

**Booker Washington Institute Association of North America  
Carolinas Chapter  
Annual Report – 18 National Convention  
Providence, Rhode Island  
June 26 – 28, 2009**

**Oh dear Booker T; we'll sing thy praises**

Mr. National President, National Officers, Chapter Presidents and Members,  
distinguished Guests and Friends, ladies and Gentlemen.

With warm southern greetings I bring best wishes from the officers and members of the Carolinas Chapter. I must say that it is with deep sadness that I, along with other officers and members, am not present at this very necessary and important convention.

Unfortunately, the dire economic crises have not only affected people outside of our community, but have touched down on our local chapter. All in all, our chapter slowly but surely was able to pay in full her sitting and bereavement fees. With a positive outlook towards the future, we will be able to attend the 2010 convention in Maryland.

We would, at this time, give a thunderous shout out to the Maryland Chapter President, Mr. Eric Harris, officers and members for an awesome Executive Council Meeting last November. Hospitality, accommodations and service were first class. Thank You!  
Since we returned from the meeting, our hardworking Executive Council Committee Team, led by Mr. John Yahnquee, has been vigorously preparing for this year's EC

Meeting which is scheduled to be held in Salisbury, North Carolina. You will enjoy an all so famous “real southern hospitality” during your stay with us.

Since the new leadership in November, 2008, our chapter has experienced extreme circumstances. Mr. President, officers and fellow delegates, we are pleased to report to this body the following:

1. Few of our members are grieving due to the deaths of their love ones; thanks to all who called and communed with us during our time of bereavement. On the other hand, one of our members is expecting his second child in June and another received her Master’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of North Carolina – Charlotte.
2. Our new leadership continues to encourage and strengthen our membership, maintain regular communication amongst members, and hold regular monthly meetings on the first Saturday of each month.
3. Members continue to recruit former students and graduates in surrounding areas.
4. To facilitate the day to day operations of the chapter, a monthly due of \$5.00 is paid by each member.
5. There is a strong sense of family amongst members

***Some areas of improvements are:***

1. Timely monthly due payment
2. Infusing our chapter into the community
3. Membership retention and recruitment

**Current leadership 2008 – 2010**

Ms. Joyce E. Harris-----President

Ms. Grace Bowier-----Vice President

Ms. Tomani Cheeseman-----Chaplain

Ms. Julia Williams-----Treasurer

Hon. Stephen Crayton-----Historian

Mr. John Yahnquee-----Chairman of the Board

Finally, we are proud of our workings to date. The faithful few continue to make sacrifices to uphold the responsibilities and duties of the chapter. We are fully committed and dedicated to sustaining the livelihood of Chapter. May God continue to bless and show favors in all of our undertakings.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted:

Joyce E. Harris  
President  
Carolinas Chapter

**ADMINISTRATIVE ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**CAROLINAS CHAPTER**

**TO THE**

**18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE**

**BOOKER WASHINGTON INSTITUTE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**NORTH AMERICA**

**PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

**JUNE 26 – 28, 2009**