

Cuttington University Alumni Reunion Convention A Success!



Cuttington University alumni from all over the US came together in Houston, Texas to embark on a weekend long reunion celebration. This year the association streamed all events live via cuttingtonalumni.org and had over 50 people watching. From Friday, July 29th to Sunday, July 31st, members engaged in various activities promoting and enhancing the reunion theme of

“Creating a Legacy of Success through Collaboration”

On Friday, members toured Prairie View A&M University campus which included the John B. Coleman library, host of

the Barack Obama collection and the International Goat Research Center, one of the largest and longest established goat research programs in the country.

Awards were handed out to deserving alumni. Dr. Yede Dennis, former Associate Professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey, New Jersey Dental School and presently an adjunct associate professor carrying out international oral health outreach projects in developing countries, received the DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI award which was given for her accomplishments in her profession and which brings honor to Cuttington University.



Mr. Benoni Urey, chairman of the Board of Directors of Lone Star Communication Corporation; member of the Board of Trustees of Cuttington University, received the HONORARY ALUMNI award for contribution substantial contributions of time, effort and resources to Cuttington University. The award was received by his daughter; Ms. Danielle Urey. Ms. Urey said of her father, “He wants to make sure



that Cuttington continues to fulfill her noble mission in the West African Sub-region. As member of the Board of Trustees of Cuttington. He is committed to making sure that the doors of Cuttington University remain open for present and future generations.”

Mr. Cyril Tarpeh, Senior Tax Analyst, Gerard and Partners, LLC in New Haven, Connecticut received the OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI award which recognizes young alumni who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following areas: professional career, service to humanity, and service to Cuttington University.

Ms. Hawa Golakai received the RECENT ALUMNI award which recognizes her involvement in service primarily to the university community and in service organizations in CUAAA Region V.



Ms. Romelle Horton, who was the guest speaker for the weekend spoke on the topic **Moving beyond Past Glory through Service, Cooperation and Collaboration** In her message, Ms. Horton extolled the accomplishments of Cuttington University. She warned that the university currently stands at a crossroads, that the difference between then and now is that the stakes are so much higher. Cuttington at this moment stands on the brink of disaster. She spoke of the dire consequences if the alumni do not provide service that is so desperately needed. She suggested ways in which alumni could “give back” to their alma mater through their gifts of service and treasure. She thanked the alumni for their current efforts in establishing a scholarship program and making several donations of books, projectors, computers and outfitting a nursing research lab.

Overall the reunion was a success. We’re looking to grow the event and raise even more funds at next year’s reunion. The next reunion will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.



More Pictures From The Reunion



NOTES FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING

Scholarship Program

- Continue program with current students with funds from Friends of Cuttington Organization
- The association will award future multiple scholarships of at least \$500.
- Future funds come from Annual Fundraising Campaign

Reunion Planning

- The practice of providing seed money to the host is discontinued.
- National will assume financial responsibility for major items of the reunion.
- \$20 Reunion and Seating Fee. All other items will be priced separately.

Forward Thinking – the Association’s Role in University affairs – Concrete steps

- Agriculture area to be an integral part of change. Farm operation must be self-sufficient (profit center).
- Revised curriculum should be include technology jobs and associate degrees,
- Create job bank on school and association websites for alumni to take advantage of vacations, sabbaticals, etc.

Projects

- All regions need to undertake projects that directly provide resources to Cuttington.
- National and regions should collaborate on projects.
- Ideas for projects were discussed.
 1. A book drive through BETTER WORLD BOOKS seems to have a win win for the sponsoring group because up to 20% of the proceeds from the book drive could be directed to Cuttington.

Contact Susan Givens (stgivens@gmail.com) to learn how this has been done at Kenyon College multiple times.

2. Region IV and the Liberia-Cuttington Group are collaborating to collect items for medical kits to be used by the nursing students as they go on their community health trips. Items include stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, bandages, etc. Contact Musue Passewee (passeweem@bellsouth.net) or Abis Mason Holman (abismason@hotmail.com)
3. Funds from the Annual Campaign will be used to build student desks and tables for the classroom
4. Upgrade electricity and water systems, facilitate student and teacher instructional development, maintain vehicles, roads, paint buildings, purchase vans and upgrade cafeteria facilities are all viable needs of the university. Contact your administration at cuttingtonalumni@yahoo.com for a more comprehensive list for individuals and groups.

