

**THE MIDWEST REGION REPORT
TALLADEGA COLLEGE
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Submitted by: Cynthia Ross, Esq. Acting Midwest Region President April 2010

The States in the Midwest Region: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky,
Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, W. Virginia, Wisconsin

Chapters: As of the last report (November 2009) there were only two active chapters in the Midwest. St Louis has an interest group that has yet to official re-form as an alumni club. Since November alumni have been identified who are interest in planning and forming alumni clubs in these cities: Dayton, OH, Cincinnati, OH, and Madison, WI. Alumni in Nebraska want to engage in recruitment and other activities, even though there are fewer alumni in Nebraska that is constitutionally required to form a chapter. Other areas targeted to form chapter are: Iowa (Cedar Rapid, Des Moines, Water Lou), Kansas (Kansas City, Topeka, Wichita), and Minnesota (Duluth, St Paul).

Regional Activities: Polish the Jewel: regional members financially supported this campus improvement project. TCNAA National Raffle: regional members support this project as well. We had a great *increase* in ticket sales in the Midwest. As of the creation of this report, we have sold almost twice as many tickets that were sold last year in the Midwest. Last year, tickets were sold in mainly two states in the region. This year tickets were sold in the following nine states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Regional Outreach Strategies: The goal is to get more clubs activated and for clubs to partner with other alumni in the region. Partnering will continue with alumni in Chicago, IL and Gary, IN and between Detroit area alumni and state-wide alumni. New partnering is planned between Kansas City MO and Kansas City, KS. Also partnering can occur between Cincinnati, OH northern Kentucky alumni.

Outreach strategies include scheduling local activation meetings, local social engagements, recruitment activities, and joint fundraising activities. More details on these activities will be provided through the Acting Regional President. Outreach strategies also include keeping alumni informed on campus and TCNAA activities through email and possibly with quarterly newsletter

Regional Plans: Secure regional officers to support the regional activities. Plan a region wide event. Deliver a student recruitment plan designed to increase student enrollment from the Midwest.

Gone but not forgotten: Transitioned Midwest Region Alumni: In 2009 and 2010 the Midwest lost the following Degans: Attorney Margaret Bush Wilson (IL), Peter Casey (MI), Harris Foster (IL), Ethel Washington Hylton (MI), Eunice Johnson (IL), Floy Johnson (OH)

THE POLISH THE JEWEL PROJECT

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PROJECT SUMMARY: THE EFFORT IS CALLED POLISH THE JEWEL: HANDS-ON ALUMNI VOLUNTEER WEEKEND. THIS IS A TALLADEGA COLLEGE CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WHERE ALUMNI, STUDENTS AND FRIENDS OF TALLADEGA GATHER TO PAINT, PLANT, AND REPAIR AND IMPROVE THE CAMPUS.

COMPETED SPRING 2010 PROJECT:

Renovated the bathroom in the Student Government Association Building. New fixtures were installed including: the Toilet, Tank, & Seat Combo, Sink, Vanity Cabinet, & Mirror Combo, and Chrome Faucet. Some gardening upgrades were made on the outside of the building including separating and replanting some of the rose bushes that were planted last year.

Previous POLISH THE JEWEL Projects

Polish the Jewel -- March 2009

Donated three exterior trash cans and ash tray combinations
Planting Flowers Beds and Individual flowers in front of:
Derricott House, The Alumni House, The Student Government Building
The New Talladega College Welcome Signs/Walls off Battle Street
(in front and back of both new signs)
Installed Rock Garden on both sides of the Shores Hall walkway
Power washed Chapel and Library stairs and porch

Polish the Jewel -- August 2008

Planting Flower Beds in front of:
Shores Hall (also installed solar lights along front walk way)
Ish Hall (flower boxes and in front of the building)
Student Union Building -The Inn (both side of the front walk way)
Crawford Hall (created flower beds on both side to the front entry)

Polish the Jewel -- July 2007

Fanning Dinning Hall: Built Handicap Ramp, Painted the porch and stair rails, Repaired roof overhang
Ish Hall: Power washed white exterior wall, Painted Men's/Guest bathroom, Clean and sanitized girl bathrooms and dorm rooms
Shore Hall: Painted railing in all the stairwells and back of building, Clean and sanitized bathroom and dorm rooms
House #109: (Building behind Presidents House) Painted the building, rebuilt porch & columns
Planted flowers in the flower box and around the bottom of the old Talladega College Welcome Sign
Updated several existing flower beds including near the Sumner Hall. Conducted mattress drive. Donated almost 40 mattresses.

