

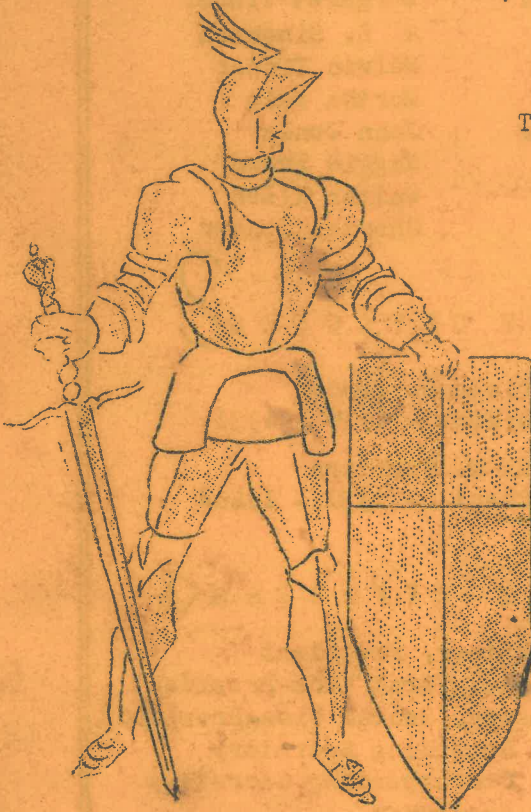
1928

FAIRFAX COUNTY

1941

# COLORED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.



Thirteenth Anniversary

ACHIEVEMENT NUMBER

JUNE 8, 1941

FAIRFAX COUNTY COLORED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION  
Founded September, 1928  
Lerrifield, Va.

FOUNDERS

Harrison Tinner	Margaret Tinner
C. V. Hyson	A. E. Simonson
Joseph Collins	Melvin Tinner
A. G. Murray	Martha Wade
Ollie W. Tinner	John Jones
R. J. Evans	Maggie Brown
William Ball	Walter Hyson
Lula Robinson	Charles Tinner

HONORARY OFFICERS

Harrison R. Tinner  
First President - 1928 - 1931

Rufus H. Hamilton  
Second President - 1931 - 1940

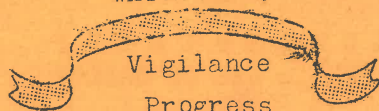
PRESENT OFFICERS

Rev. w. E. Costner, President  
Alexander White, First Vice-President  
Rev. Otis Jasper, Second Vice-President  
Martha Wade, Recording Secretary  
Ernest Pinn, Corresponding Secretary  
R. J. Evans, Treasurer

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Ollie W. Tinner, Publicity Manager

WATCHWORDS



Vigilance  
Progress  
Cooperation

PURPOSE

To organize the Negroes in Fairfax County, Virginia  
for the purpose of voting in all elections.

A I M S

To better Negro citizenship in Fairfax County  
through its stand for:

- A. FULLER USE OF THE BALLOT BY ALL NEGROES
- B. GREATER IMPROVEMENT IN COLORED SCHOOLS
- C. JUSTICE IN THE COURTS AND PUBLIC CONVEYANCES
- D. ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ALL COUNTY AND CIVIC AFFAIRS
- E. PROMOTION OF A BETTER FEELING BETWEEN THE RACES
- F. BOOSTING THE COUNTY AS A DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE



MEMBERSHIP IN OR AFFILIATED WITH:

1. Fairfax County Red Cross
2. Fairfax County Tuberculosis Association
3. Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce
4. Fairfax County Community Chest
5. Federation of Colored School Leagues
6. Negro Organization Society of Virginia
7. National Association for the Advancement  
of Colored People
8. National Negro Legislative Council
9. Urban League
10. Association for the Study of Negro Life  
and History.



