

Wadadli West USA Inc.

"Dedicated to the Development of the Point and Villa Area Communities"

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TOTALLY INVOLVED



IN OUR COMMUNITIES

THE KING AND HIS PRINCESSES

By
Bernard S.
Henry

The Next Generation Cometh

King Zacari is a hardcore social commentator who uses his platform in calypso to address the social issues that confront our country and our people. This master craftsman knows how to deliver compelling messages and how to grab the attention of audiences. The lyrical content of his songs has often caused many offenders to run for cover as if attempting to evade a blazing fire.

Every year around the carnival season, the expectations and anxieties, among those who have varying

often been chastised through these microphones for their iniquities against our society. In his scheme of things, no one is off limit from his investigative prowess and no one is safe from his wrath.

Who is this man that is so regally called King Zacari? Born Trevor King, it is quite tempting to suggest that King Zacari was already king long before his calypso adventures. Hailed from the Point Area, he inherited some enormous shoes to fill as this region was once under the sovereignty of one of the greatest kings of calypso, King Short

Shirt. With his forceful and courageous

personality, King Zacari refuses to live in the shadows of his predecessors much less to back down from any challenges.



Graphic Design by Tamika Taylor

King Zacari and his Princesses, Thalia & Kimmie - Photo from the back cover of the King's 2010 Calypso/Soca album, "No Local"

interests in his calypsos, would become feverishly high as they wait in wonder to see whose case will be tried next by calypso justice. With the microphone in his hands, he transformed this 6 inch piece of metal into that of the rod of corrections. Many wrongdoers have

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By Earl Francis

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Two years ago, I attended a soup tasting event at the Antigua and Barbuda House in Harlem sponsored by the Antigua Progressive Society. At this function, I ran into Mr. Shelly Hood whom I knew from my old Villa Area neighborhood in Antigua. As we proceeded to catch up about old times in our community, Shelly brought to my attention that he was part a group called Wadadli West USA Inc, which was aimed at serving the Point and Villa communities. At that instance, I became very excited just to know that such an organization exist, to serve our very own communities.



Feeling proud and overly enthusiastic, I began to enquire into the activities and directions of this organization. Shelly was quickly obliged to fill me in with details about this group as he had envisioned me all along as a perspective member. To further confirm his intention, he went on to inform me that the organization was going through a restructuring period and that they were looking to recruit new and inspiring members. Even though I was excited about the information which I had received, I could not make any immediate decision to join this group because of my busy schedule and my total commitment to my church activities. Anyway, after careful deliberation, a few weeks later, I took up Shelly's invitation and sat in on one of the groups' meetings.

It was an exhilarating experience for me at the first meeting just having the opportunity of meeting people from my old childhood years whom I had not seen in ages. Thereafter, the meeting was quickly transformed into an impromptu reunion as we hugged and greeted each other, renewing old acquaintances and making new friends. From that moment, I knew I was about to become part of something very special, Wadadli West USA Inc.

Listening to the members who addressed the meeting that night, I became thrilled by the topics that were brought to the table. All of a sudden, my head became swollen with ideas how I could contribute to this organization which would pave the way in helping our beloved Point and Villa Area communities. The positive atmosphere that filled the room that night was heart warming. It was more than what I had expected on my first visit. After we had all made our formal introductions, I knew at that moment that we were on our way of becoming a remarkable group of people.

Wadadli West USA Inc is a small organization in a rebuilding phase, but our members have big hearts, great

ideas, and huge goals. People have often doubted our abilities, but we have often proven them wrong. Many people have advised us that we should venture into bigger and better things in order to reach our goals quickly, but as the saying goes, easy does it. Others have told us that our low priced ticketed events, like our "Winter Break Tea Party Social," would not generate great profits, but we are Antiguans so here it goes: "One...One...full basket! We at Wadadli West are very much in tune with the times and the economy.

When we are hosting an event, we try to make it attractive so our supporters can attend and have a good time without having to take out bank loans. Our efforts here could never be considered as competition of any kind, so for now, we will just take our time. We are not afraid of the small beginnings for the facts of life have taught us that one has to first learn to creep before one could walk. Even though quantity in certain aspect means a lot, for us here at Wadadli West, we take great pride in the quality of our products.

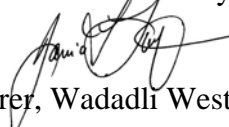
It has been a great year so far for us with just a few bumps and bruises, but life is not perfect, so this is something that we have come to expect. Our newsletters have gotten positive reviews from you our friends and our supporters. We thank you so much.

I would like to take this moment to quickly address an encounter that I had with a fellow Antiguan while distributing our newsletter in the Bronx. "Ms. Lady, I remembered you said to me, 'I do not buy Antiguan papers'. Well, here is the difference, our newsletter is FREE. Seeing that you did not have a moment to take a look at our issue, I would like to say this to you. Our newsletter was created to empower our people through information. Many of our people have often been left behind because of their ignorance of the power of information. Anyway, by the statement you made, I hope that we can still call you an Antiguan. Regardless, we still love *you*.

For those prospective members who came and left, thank you so much for your interest. As we push forward, we are looking for people who can add value to our efforts, with very little confusion, while helping us in realizing our goals. This condition is important to us for we are aware of our surroundings to understand the relevance of this concept. Our friends and supporters have been great to us. In return we have delivered to them what has been promised. Just ask Sister Hazel! For those of you from the Point and Villa Area community that are sitting on the side line, here is an opportunity for you to make a difference in your communities.

Here is a final thought. Most good things in life are never achieved easily. It takes constant efforts, firm hearts, and steady minds. We will cross that bridge once we reach it. For now, we will continue on our journey, one step at a time.

Janice F. Donaldson-Taylor


Treasurer, Wadadli West USA Inc.



In 1991, he made a grand entrance into the calypso scene as an artist. This was not by choice but by a gallant effort to prove a point. His initial involvement in calypso was never towards becoming a calypsonian, but instead, in becoming a lyricist in the mold of Shelly Tobit and others who were influential in the successes of many of the big name artists. In that same year [1991], King Zacari wrote 2 calypsos, "Jail them" and "Guilty to Be Black." These calypsos were offered to the Mighty Redding as competition pieces for that year's Calypso Competition. Apparently, the Mighty Redding thought that King Zacari, who was extremely young at that time, was not experienced enough to be writing his songs. As a result, he blatantly refused them. Other artists were given the honor of sampling the works of this budding talent but they too turned him down.

After he received these rejections from the calypso fraternity, King Zacari made a firm decision, there and then, that he was going to sing the songs himself. Subsequently, he called upon one of his good friends and an upcoming musician name Zabeda to provide the musical arrangement for the songs. When the Mighty Redding and others heard the finished products, they suddenly had change of hearts, but by that time it was too late, as the nation got their first look at King Zacari, another heir to the calypso throne from out of the West.

Without sounding too condescending, it is important to note that none of the calypsonians who turned him down ever went on to win a calypso crown. King Zacari, on the other hand, went on to win 3 Local Calypso Crowns, 1 Leeward Island Calypso Crown, and numerous runners up positions in the Local Calypso Competition.

