, and to remain clean,” she says.

“Several people with Goodwill have influenced me—Sharon Johnson, Kim Edwards, Jerry Robertson, Mayo Perry have all led me in a positive direction. They’ve given me hope that I can do this!”

“When I’m not at work, I enjoy exercising, spending time with my family, and my dog. I stay active and enjoy quality time away from work.

I enjoy my Goodwill family. I struggle less than I did at the start. Thanks to God and everyone here for your support.”

Thank you Katie for all you do to further our Goodwill Mission!