A C H I E V E M E N T  
FULLER USE OF BALLOT

- Increased the number of Negro voters from 57 voters in 1928 to 782 voters in 1941
- Fought for and obtained the right to participate in primary elections in Fairfax County for first time in August 5, 1930.
- Influenced the establishment of voters clubs in the communities of Woodlawn, Va., Gumsprings, Va., Falls Church, and Vienna.
- Endorsed and supported the candidacy of a new superintendent of schools who possessed a more liberal attitude toward Negro education.
- Wrote letters to our Congressmen protesting the proposal to change the administrative control of Freedmen's Hospital from a Federal Hospital under the U. S. Department of the Interior to an exclusive municipal hospital under the sole charge of the D. C. Board of Public Welfare. Such control would be detrimental to our welfare. The proposal was defeated.
- Wrote letters to our Congressmen asking them to support the Anti-Lynching Bill.
- Instrumental in defeating Fairfax County School Bond issue November, 1935, because of unjust allotment of funds to Negro schools.
- Aided in passing new Bond Issue 1937 in which Negroes were more fairly treated.
- Established a Colored Women's Voters Club in Falls Church, Virginia, 1940.



A C H I E V E M E N T  
GREATER IMPROVEMENT IN COLORED SCHOOLS

- JANUARY, 1929 - Requested the State Board of Education to allot proportionate share of funds for Negro schools.  
Requested appointment of compulsory attendance officer for Negro schools in Fairfax County.  
Required the construction of new toilets at Negro elementary schools to conform with State Law. ;  
Staged a "Citizens' Day Rally" at Colored Fair Ground; Speaker, Congressman Oscar DePriest. Proceeds directed to the establishment of libraries in Negro schools.
- NOVEMBER 11, 1929 - Protested to Fairfax County School Board against the great disparity between the salaries of white and Negro teachers.
- SEPTEMBER 11, 1930 - Negro Teachers granted salary raise.  
1930 - Obtained portraits of George Washington from the George Washington Bicentennial Commission to hang in the schools.  
Sponsored placing portraits of Frederick Douglass, Booker T Washington, and other outstanding Negroes in Fairfax County Schools.
- 1931 - Made formal representation to the school authorities for transportation of Negro elementary school children.  
Made formal request for payment of funds to parents of children who attended high school in the District of Columbia.  
Obtained funds from County School Board to establish first county supported library.

GREATER IMPROVEMENT IN COLORED SCHOOLS (Continued)

- 1932 - Staged first united drive for educational opportunities above 7th grade for Negro children.
- 1933 - Obtained dental clinics for Negro schools. Obtained pre-school and well baby clinics for Negroes.
- 1934 - Received tuition fees for Negro high school students from county School Board appropriations.
- 1935 - Assembled a 200-person delegation at the office of the Superintendent of Schools, Fairfax County Courthouse August 5, 1935, and presented desired improvements in the Colored schools of the following communities through O. W. Tinner (publicity manager and spokesman): Woodlawn, Gum Springs, Chesterbrook, Vienna, East Woodford, Mt. Pleasant, Merrifield and Falls Church.

Campaigned against and aided in defeating School Bond Issue that grossly discriminated against Colored schools.

- 1936 - Obtained second salary raise for Negro teachers. Obtained tonsil clinic for Negro school children. Obtained eyeglass clinic for Negro children.
- 1937 - High school instruction obtained for Negro children through tuition paid to Manassas Industrial School.
- 1938 - Paid salaries of bus drivers carrying Negro children to high school for an entire year after the County School Board claimed no funds available.

New schools constructed for elementary children with funds obtained from a new school bond issue which we supported; Two-room building (Gum Springs); Two-room building (Merrifield); Two-room building (Flords); three room building (Vienna)

## GREATER IMPROVEMENT IN COLORED SCHOOLS (Continued)

- 1939 - Obtained consolidation of Negro schools, eliminating three one-room schools.
- 1940 - Accredited Regional High School - established with State funds.
- 1941 - Represented the Colored Teachers before the Fairfax County School Board and obtained an official commitment to equalize Negro and white teachers' salaries, beginning school year September, 1941.

## JUSTICE IN THE COURTS AND PUBLIC CONVEYANCES

Protested to the authorities (May, 1934) about the established practice of excluding Negroes from all juries in Fairfax County.

