

**\$HANKLEVILLE \$SCHOLAR\$HIP  
NEED\$ DOLLAR\$**

*There is a beam of gratitude on the faces of the scholarship recipients when they receive their checks which were made possible by our combined dimes and dollars.*

***PLEASE CONTINUE TO SHOW THAT WE CARE BY "COMING BACK AND GIVING BACK."***

**NO AMOUNT IS TOO SMALL!**

We need your donations! We must MOVE AHEAD with our Shankleville Scholarship Program and NEVER TURN BACK!

***Yes, I would like to make a difference!***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

***Please indicate how you would like to help:***

- I can contribute details about my family tree.
- I have enclosed a "Mailing List Update."
- I will make a donation at the Homecoming on August 2, 2009.
- I have enclosed a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Please detach and send to:*** Larutha Odom Clay;  
3150 Dorothy Ave.; Beaumont, TX



***Your Heritage,  
Your History,  
Your Help,***

**Make a  
Difference!**

**Newsletter  
2009**

[www.shankleville.org](http://www.shankleville.org)

# In Memoriam

In keeping with the “Memorial” in our Shankleville Memorial Scholarship program, twenty-five Shankleville families collectively donated more than \$100 to commemorate their loved-ones. Find out more about their lives and legacies at [www.shankleville.org](http://www.shankleville.org)

**Vertie and Charlie Booker**  
**Willie and Lillie Mae Booker**  
**Artie and Geneva Brailsford**  
**Matthew Honer Clay, Sr.**  
**Arvetta Lewis Cooper**  
**Jim and Almada Holmes**  
**Coella Jane Lewis**  
**John Wesley and Jessie Lewis**  
**Abbie Morris**  
**A.T. and Addie Odom**  
**Harold, Sr. and Lonnie Faye Odom**  
**Lee E. Odom**  
**Elbert and Minnie Peacock**  
**Booker T., Sr. and Exie Lee Riggins**  
**Curley and Omega Shankle**  
**Darney Shankle**  
**Pate, Zelma and Louella Shankle**  
**Willie Pate Shankle**  
**Fred and Hattie Simmons**  
**Farilla Simmons Smith**  
**Abe Strahan**

**Doretha Traylor and Louise Gerard**  
**Henry and O’Neal Truvillion**  
**Anderson, Sr. and Surfronie White**  
**C. B. Woods**

## ***Never Quit***

### ***2008 Theme:***

#### ***Commitment – A Shankleville Heritage***

The afternoon program of the 2008 Homecoming featured two outstanding, college-bound Shankleville descendants who delivered dynamic orations on having a “Never Quit” attitude. Scholarship finalists, Maria Riggins and D’Aundrea Spikes, both gave unforgettable advice on why a “stick-to-it” philosophy will lead to success.

The discussion leader, Michal Riggins Johnson (a descendant of Curley and Omega Shankle, the granddaughter of Reverends Exie Lee and Booker T. Riggins, and the daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Thomas Riggins), gave a brilliant analysis of Biblical characters who reflected commitment. Michal, is also a former recipient of the Shankleville Scholarship and has become a self-propelled and committed force for recruiting cooperation and support from all of the Shankleville descendants who have received the Historical Society’s scholarship in years past.

The entire afternoon session memorialized another committed Shankleville native – Arvetta Lewis Cooper, who answered the “Well Done” call in July 2006. The daughter of John Wesley and Jessie Gatlin Lewis,

“Sister Vet,” “Aunt Vet,” “Cousin Vet” and “Mother Cooper” was a shining example of sticking to many tasks. She demonstrated the can-do spirit in rearing her offsprings, supporting her church, coming back and giving back to Shankleville, and encouraging all young people.

Many of her relatives attended and participated in the 2008 Homecoming, including:

- The Reverend Elzie D. Odom, Jr. who preached the commitment theme at the main service, “Do a little bit more and a little bit more” each day of your life.
- Harold Odom, Jr. – Charter Co-Chairman of the Shankleville Historical Society
- Shirley Cooper Benson – member of the Scholarship Committee. She delivered a tribute to her mother’s committed example and thanked everyone for honoring the legacy of Mother Cooper.