When we analyzed the calypso style of King Zacari, it is worthy of stating that his philosophy in calypso is similar to that of King Chalk Dust and Black Stalin of Trinidad and Tobago, whose style of calypso emphasizes profound social consciousness. Therefore, it was no mystery that these 2 artists, in particular, influenced his personal style in calypso. "What about King Short Shirt?" Good question! I was already anticipating this type of response from calypso followers alike, knowing that King Zacari hailed from the same place as this calypso icon. When I spoke to him on this same topic, he made it clear to me that none of the other veteran calypsonians from his community ever took the time out to point him into the right direction. The per-

son whom he often credited for his inspiration and motivation was a little known calypsonian named, Jobo Starr

King Zacari went on to write many calypso hits. One of the hits that often play out in my mind is a brilliantly written song called "Toon Town." This song can be classified as one of those good natured calypsos that had serious social overtones. According to the King, the thought process for this calypso began while he was heading over the Queen Elizabeth Highway, which overlooks the parliamentary building of Antigua and Barbuda. As he examined this building suspiciously from up high, he could not help but to reflect on the activities that normally take place in this most notable country club on the island. Without any reservation, he was quick to point out that the members of this noble place reminded him of those cartoon characters, that we love so dearly, that entertained us on television. Therefore, it did not take long for him to create cartoon characterization of these members in his songs. Of course, this did not go well with all of the members. As told by the king, one day a distinguished member of this club approached him, seemingly upset, and began interrogating him about the content of his song. His first response was, utilizing the fullness of the Antiguan dialect, "Zacari, a wha yu a sing bout - Ah who yu a call a Looney Toon? Ah wa me a hear ya tall..." The rest of this conversation is not worthy of mentioning. This is the type of impact that a King Zacari song has on its subjects, and it is for this very reason why he is



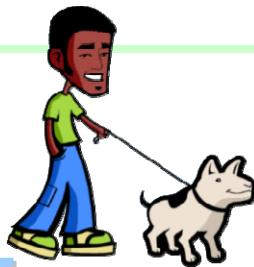
dubbed as one of the best at what he does.

King Zacari has been breaking new grounds, setting new trends, and creating new records along the way. In the recently held 2010 Calypso Competition, he and his daughter, Princess Thalia, were first and second runner's up, respectively, in that competition. Even though he did not retain his crown, by all accounts, that was a tremendous feat. The thing that made this accomplishment even more amazing was to discover that Princess Thalia had the abilities of a song writer as she wrote her own 2 songs for the competition, "Using the Handle" and "Hold it down." After I have researched the annals of calypso and I have consulted with its pundits, I have discovered first hand that this father and daughter achievement, like the one just described, has never happened in calypso before.

In the King's family, Princess Thalia is not the only princess to venture into the realm of calypso. Her younger sister, Princess Kimmie, is also involved in the game. Amazingly, Princess Kimmie has been singing calypso since 1997 at the age of 5. Her entrance into this art form

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A Stroll Down Memory Lane



Do You Remember When...??

In retrospect, growing up in Antigua and Barbuda, in the late 1950's, 60's and early 70's, were very exciting years for the young men and women of that era. Despite the hardships that we faced, we were able to find ways to occupy our time to pass the day. With the limited financial resources that were available to many households, most of the things that we take for granted today were like novelty for us back then. We could have only dreamt of having some of the things that we saw in the papers, magazines, or even heard of on the radio, but this did not deter us from living fruitful and enjoyable childhood lives. In fact, the lack of these things has taught us to become very creative and even more appreciative.

In the mid 1960's, we were introduced to television in Antigua for the first time, but this was not enough to hold our entire interests. Besides, daily television programming was scheduled from only late afternoons to approximately midnight. I know the members of the younger generation, reading this article, would probably be opening their mouths in disbelief, but this was our reality. We were then left with lots of time to find other means of entertainment to fill the rest of the day, especially during the summer holidays when school was out.

Of course there was football - don't say soccer - and cricket which were the most popular sports on the island at that time. Basketball, which was first introduced by the Christian Brothers at the St. Joseph Academy, was in its infancy stages and was mostly played among the students of the school and a few of the US soldiers who were stationed at the US

Naval Base in Antigua. Basketball only became popular among the locals in the early 1970's. Despite playing these sports, there were still lots of time on hand to be utilized.

Unlike the kids of today who demand manufacturers' toys, such as video games consoles, and myriad of other electronic games, we as kids had to create our own



toys. For instance, I know the men from our generation would remember the days when we would make our own toy trucks from the empty rectangular turpentine cans and had the creativity and vision of using wooden cotton thread spools as wheels. These trucks were then pulled around the neighborhood with bag-twine, attached to the front of the trucks, which we salvaged from opened flour bags. Even though Santa Claus never went to many homes, with that type of ability, it was like Christmas all year round.

Another crafty skill that we possessed was the art of kite making. Almost every kid back then, at least, knew how to make a kite. The frame of the smaller kites was made from the dried slender stalks of the coconut palm branches and held in place by the skillful manipulation

“Come along with me on this journey back in time when life was so beautiful and yet so innocent.”



**By
Shelly
Hood**

of sewing thread or bag twine. The larger ones were made from dried branches of the date palm and were also put together by similar methods. Newspapers, brown bag paper, or colored tissue papers, for those who could afford it, were used to cover the frame of these kites. One of these materials would be neatly placed over the kite's frame using white flour paste or turkey berry (Clamon Cherry) adhesive. The tail of a kite was made from strips of old cloth tied together. When acquiring the material for the kite's tale, we had to be extra careful to use only old unwanted cloth found around the house or else we would be in for a whooping. I have heard many stories and confessions of missing yard dresses and blouses that had made highlights at the end of beautiful flying kites. These kites would rise to great heights unlike the ones bought in stores today. Some of them were equipped with singers (frills), attached to the outer rim which created beautiful humming sounds.

On occasion, a kite flyer would suffer the fate of losing his kite from the unfortunate cutting of the kite's thread by the elements. This mishap would sometimes cause the kite and its thread to get entangled in high tension power lines or trees, or in our case, dropped into the sea. The kite owner would be left crying while his peers were busy salvaging the remaining thread from his kite to the rhythm of the most popular sound among kite-flyers: “Kite Cut – gather thread!!!”

Growing up around the Point Area, we had probably spent more than half of our youthful lives involved in activities around the sea. As I reminisce, I can remember the days when we made



those beautiful model boats that were carved from dried Turpentine tree branches to enter the model boats racing competitions. These boats were stylishly painted and decorated by their respectful owners as if to win first prize based on the beauty of the boats alone. Every young boy took great pride in his handiwork, but in the final analysis, he had to learn that the only thing that really matters was how fast his boat could move, through the sometimes choppy waters, in order to win first prize. The race coast for the boats was normally from the causeway to Cove Head and back. In a more adventurous alternative, these boats were set to race from south of the causeway, all the way across the St. John's Harbor to Donovans, as the owners scuttled through the city of St. John's to retrieve their boats on the other side. The greatest fear that each owner had in his heart at that time was the fear of having his tiny boat being ran over by the commercial boats plying the harbor.