May 24, 1935 - the first Negroes to serve on the jury in Fairfax County were drawn from our association. These members were Alexander L. White, foreman, Sideburn, Va.; Otis Wade, Falls Church; Atanar Payne, Fairfax; John R. Pearson, Fairfax; Joseph Collins, Merrifield; Henry Page, Fairfax; and Ollie W. Tinner, Falls Church.

Caused the removal of "White Only" signs in the rest rooms of two local auto service stations.

Have held repeated conferences with the owner of our bus transportation line about the treatment of Negroes by their employees.

Made application to the Judge of Fairfax County Circuit Court for the appointment of a Negro on the Fairfax County Board of Public Welfare.

Sponsored drive to obtain a proportionate share of jobs for Negroes on the WPA and PWA projects in Fairfax County.

Protested the incarceration of Negro juvenile offenders in jail with hardened criminals.



A C H I E V E M E N T

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ALL COUNTY AND CIVIC AFFAIRS

Sent a committee to the courthouse to endorse and support the "Byrd Road Law" for the improvement of the county and state roads.

Sends delegations to all budget meetings at the courthouse to voice our approval or disapproval of items included therein.

Obtained a Negro chairman for relief garden project under Fairfax County Board of Public Welfare whose duty was to distribute free fertilizers, potatoes, and seed among the needy.

Colored women groups have been formed and contributed their time to sewing projects in the County Welfare program.

Obtained Negro chairman for the Fairfax Branch of the American Red Cross who solicited \$100 in the membership drive among colored people.

Obtained Negro chairman for the Tuberculosis Seals sales drive who obtained \$100 among colored citizens.

Leading participant in "Negro Health Week for Fairfax County.



A C H I E V E M E N T  
PROMOTION OF BETTER FEELING BETWEEN THE RACES

Aided in the establishment of an interracial group of 10 white and Negro citizens for the discussion of our common problems.

Established a new relationship with the local white press which permitted us to advertise our meetings, narrate our achievements, purposes, and problems in an uncensored manner, for the knowledge of other groups.

Aided in bringing to the public, through the cooperation of the law enforcement authorities of the county, the "Fact" in a supposedly attack case.

Advocated the support of projects initiated by the other group even though our group was not directly benefited.

June 20, 1937 - We sponsored the Tempo Choral Society in song at the Second Baptist Church, Falls Church, Virginia, and invited prominent persons of the other group who attended and were so pleased that colored groups are now invited to perform in white churches, schools, and other public edifices; and white pastors and other prominent persons serve in our pulpits and on our programs.



A C H I E V E M E N T .

BOOSTING THE COUNTY AS A DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE

Established an annual "Better Homes and Garden" week among Negroes in Fairfax County.

Won a silver loving cup as the best county of three participating in the George Washington Bicentennial Better Homes and Garden Contest. This honor was brought to the county by the colored community of Falls Church, Va.

Cooperates with the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce in advertising the following assets of Fairfax County:

1. Area of 417 square miles
2. Network of transportation lines
3. Extensive hard surfaced roads
4. Good school training
5. Comparative low taxes
6. Undeveloped areas of unusual industrial possibilities
7. Historical spots of state, national, and international significance
8. Situated in the Greater Metropolitan area of Washington, D. C.



FUTURE ACCOMPLISHMENTS DESIRED

Colored Nurse in our Health Department  
Colored member of Public Welfare Board  
Colored member of our School Board

Increased employment of Negroes on public roads  
in the county

Better treatment and better accommodations on public  
conveyances

A voters' club in each community

More extensive consolidation of Negro schools  
Better bus transportation facilities

Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops in each community  
Negro 4-H Clubs in the county

Junior Citizens Department of our association which  
will be the training department for our boys and  
girls to become new leaders to supplement or  
replace our present and past leaders

Encourage the establishment of Negro enterprises and  
support of local white business that give employ-  
ment to Negroes

Construction of a modern fireproof gymnasium auditorium  
at our Regional High School.



Compiled By

CLLIE W. TINNER,

Publicity Manager since organization  
in 1928