The Shankleville Historical Society would like to convey sincere gratitude to all who continue to share dimes and dollars to help our Shankleville descendants “get started” in college. When we help them “get their feet in the door,” they become determined to find ways to complete their education. The “do a little bit more, and a little bit more” attitude is really and truly commitment.

***Reminder. . . The Shankleville Historical Society’s annual business meeting will be on Saturday, August 1, 2:00 p.m. at Mount Zion C.M.E. Church. Please come and be a part of our exciting work!***

Eighteenth Annual  
Shankleville Memorial  
Scholarship Program

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**Scholarship Finalists**

Gregory Christopher  
LePatrick Thomas  
Shaneequa White

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August 2, 2009  
2:15 p.m.

**Program Highlights include:**

- Oratorical presentations by scholarship contest finalists on our 2009 theme:  
**“Self-Discipline:  
A Shankleville Heritage”**
- Forum Discussion – *“Who’s the Boss?”*
- Presentation of Shankleville Memorial Scholarship

**Make plans to attend this important part of  
the Shankleville Homecoming Sunday**

**WHO’S THE BOSS?**

*2009 Theme:  
Self-Discipline – A Shankleville Heritage*

When proud parents carry their helpless newborn child home from the hospital, the parents must be the boss of that child because he/she knows NOTHING! But, as that child develops and matures, parents must teach him as they gradually release him from parental control.

In many different ways, during the first 18 years of shaping a child’s life, parents must transfer their own control over to self-control which should really be “Son-control” or “Spirit-control.”

In our “Talk Back” Session at our 2:15 Historical Society Program, our Discussion Leader, Michal Johnson will lead homecoming participants as they talk back about :

1. How much “Son Control” have parents poured into their offspring’s Self-Control?
2. How can we teach them that being the boss of yourself is really following the guide of the Holy Spirit within us?
3. How can we live lives that demonstrate that bossing yourself is only pushing your own will in the background and truly saying, “Lord, order my steps?”

**Coming Back: Giving Back –**

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**Kudos to our Corporate Donors**

*APAC  
Coolridge Coleman , Jr. D.D.S.  
First National Bank of Jasper  
Jasper Lincoln-Mercury-Ford  
Meigs Building Material  
Millwork Construction, Inc.  
PRM Consulting  
The Shankleville Hunting Club  
Houston Smith, Attorney  
Doug Williford & Son Air Conditioning*

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**“We Can, We Will, We Must!”**

**Roster of Scholarship Recipients**

SHONDA HARPER — B.S. Degree (Stephen F. Austin)  
STEVE GRANT — United Airlines Flight Attendant  
SHARON McBRIDE — T.S.U. — *English*  
AMBER JAMES — B.S. Degree (Clark-Atlanta)  
TAMEKA TYLER — B.S. Degree (Texas A & M)  
TODD BYERLY — Lamar U. — *Nursing*  
CHARLES JACKO, II — Deceased  
SHARROD HUBBARD — T.S.U. — *Business Mgmt.*  
MICHAL RIGGINS — B.S. Degree (Louisiana Tech.)  
NICOLE BYERLY — B.S. Degree (TWU)  
ASHELEY ODOM — B.A. Degree (U.T. – Austin)  
BENJAMIN MANSFIELD — Paul Quinn — *Computer Science*  
TIFFANY WILLIAMS — B.A. Degree (Sam Houston State)  
WINNIELLA FOWLER — Lamar U. — *Chemical Engineering*  
RODNEY SHANKLE — Angelina — *Nursing*  
SHADRICK S. AMONS — Lamar U. — *Accounting*  
LAKESTA HENNINGTON — Sam Houston — *Physical Therapy*  
VICTORIA C. ODOM — B.S. Degree (Emory University)  
WYKESHA SEALE — Stephen F. Austin — *Elementary Ed.*  
TIFFANY SPIKES — Stephen F. Austin — *Physical Therapy*