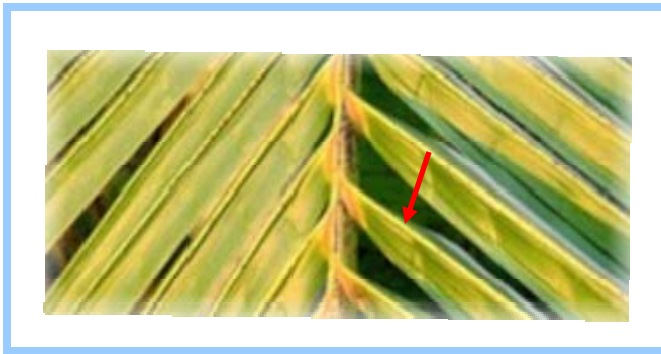
As we continue down memory lane, how could we ever forget those games that we played for keeps (tek) which sometimes left the losers on the other end in tears? These were the same games that our parents often referred to as gambling, even though no money was involved. Some of the more popular ones were Cushu (cashew) and Marbles. How many times had we ended up arriving to school late as a result of playing these games on the way? As a Cushu player, I was wise enough to avoid playing the game with anyone who had bigger palms and longer fingers than mine. Huge palms and long fingers provided the greatest leverage to a player with these assets.

The game of Marbles, which was the more widely played of the two, consists of beautifully interior designed spherical glass balls which came in various sizes. One of the favorites was called the Gobby. The Gobby was the largest of the marbles which came in very handy when playing a game called Angles. The most commonly played marble game though was called "Keep" which first required the digging of a small hole in the ground. The main objective of this game was to hit your opponent's marble by flicking it with your fingers and then gently flicking your marble into the hole in the ground. These are just a few of the

many marble games that were played back then.

Playing the games of marbles and Cushu can be very time consuming and if you chose to play these games while you were on your way to school, you were destined to arrive late. Of course, this would give your headmaster or headmistress the joy and opportunity of exercising their muscles at your expense.

The kids of our generation were also experts at creating their own forms of transportation. Some of these transportations were used for accomplishing chores around the house, making money on the side, and for Joyriding. The ground cart was one of these transportations. A ground cart consists of ball bearings (balls wheels), probably salvaged



Coconut palm bough, showing the vein stick, used locally in the making of kites and other items

from a mechanic shop's dump, and scraps of wood from around the neighborhood. The ground cart had a very interesting concept in its design. Similar to that of a regular mechanical truck, it had 2 equally sized wheels to the back, to support the broad wooden payload of the cart, and two equally sized wheels to the front to form the steering axle. Four to six kids would ride these carts at a time. There were occasions when a cart would collapse under severe weight if it was poorly designed. At other times the person steering the cart would lose control which resulted into crashes into gutters or fences. The greatest fun of all, though, came from trying to evade pursuing police officers for riding these carts in the streets, which at the time were strictly prohibited. In such cases, the owner had to plot an escape route. If caught, these carts would be confiscated by the pursuing officers. However, ground carts had more meaningful purposes as they served as means of trans-

portation. In dry spells on the island, the owners would put multiple drums on the payload of the carts to collect water from distant places. In the same role of transportation, ground carts were also used in transporting supplies between the public market and the wharf where the owners were in line to make a fair amount of money.

The Scooter, to a lesser extent, was another form of transportation as it was made strictly for joyriding. Its frame was made from scrap wood and its wheels were balls bearings or balls wheels. The locally made scooters had the same design concept as those found in stores today, except for the material used. Each owner would normally paint and decorate his scooter to his own heart's desire. On occasions, these own-

ers would get together to race their scooters in the streets which, of course, was forbidden. Therefore, if caught, they would be given the same treatment by the police as those given to the joyriding ground cart owners.

The kids of our generation were also involved in many daredevil activities which got our parents irritated when they found out. The first one that comes to mind was hopping moving trucks for joyride. In my neighborhood, the most

popular truck that was hopped was owned by Mr. Elic (Alex) King, the proprietor of our neighborhood shop. The driver of the truck, most of the time, was not aware that we were hanging onto the back of his truck. The real danger though came from the uncertainty that was involved in getting off of the moving truck. Another dangerous activity that we were involved in was hopping onto a moving loco (locomotive), while it was on its way in delivering bags of sugar to Bryson's Warehouse in the Point. The trick here also involved knowing how to get off of the moving loco, as this activity required exquisite timing. Up to this day, it still amazes me that none of us ever got seriously hurt from performing such foolish and dangerous stunts.

From all accounts, not all of our daredevil activities were of extreme danger - for instance, like wading into the Villa Pond to retrieve pond seeds to eat. The adventurers would normally find themselves covered with blood sucking

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Let's Have a Chat!



By **Janice F. Donaldson-Taylor**

Bertsfield Martin is one of the most accomplished business men in Antigua. He runs a brand of bakeries called "Brownie's Bakery," with the well known signature bakery located on St. John's Street in the Point Area. Recently, I caught up with Mr. Martin, while he was at his newly opened bakery in the Bronx, where I dropped in for a chat. Here is an excerpt of our conversation.

Janice Donaldson-Taylor: Tell us a little about yourself- your background and what have you been doing all these years?

Bertsfield Martin: I was born in St. John's Street in the Point and I was raised by my mother whom everyone knew as Brownie. I attended St. Joseph Academy for a while then I transferred to the Princess Margaret School. After school, I decided to put my energies into the family business because I had a vision of making it bigger and better. Besides that, I was a sportsman - very athletic. I played football and cricket, but my love was for football. Something that a lot of Antiguanians did not know about me was that I was the first Antiguan athlete to win a medal at the Carifta Games, which I did in Jamaica, 1974, in the shot-put event. Over the years, my interest in sports has changed, for that dedication was transferred into building the business. But in 1976, I regained that interest and dedication when I became the coach of Westham Football Club.

JDT: The name Bertsfield Martin is synonymous with baking in Antigua, but there is another side of Bertsfield Martin that many people are not aware of, like your charitable contributions to your community amongst others. Would you like to elaborate on that a little?

BM: Being from the Point, nothing is too much for me to do for my community. I believe that when you reach a certain stage in life and you become successful you can contribute. This I have been doing for many years. Anything needs to be done - I made myself available, whether it is for schools, individuals, churches, social groups, or for

community. I solely financed the setting up of a steel band in Villa School. In addition, along with one of my business affiliates, we have contributed \$5,000.00 to the Villa School annually. On the development of the Westham Park, I personally financed 60% of that project. It really bothers me, and it is really sad how it is at the moment. I guess



that is the way things are.

JDT: How was it growing up in the Baking Industry in Antigua when your mother Brownie, whom the bakery was named after, was at the helm of the business?

BM: Growing up in the industry was a lot of work. My days started very early and were very long. When my mother operated the bakery, they called her Brownie but the bak-

ery's real name was Variety Bakery. My mother passed in 1982. On August 23rd, 1983, when we moved the bakery to St. John's Street, I renamed it "Brownie's Bakery", in honor of my mother.

JDT: Was it a difficult learning curve for you in understanding the nature of the business?

