

### **Albert J. Gernenz**

Dr. Albert J. Gernenz served as executive of the Illinois Baptist State convention and, after the merger with the Missouri Convention of American Baptists, as Executive Minister of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region. He served in this leadership capacity for over twenty years, retiring on August 31, 1977.

His career was long and distinguished. His leadership was duly recognized when Northern Baptist Theological Seminary conferred on him the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1958.

Dr. Gernenz had a keen interest in Christian education. He was very active in the camping programs and always attended the Senior High BYF Annual Convention. His interest in youth was paramount. He was instrumental in establishing The Shurtleff Fund.

The decision of the Board of Directors of the Shurtleff Fund to provide funding for scholarships in honor of Dr. Gernenz is a significant tribute.

### **Harold O. Long**

Mr. and Mrs. Harold O. Long, good friends of Dr. Albert Gernenz and Dr. Russell Orr, two former Executive Ministers of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region, joined the First Baptist Church of Decatur in 1959. Like their two friends, the Longs were committed to encouraging new leadership for our churches.

Following Mr. Long's death in 1990, Mrs. Ruth L. Long established the Harold O. Long Memorial Scholarship Fund (approved by the Region's Executive Committee in February, 1996). It provides annual scholarships for members of Great Rivers Region churches who plan to enter full-time Christian ministry and plan to attend an American Baptist college, university or seminary.

*“Excellence in Education and  
Commitment to Christ”*

## **GREAT RIVERS REGION SCHOLARSHIP**



### ***Gernenz-Shurtleff-Wilcoxon***

*Undergraduate Studies*

### ***Gernenz-Shurtleff***

*Seminary Studies*

### ***Long***

*Ministerial Studies*

*Both Undergraduate & Seminary*

**American Baptist Churches  
Of the  
Great Rivers Region**

## WHO IS ELIBIBLE?

- ❖ The applicant must hold membership in an American Baptist Church of the Great Rivers Region at the time of application.
- ❖ The applicant must give evidence of potential for Christian service in the world today.
- ❖ Scholarships are not available for work beyond The M Div. Level.

## WHO MAKES THE SELECTION?



A committee of three to be appointed by the Executive Minister of the Great Rivers Region makes award decisions.

## HOW DOES ONE APPLY?

The applicant must contact the Scholarship Committee, ABC/GRR, PO Box 3786, Springfield, IL 62708 for appropriate forms for the following:

1. A required nomination by the pastor of the church where membership is held. When the church does not have a pastor at the time the application is submitted, the nomination should be made by the Associate Pastor or the Church School superintendent.
2. A required recommendation by one lay leader in his/her church.
3. A recommendation by a principal, teacher or counselor from the applicant's high school. For applicants already in college, a statement from a teacher or counselor at that institution may be submitted to meet this requirement.
4. A high school or college transcript at the time of application.
5. A financial statement on forms that will be provided with the applications.

**Applications must be in the Regional Office by **APRIL 1** of each year.**

## WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA?

Present scholarship standing of an applicant will be less important than potential for service and financial need.

The emphasis for selection of a candidate will be on candidate's potential for Christian leadership in whatever occupation a person pursues.

Gernenz-Shurtleff-Wilcoxon scholarships are restricted to undergraduate students, but are not restricted by major.

Gernenz-Shurtleff Seminary scholarships are restricted to M Div. studies.

The Long scholarships are restricted to students attending American Baptist schools, up to and including the Master of Divinity degree planning to enter full-time Christian ministry.

## WHAT IS THE AMOUNT OF EACH SCHOLARSHIP

The amount of scholarships shall be determined by the Regional Scholarship Committee and varies from year to year.

***Notification is made by June 30***