For more details about the business meeting, visit the website for the minutes.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR CUTTINGTON ***“The Restoration Project”***

During the reunion, the Restoration Project, Our Annual Fundraising Campaign, was unveiled. The association sought to raise \$10,000 in pledges and payments to support financial aid and make capital improvements at Cuttington University. These funds will increase the total financial aid responsibility thereby increasing the stability of support for the University. By achieving our goal we will ensure that the University builds a critical resource for the future. Operational monies once devoted to financial aid will be released to support teaching, learning, collaborative research, curricular innovation, academic enrichment – all of the elements that make Cuttington University such a distinctive place.

We are pleased to announce that we reached our monetary goal in pledges and payments. Below is a list of the individuals who pledged dollar amounts and will make payments monthly to the funds.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Adele | Adighibe | James | Karmeait |
| Charlene | Awadjie | Vivian | Kuowagi |
| Edmund | Bargblor | Lovetie | Major |
| Joseph | Diggs | Fulkra | Mason |
| Gifford | Doxsee | Wilmot | Merchant |
| Henry | Hali | Finley | Middleton |
| Magdalene | Hare | Musue | Pasasewe |
| Minnie | Horace | Huzani | Sesay |
| Jebbeh | Jangaba | Cyril | Tarpeh |
| Bobby | Joe | Lovette | Tucker |

There are several ways make payments..

1. Mail to CUAAA, P.O. Box 67185, Baltimore, Maryland 21215
2. Go into Bank of America and pay directly into the account of the Cuttington University Alumni Association of the Americas with headquarters in Maryland. Then email Cyril at catarpeh@gmail.com
3. Use your credit or debit card and pay through PayPal on the CUAAA website.

OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

IBXPRESS DONATES SHIPPING SERVICES TO CU

Ms. Susan Givens has garnered this exceptional prize. Through her negotiations with Mr. Elfric Porte and Mr. Velmer Porte (both alums), IBXpress has agreed to donate shipping services valued at over \$3,000 to Cuttington. This is especially wonderful for our regions who want to make in-kind donations such as first-aid kits and other school supplies. There are stipulations, however. Steve Kaifa is the contact person. All inquiries should be made to him. Please do not contact IBXpress directly about this matter. Our thanks and appreciation go out to the proprietors of this enterprise. This is a fine example of the POWER OF THE ALUMNI.



LOVETTE TUCKER

Ms. Tucker, National President of the association, has relocated to Cuttington in Suakoko to serve. Ms. Tucker visited the school last July and saw firsthand, the serious need for alumni to get involved. She made the commitment to go back. She retains her position as national president for the remaining of her term. Mr. Bobby G. Joe, National Vice President will be the primary contact for association duties while Ms. Tucker is in a unique position of begin responsive to the issues of the university and the association simultaneously.

LOVETIE BROWNE-MAJOR



Ms. Major, a member of Region V, was elected as National Secretary of the association. Ms. Major succeeds Ms. Effua McGowan in this position. Ms. Major is quite excited to serve in this position. She has already begun her duties. Ms. Major is currently visiting Liberia. She visited Cuttington to assess some of the issues that were discussed during the reunion.

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

DR. ARTHUR TARR

Dr. Tarr, Alum '77 has answered the call to give back to CU. Dr. Tarr is scheduled to take up residence at Cuttington in time for the beginning of the school year. He will serve as Academic Advisor.

YOU TOO CAN COME!

Many alumni have expressed the desire to go to Cuttington and use their skills. The university welcomes all alumni. If you already planning a trip to Liberia and can afford to spend a day or two at Cuttington, there are many things you can do in a couple of hours. Perhaps you have the summer off or can afford a one-year sabbatical. Your expertise is certainly in need. To begin the process contact Steve Kaifa (skaifa@ccm.edu) or send us an email at cuttingtonalumni@yahoo.com.

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS



Region 1

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

Raffle Draw is still on! Tickets are \$10 each. First prize is a round trip ticket to Liberia. The draw date weekend will also be a meet-and-greet occasion.

Regional dues \$25.00 per year



Region II

Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

CUAAA was present at the independence day celebrations at the embassy in Washington DC. There were Cuttington T-shirts available for sale. To purchase T-shirts contact Bobby G. Joe at 443-851-7540.



Region III

Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, (Caribbean, Central/South America)

Region III volunteered to host the 2012 reunion. The planning has begun. To get involved contact Musue Passewee at 770-403-3122. Purchase Rev. James Yarsiah's book *Early Missionary Work of the Protestant Episcopal church (DFMS) in Liberia And Their Differential Effects 1821-1871*. All proceeds from the sale go into the region's treasury.



Region IV

Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota (and Canada.)

Region IV will host the 2013 reunion.



Region V

Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana (and Mexico).

We want to thank our hosts of the 2011 Reunion/Convention. It was very organized and well attended. This region has set the bar high for others.



Region VI

California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Alaska

Mr. Ernest Fendor ably represented the region at the Reunion.