BM: No, it was not hard understanding the business. I was there from an early age. Most people were not aware that I could bake. They thought I was just there to run the business. I was educated in the field to an extent. I worked at a bakery in St. Croix in 1984. With the experience I gained there and the knowledge I had before, I brought them to the business. I was also able to change the way the business operated. The business became automated. We got different mixers and I added my personal recipe.

JDT: How difficult was it taking over from your mother Brownie? Was it an easy transition?

BM: It was not difficult. In fact, it was very easy taking over. I was basically involved from the onset, so it was just a continuation of business, as usual.

JDT: Brownie's Bakery is a huge brand name in Antigua, but what inspired you to venture into the USA market?

BM: Well, I have spoken to a lot of Antiguanians in this area and they all seem to be saying the same thing. They wanted a bakery that they can call their own - a real Antiguan Bakery. What they have been looking for was a bakery that can produce the same type of product they were accustomed to at home. I



have heard them - so here we are.

JDT: What was the thought process in choosing this particular location to open up this new bakery?

BM: Well, I was trying to find something that was in the middle of the Antiguan population. I looked at a few places and this was the best place I could have gotten at the time, and it worked out. It is a central location so I figured people would not complain about the distance in getting here.

JDT: Were there many obstacles in setting up this business?

BM: There were some setbacks. We had to gut out the entire store in order to get it the way we wanted. There were also delays with the permits and the drawings. These setbacks normally occur in setting up a new business. I just had to be patient.



JDT: Knowing the brand name Brownie's Bakery is spreading far and wide, does it ever cross your mind of franchising this name the same way as McDonald's, Wendy's, and these other famous companies?

BM: This is real interesting. A couple of years ago, I spoke to an acquaintance and he said the same thing to me. I never really thought about it and presently I do not know the process. Other people have said I could. It is a possibility but it would be difficult since I am only one person. A friend asked me to come to Atlanta to help him set up a place, but I do not have the time at the moment. There are other things I have to do in Antigua. I do not only have the bakery, but I also have apartments which someone else is managing.

JDT: From the time of planning, how long did it take you until the official opening?

BM: It took just about a year from planning to the grand opening.

JDT: In your absence from the USA, who will be the person in charge at this location? How many people do you have presently employed at this location?

BM: My younger sister Condon runs the bakery along with my older sister Shirley and my brother Steven (U-Roy). He also bakes along with Franklin, the other baker.

JDT: I know this may be a difficult question but I think I have to ask it. How do you believe your business will compete with the other Antiguan owned bakeries in the New York metropolitan area that are more established in the area?

BM: Personally, I believe I can compete. Give it time and I will be able to hold my own. I have an Antiguan flavor and the others do it differently. I will continue doing what I am doing for this is what the people are accustomed to. I am convinced that they will keep coming. From the feedback I am getting, I am very pleased.

JDT: I am going to make a bold statement and I want you to supply me with the answer. Brownie's Bakery is the best, bar none. Why?

BM: Our recipe is different from most. There is no other bakery that does it the way we do. It is all about cost and texture. You just cannot use less to get more. Most bakery



owners do not bake. They have bakers that they employ. Here is where we stand out. I also bake so I can make adjustments to my recipe to produce the best product.

JDT: What date did you officially open for business and how did the Antiguan population welcome you?

BM: We officially opened for business on Wednesday, September 29th. The Antiguan population welcomed us very well. Everyone was happy and many people told me that they have been waiting for something like this a long time. They were very humorous. One guy came in and wanted two Bryson Punch Drinks with his order. Some wanted ginger beer. They just wanted to feel like they were home. One person remarked that the shop smells like a real baker shop - like the ones back in Antigua. This is a very good feeling for me. Antiguan want something to call their own.

JDT: I know I have been a sucker for Brownie's bun-butter-cheese all these years, but what other products do you have to offer that we can look forward to?

BM: In addition to the bread we know and love, we have wheat bread, Masse-Harris, buns, bread pudding, currant rolls, and cake tart amongst others.

JDT: Do you have any plans in the future in spreading the Brownies brand to other states that have a heavy Antiguan population?

BM: I am waiting to see what happens here first. It is in my thoughts.

JDT: What would you say is your greatest achievement so far?

BM: In a nutshell, I am comfortable with all that I have achieved - considering where we started in Aska's building to what we have now. There were a lot of people who have worked, supported, and assisted me in my success. For that I am very grateful. From an early age while in school, I had this vision and I was able to remain focused.

JDT: I have watched with a pleasing heart when the originator of Suzie's Hot Sauce received her honor for the Suzie's brand of products. What would be your reaction when your mother receives hers for her visions and achievements in the baking industry in Antigua?

BM: I would be proud. I do hope that some day it will become a reality. I personally was up for awards twice but it never materialized.



JDT: Of course, our organization will become advocates for her recognition.

JDT: My final question, when all is said and done and someone is writing your biography, how would you like to be remembered? A good businessman! An entrepreneur! A philanthropist! A great family man!

BM: It depends upon your definition of "Family." Some people would say that a family is husband, wife and children. I do not agree with this. It goes beyond that. It extends to friends and acquaintances. I make sure that I am always there for my children especially, so let my works speak for me. I am very pleased with my family and my achievements and I try to do my very best at all times.

JDT: Thank you so much Bertsfield for taking this time out from your busy schedule to have this chat with us. We wish you all the best in your endeavors.

BM: Thank you so much for dropping by. □

EVENTS IN REVIEW:

We Couldn't Have Done It Without You!

By Joyce DeCastro



Wow!! It has been a hectic 2010 fundraising season for us at Wadadli West USA Inc., thus far, and we are absolutely ecstatic about it. For those of you who have never been to one of our fundraising events, let me tell you – you are totally missing out!"

On Saturday, May 8th, we held our Annual Pre-Mother's Day Dinner at The Antigua & Barbuda House in Harlem, NY. The affair was very well attended. Our patrons were treated to a host of exotic Antiguan and American-styled dishes, including pigs' feet souce, salt fish cakes, sorrel, ginger beer and blended juices donated by Marie's Caribbean Blend. Everyone was very excited about the food. After dinner, there was an open microphone karaoke session. Oh, what melodious voices!

enjoying some deliciously prepared fish dinners. Umh! umh! umh! The most popular refreshments served were lemonade, sorrel, ginger beer, and water, which was quite ideal for the moderately warm summer day. The evening was filled with much fun and laughter. The atmosphere resembled that of an old fashioned family reunion as folks renewed their acquaintances with family and friends whom they had not seen in years. It was an absolutely delightful event, which I hope you were



The beautiful settings in color of our Mother's Day Dinner

Enjoying the moments at our Summer Fish Fry Jamboree



Fun ride on our End of Summer Bus Trip to Atlantic City

Participated in ABCO's Caribbean Splashdown



Some people were singing renditions of the newer calypsos while others were taking it way back as they sang renditions of the older ones. To highlight the evening, there were raffles for door prizes. You had to have your ticket stubs to be able to participate in the raffle. You can just imagine the disappointment of the patrons who displaced their tickets which made them ineligible to take part in the raffle, for the prizes were out of this world.

Following our Pre-Mother's Day Dinner, on Sat-

able to attend.