**CONSTANCE WHITE** — Lamar U. — *Elementary Ed.*  
**JUSTIN MCBRIDE** – Lamar U. – *Computer Science*  
**STACEY RIGGINS** – McNeese State U. – *Nursing*  
**O’GRADY SEALS** – Stephen F. Austin – *Athletic Training*  
**TIFFANY BRYANT** – Texas A & M – *Accounting*  
**JAMIETRA HENNINGTON** - Lamar U. – *Social Work*  
**TER-KEL AMONS** – Lamar U. – *Political Science*  
**PAUL PICKENS** – Tyler Jr. College – *Therapy and Pre-Med.*  
**ASHLEY MCBRIDE** – McNeese State U. – *Business Mgmt.*  
**ASHLEY WARD** – Southern U. – *Animal Husbandry*  
**ALEXIS RIGGINS** – McNeese State U. – *Medical Technology*  
**ELZIE D. ODOM, III** – **B.S. Degree (S.M.U.)**  
**CHIMIRA PEACOCK** – Texas State U. – *Physical Therapy*  
**NAKITA LASHEA WHITE** – Central College – *Undecided*  
**PHYLICIA WHITE** – Lamar U.  
**LANCE BUTLER** – Florida A & M  
**GERASIA WHITE**  
**RHONDA ANDERSON**  
**ALEXANDRYA HOLLEY** – Univ. of Missouri - *Broadcasting*  
**DANIELLE M. SCOTT**– Univ. of Texas-El Paso - *English*  
**DENISSIA J. SPIKES**  
**TARYN K. LAND** – Abilene College  
**MARIA RIGGINS** – McNeese State U.  
**D’AUNDREA SPIKES** – Prairie View U.

# Society News

**We’ve Got Web!** – After several years of halting starts, the Shankleville Historical Society, Inc. has a real presence on the World Wide Web. Our on-line presence will serve as an ongoing forum where we can contribute and distribute up-to-date information. We’ll also be able to collect pictures and genealogical data from Shankleville descendants everywhere as we continue to research and learn about our Shankleville heritage. With those goals in mind, check us out in these venues:

- [www.shankleville.org](http://www.shankleville.org) is our official web site. Visit here to get the latest news about the Shankleville Community, its people, and Historical Society happenings. As mentioned in the “In Memoriam” section of this newsletter, you will be able to find out more about our memorialized ancestors and share stories about them that give insight into their unique contributions to the Shankleville family. You may also utilize this website to **make online donations** to the Society via PayPal, correspond with the Society via e-mail, **sign up for our annual newsletter**, get news about the Homecoming and **apply for the Shankleville Memorial Scholarship**.
- FACEBOOK. The Shankleville Historical

Society’s Facebook page will also have the latest news about Society, Homecoming and Community happenings. In addition, this site will allow fans to build an online community – sharing information, pictures, videos or links in real time. Become a “Fan” today!

**THC Cemetery Workshop** – Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, August 8, 2009** when the Society will host a workshop on “Preserving Historic Cemeteries.” **The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m., at Mount Zion C.M.E. church in Shankleville and will be facilitated by the Texas Historical Commission’s Cemeteries Program.** Cemetery Associations from throughout Newton, Jasper and other nearby counties have been invited to participate in this free, hands-on session. Participants will get an update on new state laws that were passed during the 2009 Legislative Session in an effort to enhance the protection of historic cemeteries. Attendees will also learn the basics of cemetery preservation, including the repair and cleaning of gravestones. The upkeep of Shankleville’s two cemeteries has always been a community affair – from the “Decoration Days” of yesteryears to the dimes and dollars we now contribute to the Annual Homecoming for cemetery upkeep. Let’s build upon that Shankleville Community spirit, by being sure to bring the kids, the teens, the “old folks” and the “not-so-old folks” out for this

## Shankleville Historical Society, Inc.

### *Mission:*

- To preserve the heritage of the Shankleville Community in Newton County, Texas through oral histories and educational programs;
- To document the history of the Shankleville Community via systematic research and recording methods;
- To propagate the legacy of the Shankleville Community by sponsoring a variety of programs (including scholarship programs) for 21<sup>st</sup> century residents and descendants of the Shankleville Community, and the Texas community at large.

“new-fashioned” Cemetery Decoration Day.  
We’ll see you there!