

Dear Alumni:

I did not realize it had been so long since I wrote a President's letter. A lot has happened since the last letter. Let me give you some updates. First, and foremost we have a new President at MDCC. Dr. Tyrone Jackson, a native of Rosedale, MS, assumed the duties of President of MDCC last summer when Dr. Larry Nabors retired. We wish Dr. Nabors and wife Tonya a safe and enjoyable retirement. Also, the Alumni Association is pleased to welcome Dr. Jackson and his family to MDCC. Dr. Jackson was chosen to lead MDCC by the Board of Trustees and comes to MDCC with a very impressive resume in education. He hit the ground running and I don't think he has stopped for air yet!!! Also, in other changes, Jim Aycock is now the new Director of Alumni replacing Debbie Gantz who had served the Alumni Association for the past seven years. We thank Debbie for her loyal and dedicated commitment to MDCC and the Alumni she represented. Jim comes to us from the IT Department at MDCC having spent many years keeping the computer system at MDCC operating smoothly.

In 2019 we saw a slight increase in Alumni Memberships. Chapter Banquets were held in the spring in Leflore/Carroll, Bolivar/Coahoma, & Sunflower/Humphreys counties. The Trojan Tailgating was a success again this fall as great weather made way for great tailgating time with Alumni and great food cooked by Trojan Tailgating Team. The highlight of the year for me was seeing the scholarship recipients receive their scholarships at the Awards Luncheon. Every recipient stood up and told the scholarship they received, what they were majoring in, their plans for continuing education, and what they hoped to do in life. It was heartfelt by me to hear their stories and what these scholarships mean to them towards being able to continue their education and pursue their dreams.

So these are some of the highlights of 2019 so let us talk about plans for 2020. The Alumni Association officers began last fall laying the groundwork for a big 2020 season. Several Alumni from Leflore and Washington counties have volunteered to be chapter officers and volunteer their time to growing the membership in these counties. Efforts are underway to find volunteers for the Bolivar/Coahoma chapter and discussions have occurred about starting a Madison county chapter. There are a lot of Alumni living in Madison county now and it would be great to have a new chapter formed. Plans were in place to have one big alumni event in May of this year but because of Covid-19, those plans had to be postponed. Hopefully, we will soon get back to a normal lifestyle and be able to have that event later.

We are in the process of mailing membership renewals. You will also have the ability to join online. This information will be advertised through email and social media. Be on the lookout for this as we need your support. Your support allows us to provide these scholarships to deserving students and to sponsor Alumni events.

In closing, I will again say "don't just remember where you received that final college diploma but remember those years at MDCC that prepared you for that final leg of your education". If you are not a member of the MDCC Alumni Association please consider joining and if you are already a member please remember to send those membership dues in to:

Sincerely

Jonny Spivey (1972-1974) "GO HEAD MO HEAD"