All aboard! This was the tone for our End of Summer Fun Bus Trip to Atlantic City. On Saturday, August 28th, our patrons and members gathered at the corner of Empire Boulevard and Schenectady Avenue in Brooklyn and boarded a chartered Coach bus to start our journey to Atlantic City in New Jersey. Our first stop on the way was in Queens, NY where we picked up additional supporters before making our final pickup in Harlem, NY. It is important to note that the

Mother's Day Dinner 2010: "Winners' Row"



KARISSA



NATANYA



JACKIE



LINDA



JUNE

urday, July 24th, we hosted our annual Summer Fish Fry Jamboree at the same Antigua House venue. The backyard was equipped with a huge tent which was made for a perfect setting. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful ambience of the venue and felt quite relaxed while

members of our team have always placed great emphasis in making our guests feel most comfortable and well entertained. Breakfast was served. Our patrons were served up a scrumptious Antiguan-styled breakfast, which included ling fish, chop up, boiled eggs,



lettuce, cucumber, tomato, and Antiguan-styled bread, baked by one of our local Antiguan bakers. Ginger beer and sorrel were the choice drinks of many. As customary, bush tea is normally served, but since it was a summer day, the cold drinks sufficed. When we arrived in Atlantic City, everyone dispersed, some visited the casinos and many enjoyed the romanticism of the boardwalk, while others went shopping at the nearby shopping outlets. After an enjoyable day at Atlantic City, everyone boarded the bus for our return trip to NY. On our way back, a light dinner of spinach and salt fish rice was served followed by choice snacks and drinks. After dinner, some of us watched a movie while others snoozed until we arrived at our drop off points. It was a fun day. Our patrons enjoyed themselves so much that they made promises to support future bus rides.

Every year our organization makes it our duty to participate in ABCO's Caribbean Splashdown to highlight the upcoming Labor Day weekend. This year was no exception. On Saturday, September 4th, Wadadli West USA Inc was present once again at this event, which was held for the first time at Jackie Robinson's Park in Harlem, NY. We, along with other Antiguan organizations were offered tent spaces to sell our food, drinks and other merchandises. Our organization was up to the challenge, for on our menu we had a

wide variety of Antiguan and Caribbean Styled meals, including rice and peas, baked macaroni and cheese, fry dumpling, escovitched fish, baked chicken, steamed veggies, rice pudding, souse, and ducana and ling fish served with chop-up. The conch water was the hit. Some folks were upset for when they returned to buy additional portions to take home they find out that it was all gone. The refreshing sorrel, ginger beer and water sold out faster than the sodas. The huge crowd was well entertainment by some superb performances, especially by some well known Antiguan entertainers, including Claudette Peters, King Zacari, The Mighty Lion, Mario, Willie Wawa, and many more. Of course, there were the scintillating sounds of steelband music and live dance performances and theatrics. The event was very well attended and in my opinion this may be the best one ever. According to the master of ceremony, Tyrone Peters, next year's event promises to be bigger and better.

At this time, I would like to express many thanks to our patrons who have supported us thus far. You have made our successes possible. We extend our heartiest appreciation to you for spending your time, energy and monies with us. We hope that you will continue with us on this special journey.

Anatomy of a Community

- ✂ Our People
- ✂ Our Schools
- ✂ Our Churches
- ✂ Our Culture

We Are In the Heart of Our Community

Striving to make a Difference

**Come Home to Wadadli West
We Are Point & Villa**

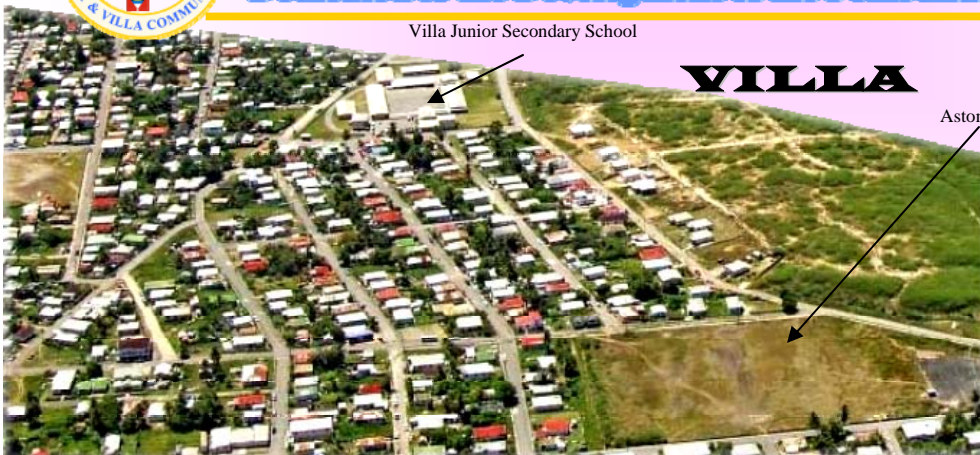


POINT



Wadadli West USA Inc.

"Dedicated to the Development of the Point and Villa Area Communities"



VILLA

**We Are Now
Accepting New
Memberships**
Membership Form on page 19
Or Email us at:
WadadliWestUsalnc1@hotmail.com

The Power of Entrepreneurship in Action

Bringing Your Business into Focus

The power of Entrepreneurship in Action is our way of lending our helpful hands to people of our Antiguan community who have chosen to become entrepreneurs. Whatever your chosen fields are, we are here to provide the positive exposure for your businesses through the power of our medium. Good Luck and Best wishes from all of us at Wadadli West USA Inc.



Zoom Radio FM
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Smooth Jazz, Classic R&B/Soul and Much More...
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Coming to Your Airwaves Shortly

OUR MAIN FOCUS FOR THIS ISSUE IS ON:

ZOOM RADIO FM

To our valued readers, please let me introduce to you “ZOOM RADIO FM” coming to you live from out of Villa Area in Antigua. Zoom Radio FM has all the attributes of becoming the best thing yet in radio land, as it features a variety of unique programming. Here comes your new home for the sweetest sounds in Smooth Jazz, Classic R & B, Soul, and much more.

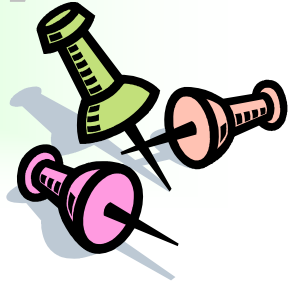
The founder and CEO of this state of the art radio station is Mr. Bernard “Skundush” Williams who was born and raised in our beloved Point Area. A few years ago, Mr. Williams came up with this great idea of opening up this radio station in his community as an avenue of giving back to his hometown and as a ploy in uplifting his people. Zoom Radio FM is currently live over the internet and can be accessed via its website: www.ZoomRadioFM.com.

Please join us in giving Mr. Williams a hearty congratulation for a job well done. Kudos to you Mr. Williams for having the vision and the courage to take on a project of this magnitude! We at Wadadli West USA Inc stand firmly behind you. We will continue to monitor the progress of your business and lend our helpful hands where necessary. – **Janice F. Donaldson-Taylor**





Our Community of Organizations Bulletin Board



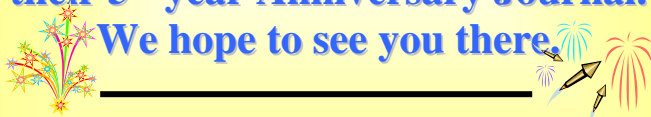
To Our Dear Comrades at “Children of Freetown”

Happy 20th Anniversary – Keep Up The Good Works!

