

# MILWAUKEE AREA *Technical College* Alumni Association

## Free Alumni Association Membership

All MATC graduates become automatically eligible for membership in the Alumni Association. Simply email your name, mailing address, telephone number, graduation date, and program of study to Alumni Relations Specialist Bob Holland at [hollanrj@matc.edu](mailto:hollanrj@matc.edu). Following verification of graduation, you will receive confirmation of membership.

## MATC Centennial Celebration

MATC will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2012. In honor of this impressive milestone, the Alumni Association will feature profiles of 100 of our alumni. We would love to hear from all MATC alumni to learn how MATC has helped you in your career. Contact Alumni Relations Specialist Bob Holland as soon as possible at 414-297-6825 or via email at [hollanrj@matc.edu](mailto:hollanrj@matc.edu)

## Alumni Networking Night – Sept. 24

The MATC Alumni Association will hold its first Alumni Networking Night on Thursday, September 24, 6-8 p.m. at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus. This two-hour event will focus on building networking skills to maximize employment opportunities.

The first hour will feature a networking tutorial led by presenter Mark Myszewski. Participants will learn basic networking skills, as well as pointers on how to effectively follow-up with new contacts.

During the second hour, participants will focus on “speed networking” to practice the skills learned during the tutorial. Participants will leave this event with greater knowledge in how to effectively present themselves in networking situations, particularly with prospective employers.

The event is free and open to MATC alumni, guests, and current MATC students enrolled in their final semester. Advance registration is required, so sign up now by calling 414-297-6825 or email [hollanrj@matc.edu](mailto:hollanrj@matc.edu).



Jennifer and James Brady, 2008 Registered Nursing graduates.

## Want to keep up with MATC news? Click links below.

- View the latest issue of **Communiqué**  
<http://matc.edu/communiqué/Sept2009communiqué.html>
- Visit the **MATC Newsroom**  
[http://matc.edu/matc\\_news/newsindex.html](http://matc.edu/matc_news/newsindex.html)
- Network With **Fellow Alumni**  
On LinkedIn and Facebook Join MATC Alumni Association groups on LinkedIn and Facebook to connect with other alumni.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**ALUMNI NETWORKING NIGHT**  
**FREE MEMBERSHIP**  
**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**

## ALUMNI PROFILES

Rita Privette  
Tracy Pugh  
Alvin Hill



## Alumni Profile Rita Privette Commercial Art

Following 18 years of factory work at Briggs & Stratton, Rita Privette decided it was time to follow her high school dream to pursue a career in art. Her kids were grown, and Briggs was offering early retirement and retraining. Rita enrolled in the Commercial Art program at MATC because the college offered the "most bang for the buck."

After two short years, Rita earned her associate degree in Commercial Art. Her outstanding work earned her a Commendation for Scholastic Achievement in 1998, and caught the eye of part-time instructor Renee Berger. Ms. Berger, the creative director at Western States Envelope and Label, knew talent when she saw it and hired Rita to work with her as a graphic designer. Rita jumped at the opportunity, and has been there for over 11 years. During that time she earned certificates in over a dozen different computer programs to keep her skills current. Rita was recently promoted to senior graphic designer, and is enjoying the variety of duties it entails.

Rita's hobbies include beading, stitching, gardening, painting, travel, photography, antiques and playing with her five grandchildren. To learn more about Rita and her impressive work, visit <http://web.mac.com/ritaprivette/WingsNThings/Welcome.html>.



## Alumni Profile Tracy Pugh Interior Design

Ever since Tracy Pugh was a child, she has had a passion for three things: art, working with people, and math/geometry. To pursue these passions in her career, Tracy earned three separate degrees at MATC in Accounting, Hospitality Management and Interior Design. She chose MATC each time because it met her required criteria: it was close to home, reasonably priced, and it gave her the ability to earn a degree and get to work quickly.

She started with the Accounting program straight out of high school because she loved working with numbers and excelled at math. She pursued art as her hobby. After working for many years in the accounting field, Tracy realized that something was still missing. So she changed positions and began working for an exclusive club where she gravitated toward working directly with clients. This led her back to MATC for a degree in Hospitality Management.

While working in restaurant management, Tracy met her husband-to-be, David. Realizing that the long hours, nights and weekends would be hard on a new family, she began a position in sales. Once again she returned to MATC, this time for a degree in Interior Design, which has allowed her to return to her lifelong love of art.

Tracy worked several years in design before starting her own business, Authentic Design Partners, in 2003. She serves on the board of directors for the International Interior Design Association Wisconsin Chapter and will be the incoming president in 2010-11.



## Alumni Profile Alvin Hill Marketing

Alvin Hill enrolled in MATC's Marketing program while working in retail sales at a local JC Penney store. Following graduation in 1972, Al joined the Wisconsin Army National Guard, where he served for the next 25 years.

It was during his service in the National Guard that Al became interested in the field of Human Resources, particularly in the area of diversity. Many would consider him a pioneer in this developing field. During this time Al co-authored "Ten Strategies for Managers in A Multicultural Workforce," which was published in HR Focus magazine.

After leaving the Guard, he continued his career in Human Resources with such employers as Safe Line/Riteway Bus Service, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, and Site Personnel Services, Inc. With each step along his career path, Al's commitment to diversity work has been strengthened. He began doing consulting work in 2001, and continues today to help companies that need diversity training.

Al is currently director of Diversity, Learning and Development with the Milwaukee Center for Independence.

He is the founder and chairman of Career Options, a church-based organization providing career enhancement for youth and job fair/skill enhancement for adults.