Thanks to all that have worked so hard to make
POLISH THE JEWEL
a success over the years.

LOCAL CHAPTERS REPORTS

Detroit Talladega Alumni Club Report

Officers (as of 1/10)

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Meetings The club now meets every second Sunday at 3:00pm. We meet more frequently around projects by committee.

Recruiting Activities: The alumni club participated in several college recruitment fairs since November 2010. The club created literature including info about 1) the college, 2) distinguished local and national alumni, as well as, a response card for potential students to add their contact information. We are planning targeted recruitment events with various local community colleges to begin in the Fall of 2010. Another plan is to create a special recruitment day. During this event all students would bring transcripts, letters of recommendations, SAT or ACT scores and/or a completed Talladega application for admissions. Upon review of their credentials by the admissions officer from the College, qualified students will receive an acceptance letter that day. Make this an annual event. Dr. Eugene Cain will lead these recruitment activities.

Fund Raising Efforts: Raffle Tickets - This chapter supported this effort by selling 72 raffle tickets by the date of this report was submitted. More ticket will be sold by alumni weekend.
Founders Day in Birmingham: This chapter followed the leadership of Greg Austin by honoring his request that local chapters support this event. We sent in our donation as a *Support Sponsor* for this activity. We donated our ticket to the event to be used by a Choir Member or Chrisom Ambassador that will assist in this event.

Future Events: Another Stay at Home Tea is set for the summer of 2010. The club's bi-annual scholarship founders day celebration and fund raiser reception is set for November 20, 2010 (the Saturday before Thanksgiving). It is hoped that as in years past, the College President and the Trustee Board Chair, along with, other out-of-state, alumni will attend.

Other Activities: The club supports the Polish the Jewel campus improvement and is a dues paying members of the UNCF Inter-Alumni Council of Detroit for the third consecutive year.

Chicago Talladega Alumni Club Report

Officer: Dr. Gloria Taylor, President 54 East 163rd St., S Holland, IL 60473, 708-210-9739

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Meetings and Recruitment Activities: This club meets quarterly at the Carter G. Woodson Library, in Chicago, IL. As a recruiting tool this club has encouraged sponsors of college tours to include Talladega as a stop on their College Tour program.

Fund Raising Efforts: The chapter participated in the raffle sponsored by the TCNAA.

Other Activities: The chapter sponsored a table at the UNCF Inter Alumni Luncheon held in Chicago. Dr. Eloise Cornelius was honored as the Talladega Alumni of Year representing the Chicago Chapter.

Future Plans: This chapter will continue to partner with alumni in Gary, IN by continuing to invite them to meetings and events in Chicago.

St Louis Talladega Alumni Interest Group Report

compiled by Jonathan LaGrone M.A.

Current Officers: Jonathan LaGrone, Acting President, 2857 Liberty Lane Ct. St. Louis, Mo 63033, 314-518-4121 cell, 314-438-0386 home, jonathanlagrone@yahoo.com

Meetings: This group began by having several "happy hour" get-together meetings. They have had two official meetings this Spring. A May meeting is planned. Officer elections will be held.

Events/ Activities: In the months of August, June, and July alumni gathered for the on-going happy hour events that take place at different eateries throughout the city. This is an opportunity for alumni to meet and network in a relax night life atmosphere. The Fall happy hours will start up this month (November).

August 18th alumni gathered to meet with President Hawkins to honor and remember fellow alumna Attorney Margaret Bush Wilson. The itinerary consisted of brainstorming ideas for a Bush-Wilson memorial and the resurgence of the St. Louis Alumni Chapter.

Future endeavors: Electing officers, reviewing bylaws and dues, and brainstorming on fundraising activities and events. We will continue to have our monthly happy hour events to help keep members active and to bring new alumni into the chapter. Currently, we have a Missouri Alumni page on the NING website. The St. Louis alumni have made contact with state-wide alumni through the website. Their goal is to include all Missouri Alumni in St. Louis activities. There are alumni in Kansas City which is our second largest city in the state, Branson, Mexico and St. Charles.