Best Wishes from Our Team at Wadadli West USA Inc

Swetes Reunion Committee

Hearty Congratulations to our friends at the Swetes Reunion Committee, celebrating their 5th Year Anniversary on Saturday, January 29, 2011, with a grand Banquet at Eastwood Manor, located at 3371 Eastchester Road, Bronx, NY and the presentation of their 5th year Anniversary Journal. We hope to see you there.



*Best Wishes and good luck from our team at
Wadadli West USA Inc.*

Antigua & Barbuda Progressive Society

Recently, the Antigua & Barbuda Progressive Society celebrated their 76th Year Anniversary of existence. Please join us in extending a hearty congratulation to this prominent organization for their hard work and dedication to the Antiguan and Barbudan community throughout the years. Keep up the good works!

*Best wishes from all of us at Wadadli
West USA Inc – Point & Villa*

EVENTS IN PICTURES

PHOTOS FROM OUR MOTHER'S DAY DINNER



PHOTOS FROM OUR SUMMER FISH FRY JAMBOREE



EVENTS IN PICTURES

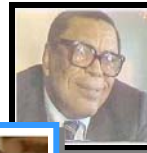
PHOTOS FROM OUR PARTICIPATION AT ABCO'S CARIBBEAN SPLASHDOWN



SUMMER BUS TRIP TO ATLANTIC CITY 2010



Honoring Antigua & Barbuda



Celebrating our 29th Year of Independence

Antigua celebrated its 29th year of independence from Britain on November 1st this year. As a token of our love and appreciation for our country, some of the members of Wadadli West USA Inc have come together to honor our beloved country by recording some of our greatest and fondest memories while living on her shores.

“We are from the land of 365 white sandy beaches”



NICOLE DECASTRO

Greetings, my name is Nicole DeCastro and one of the fondest memories while living in Antigua were the days when I would sit in front of Barclay's Bank with my grandmother Mary Beck Ryan who use to sell peanuts, sugar-cakes, and sweetie among other things in her tray. This was special for me, especially during carnival time when I would dance to the music of the passing bands and parade troupes right in front of me. *Antigua, Me nable string bury dey!* How can I ever forget you?



EARL FRANCIS

Hi, my name is Earl Francis and my fondest memory while living in Antigua was going to Dredge Bay for an early morning bath. What a refreshing feeling! I miss you Antigua, I will always love you.



JANICE DONALDSON-TAYLOR

I am Janice Donaldson-Taylor, born in Villa Area, Antigua. One of my fondest memories in Antigua was during carnival time at the Steel Band competition when I would have heated arguments with other pan players, defending our community steel bands, the Hells Gate Steel Orchestra and Harmonites. These bands were my champions. *“Who tell them to mess with Harmo?”* Love you Antigua, you will always be in my heart.



BERNARD HENRY

One of the greatest honors that one could achieve is the honor of representing ones country. I was fortunate enough to be given the opportunity of representing my country in Basketball. These memories will stay with me for the rest of my life. Antigua and Barbuda, I salute thee!



CEDRIC RICHARDS

One of my fondest memories in my country were the years I spent participating in the Revelers Mass Group, building costumes, creating mass, taking photos, and making people happy. Happy Anniversary Wadadli. I Love you.



JOYCE DECASTRO

How can I forget my childhood years, especially in the evenings, when the neighborhood kids would gather under the lamp-post west of Jerry Aska's shop and played the games of hop scotch, jump rope, marbles, card games, Mr. O'Gradeo, Simon Says, rounder's, or Dutch ball? These are special memories. Antigua, my heart belongs to you. Happy Birthday!



“...each endeavoring, all achieving -
Live in peace where man is free.”



SHELLY HOOD

My fondest memory in Antigua definitely the fun time I had in 1971, with the help of a few others, working to introduce the game of Basketball to the rest of the country, which at the time was only confined to the Saint Joseph Academy School. It was surely a thrill obtaining permission from the Ministry of Education to erect the equipment in the quadrangle at the Villa School. What fun time we had when we invited the In Crowd Basketball Team from St. Croix for a week's games. Everyone involved was on a natural HIGH as we witnessed the instant explosion of the game throughout Antigua and Barbuda. From that time, Antigua and Barbuda has risen as a Basketball playing nation. Great memories! Wadadli, you are so beautiful. Happy Birthday to you!



FREESTON "TERROR" WILLIAMS

My fondest moments in Antigua were in the 1970's. In 1971, a number of Grammar School graduates came together and formed the first Inter-School Calypso Competition. It was the era when singers like Latumba, Explorer, Iredemer, Willi Wawa, Calypso Shunkie, Terror and others were still in school. We were the first Inter-School competitors. Great memories! Happy Birthday Antigua!



ELDERFIELD LUKE

Every Christmas, I along with the kids in the area, would follow behind Isaac the John Bull, from St. John's Street in the Point through Barnes Hill, Cedar Grove, Hodges Bay and back, stopping at Ms. James Shop to refuel with Massa Harris and Sweet-drinks. I would never trade these memories for anything in the world. Antigua you are the greatest! Eat and celebrate



HENZELLE RICHARDS

Hi, my name is Henzelle Richards and the memory that I savor most of Antigua was learning to swim at Papa Manny Bay in the Point. What a wonderful experience that was for me! Antigua, I am proud to b a native son. Happy Anniversary –

The King and His Princesses: | *The next generation cometh* | By Bernard S Henry *Cont from Page 3*

provides a cute little story of its own. As the story goes, Kimmie had showed exceptional interest in calypso since she was able to speak. Ever so often, she would reach for that thick black and white hard cover exercise book that stored the lyrics of her father's songs so that she could get familiar with the songs. One day, recognizing the obsession that her daughter had with calypso, her mother, Annette, encouraged her to enter the Junior Calypso Competition for that year. This advice turned out into a negotiation of some proportion between the two, one that her mother never expected. Princess Kimmie, using all of her 5 year old smarts, made a pact with her mother that she would enter the Junior Calypso Competition only if she [her mother Annette] entered the Calypso Queens Competition. While all this was going on, King Zacari was out of the country. When he returned home, he found out that his wife and his daughter had already chosen songs from his famous lyrics book and they were geared to enter their respective competition. That year, King Zacari, his wife, and his daughter Kimmie ended up in the finals of the Calypso King, Calypso Queen, and the Junior Calypso Competitions, respectively. This too is another record of some magnitude that, somehow, went unnoticed.

The achievements of King Zacari and his princesses are just amazing. Besides his achievements in the Local Calypso Competition, which we had mentioned earlier, King Zacari holds the distinction of being the first Antiguan calypsonian to venture out of the country and brought home a calypso crown. He did so when he won the Leeward Islands Calypso Competition a few years ago. His Princesses, Thalia and Kimmie, were

both proud winners of the Junior Calypso Crown. Even though none of the sisters has ever won the Females' Calypso Competition, Princess Kimmie was first runner's up in one of these competitions.

Outside of the family's pastime of calypso, there are other notable achievements worthy of mentioning. Thalia participated in the Village Pageant competition one year and she won. King Zacari's only son, Trevor King Jr., is presently studying in Trinidad and Tobago on a Steelpan Music Scholarship.

When we analyze their success in calypso, I am sure you will agree with me that this family is destined to become Antigua's first family in calypso. The burden of proof for this notion can be found in their achievements.

King Zacari deserves all the credits and accolades which he has received thus far. What makes his work even more appreciated is that he could have moved away from the social consciousness in calypso for the more lucrative style of jam and whine that most now-a-days artists are allured to, but he stayed his course. Knowing the principles of this man, there is too much going on in our society for him to turn a blind eye. According to King, "Some people believe that I am pro this and pro that, but that is not true. I will remain the advocate of our people to ensure social justice and integrity in our island." Therefore, wrong doers please beware or else you will be exposed. There is no getting away from his type of calypsos, for in the horizon here comes the next generation of social commentators - arise Princess Thalia and Princess Kimmie! If I may use the title of one of the songs on his 2010 calypso album, "All is well," our people are in good hands.

RESCUING OUR CULTURE

BY
Bernard
S. Henry



We Have Lost Our Way

My fellow Antiguan, I have made many attempts to reach out to you for my heart has become heavy with the problems that have confronted our people. A lot has happened since you have fallen deeply asleep and since you have wandered off into the open countries. In the soundness of my conscious state, I have watched in awe and total dismay as the foundation that we have laid for posterity is being demolished as an old abandoned building which has lost its usefulness. Nevertheless, I hope as this special appeal reaches you, wherever you are in the world, from the boondocks of America to the backyards of our great homeland, that you will be in the soundness of mind and ready to tackle this daunting problem.

For many generations, the people of Antigua have had a distinct identity that sets us apart from other Caribbean nations. We have embraced a set of values that have been dear to our hearts which made us proud to be called Antiguan. Somewhere along the way, these values have dissipated, as that of the melting Arctic ice, and are destined to be lost forever. I am sending out an international SOS to all culturally astute Antiguan hoping that you will recognize our state of distress and come forward with your massive support in saving what is left of our fading culture.

In recent times, Antiguan have become experts at adopting. We have aggressively embraced the cultures and values of other nations. Sadly as it may seem, many of our people have ceased to be identified with anything that is Antiguan. As it stands now, a few of us are left out here to emulate the feat of Atlas, carrying our nation on our shoulders. Many of the faithful have risen to become ambassadors of our great country, spreading the philosophy of Antiguanism. Others have come together to form various organizational bodies to raise support for numerous ventures in our homeland. It has not been an easy sell for us, because our people would often come up

with these incredible excuses as if to exempt themselves from their willing participation. On the contrary, whenever other cultures are having events, these same people would beg, steal, borrow, or even sacrifice just to attend.

In Antigua, we often use the phrase, "One should support ones own," but out here in the dog eat dog world, most of us are clueless as to what this means. Hence, I wonder how many of you have gone out and supported the endeavors of other Antiguan? In that same tone, I wonder how many of you have purchased books written by Antiguan authors, which includes "Journey Cakes"

by Monica Matthews and "Luther George: The Barack Obama of Antigua and Barbuda" by

Lionel "Max" Hurst, whose works give us keen incites into the Antiguan culture?

How many of you have come out and supported events sponsored by Wadadli West USA Inc or the other Antiguan

organizations that raise funds in support of programs in our own homeland? For that lady in the Bronx who refused our newsletter based on your Anti-

Antiguan sentiments, there is yet hope for you. We will pray for your deliverance. It is quite perplexing to comprehend the philosophy behind this type of behavior. Is it that our own country men and women have inclined to a notion that the Antiguan culture is inferior to that of other lands?

Antigua, as we know it, is a land of rich culture, talented people, natural beauty, and of course, our home. However, many of our people seem to have fallen victims to "the grass on the other side of the fence is greener" syndrome. Have we soon forgotten that this is the same country that has produced its share of world renowned figures and special contributions? Take for instance, Sir Vivian Richards, Richie Richardson, Andy Roberts, and Curtley Ambrose; these cricketers were at the helm of the cricketing world for many years as they represented the



(Continued on Page 17)



region's team. In fact the anointed one, Sir Vivian Richards, is still considered as one of the greatest cricketers of all times. In Calypso, we can boast of our share of great performers that stood head to head for many years with the best in the region, performers like King Short Shirt, King Obstinate, and King Swallow. These are just a few. In the field of comedy, comedians Gravy and Mayfield must be mentioned as two of the funniest people in the world. If you are excited about your liquor, you would be proud to know that Cavalier Antigua Rum is a Gold Award Winner across these Caribbean lands for its exquisite taste. We could go on and on about the achievements of this great country, but the thing that remains mind boggling to me is the thought of Antiguans embracing the cultures of other lands while rejecting that of Antigua's.

The future of our culture looks very bleak for our youths who will be left with the task of carrying the torch are totally lost. In a few years, no one will be left to

However, many of our people seem to have fallen victims to “*the grass on the other side of the fence is greener*” syndrome.

carry on our rich legacies. These young people have traded in their culture and their future for profound ignorance. In addition, they have traded in their cricket bats, football boots, and athletic participation, which kept them out of trouble for years, for the obsession of guns, knives, and gangs' relations. Recently, they have embraced a culture that allowed them to drop their pants as if they have taken a stance against dignity and pride. Our present situation is at near crisis level for accountability among our youths has fallen to its lowest stage. To further compound this problem, many of our adults in our society appeared to be nonchalant about what is going on. Some simply refused to be bothered. Consequently, these youths are left to reap havoc on our society as they aim to destroy the fundamental and ethical values of our lands.

When I was growing up, our society lived by the principles of the African proverb: “*It takes a village to raise a child.*” I was closely acquainted with this proverb because my life was deeply impacted by its implications. Therefore, it was hard for me to get away with any wrongdoings in those days. One day I was in the neighborhood having an argument with one of my peers. The argument got so intense that I had an outburst of profanity which would have made the devil stomp his feet in disgust. That little eruption did not last for long,

because out of nowhere and from the blind side, I received a slap against my face which almost knocked me to the ground. When I swung around to retaliate, I quickly halted for there she was, Ms. *Chatterbox* Georgie, as my siblings would call her, my mother's best friend. Even though I was angry, I quickly apologized for my crude behavior and was even contemplating whether I should thank her for slapping me. As silly as this may sound, this was a small price to pay for not having her relay that incident to my mother which would have been of serious consequences. These were the responsibilities that were bestowed upon the adults of the day to ensure the proper upbringings of every child. The likes of Ms. Georgie have long been gone and so have these principles.

We are now standing on the brink of a great cultural meltdown. My generation, as it stands now, may be the last defenders of our culture, and as referred to General Custer in the Indian War, this may be our last stance. After us, who will be left to tell the stories that mama and papa had passed on to us to be shared with the future generations, these unwritten stories from the early days of this country which defined us as Antiguans? In our most recent history, who will be left to tell the story of Macau-Mae, the human radio, who had exceptional mimicry skills and who had waited all his life to be anointed by the Queen of England till he could wait no more? Who will be left to save pan music, our greatest cultural treasure, which literally took a beating for many years, after the likes of Eustace “Manning” Henry is gone? Who will be left to carry on the great works of Errol Edwards the cultural dance wizard who entertained us throughout the years with his cultural master pieces? Who will be left to tell the stories of Quarku, Lazarus, Bilay, the One Man Band, Archie, and others, whom we all considered as cultural icons?

The lifestyle of our people has drastically changed. The live free/care free way of living, which we were accustomed to, is swiftly disappearing. In days gone by, people would take great pride in their respect for the welfare of others. Subsequently, we were all our neighbors' keepers. I can remember those days when we would take strolls up scatchro to shop at Shoul's Chief Store, Gores' Drug Store, Bryson's Supermarket, Dews' Supermarket, or one of those other merchants in town, leaving the doors and windows of our homes unlocked. When we returned home everything was still intact. The only thing that we feared in those days was that of passing showers that would occasionally penetrate through open windows and soak our beds. Life then was beautiful. These days, things have gotten so bad that just to visit the neighborhood groceries; people are chaining their doors, nailing down their windows, and putting up hurricane shutters as if they are expecting a hurricane. This certainly is not Antigua.

Our families are sadly becoming dysfunctional. The things that bonded us as families for many generations are rapidly depleting. Good manners and courtesy, which have been taught from an early age, have flown out of the window

(Continued on Page 18)

as if swept away by a strong breeze. Good morning, good afternoon, or good night to our neighbors have now become curse words. Storytelling and teachings to our children, which helped them to stay in touch with the Antiguan culture is of no more. Family quality time has become a thing of the past as families only come together now to share the divides after mama and papa have passed. Things have gotten so extreme that families hardly have time anymore to break bread with each other. In the Antiguan tradition, families would gather, at least one day of the week, preferably on Sundays, to enjoy a typical *Antiguan Styled cooked meal* as they reminisced of past times and renewed their acquaintances. Our kids who were encouraged to go to Sunday school would proudly recite their golden texts (learned Bible verses) at the dinner table at the delight of the family. Back then, God was present in every heart and home.

These days our families are drawn apart by a vicious color scheme (blue, red, yellow, green) that has swept our lands which has caused the separation of brothers and sisters, mothers and children, neighbors and neighbors, and friends and friends. Never in my lifetime would I have imagined that I would live in a day where the color of a man's garment would decide his life's affiliations. The term "*country first,*" as we would proudly say as *Antiguans*, has now become a sham as many individuals would sell their dignity, pride, and conscience to the highest bidders of our land. The old cliché "*blood is ticker than water*"

has turned out to be a big laughter for now every man is fending for himself with no regards for his own brothers and sisters. Meanwhile, as we walk through the city of St. John's, the voices and faces of our changing culture are everywhere. The Antiguan culture is promptly becoming the minority in its own land but our people are so consumed with the hanky-panky of what is going on that we have no time to pay attention.

How did we arrive at this state of confusion? We have come a long way as a people and as a country. Many before us have struggled through major obstacles to arrive at this point of our existence for us to enjoy the beautiful moments. Why would we want to throw this special privilege away? I am sure most of you would have remembered the story about "The Dog and its reflection." The morals of this story emphasize deep conscious awakening, be satisfied with your own. Many people from far and wide have come to our shores looking for a safe haven and they have found it. Others have come as tourists to enjoy our beautiful sceneries and our wonderful culture and they have enjoyed it. Even with the influx of people from different nationalities, we should never lose focus of the culture of our land. Our mission as Antiguans, therefore, should aim at preserving our culture, our identity, and the Antiguan traditions. We are aware that we may have internal strife and disagreement, but one thing that we should always put above all discrepancies is our pride of being Antiguans. □

A Stroll Down Memory Lane: | Do you remember when...? | By Shelly Hood

Cont from page 5

leeches when they emerged from the pond. The real problem with this adventure came from removing these parasites that were fastened to their victims' skin. Some of the methods that were used in removing these leeches were salt, kerosene oil, and to the more extreme, fire. What great fun this was! In this category of adventure, I know the men who grew up in the Point Area in our time would remember the fun time we had swimming in the big gutter at Dickenson Bay Street after a very heavy rainfall while the gutter was over flowing. How dangerous and crazy were these activities?

There were other activities that we participated in that were based on years of tradition which we had no clue what they meant. For instance, who the heck was Guy Fawkes and why were we involved in his celebration? I don't think any of us who indulged in this event knew or cared. All we knew, every year on the night of November 5th, people around the country would gather to burn thousands of abandoned tires in open fields as we watched with excitement. In hind sight, I can't recall what the excitement was about, but it seems to have been an early attempt at recycling. All we knew was that the air was being polluted with clouds of thick black smoke, while the kids, played with sparkling star lights, bombs, and rockets to add to the celebration. Guy Fawkes Night is no longer celebrated, but it can be recorded as one of the many fun events of our time.

In the Point and Villa community, we utilized our beautiful surroundings to generate some of the greatest moments of our time. Bathing at (Likkell) Little Bay on Sundays was a must for many families. The Wash-on Basin Beach, which was located on the south side of Rat Island, now the warehouse at Deep Water Harbor, was another popular swimming area for people in our region. On weekends, these two beaches were jam-packed with people. Some bathers would first take a swim at Likkell Bay then proceeded, about half-a-mile down the causeway, past the Antigua Distillery, for their final swim at Wash-on Basin. At this beach, the older boys, would always toss the younger ones far out into the water or ducking their heads the water

without knowing if they could swim. This was more of an initiation for the younger boys for bathing at this beach.

On a hot day, there was no greater refreshment than an Archie Flako! Archie's Flako was the forerunner to snow cone. Flako was made with shaved ice, from huge ice blocks, doused with fruit flavored syrups. Archie plied his trade from a horse and cart. In our neighborhood, the kids would wait around patiently for Archie to arrive to buy the much coveted Flako. Archie was a cool methodical person who would take his time to create his products. On hot days, menacing honey bees, attracted by the sweet flavored syrup, would sometime swarm the cart, but this never deterred the kids from receiving their treat.

With all the experiments that we were successful with, somewhere along the line we came to believe that we were scientists. I don't know who came up with this idea, but kids around the country were locked into the concept that they could have used turkey berry to make rubber. Gosh! Up to this day, no one has ever been successful with this experiment. In our aspirations as scientists, we have also made other unsuccessful attempts at producing products from our natural environment. One of the funnier ones was the attempt at producing ink from the blue/purple seeds of the running spinach plant. The only success that we had with these seeds was leaving lasting stains on our clothes and our hands.

There are numerous activities and events that made the 1950's through the 1970's the golden years of our time. It would require an entire book to document all these accounts. As we walk down memory lane with great pride, there is no doubt that these years can be recorded as the greatest years of all times.

It is quite obvious that the activities and events covered in this article were from a male's perspective, so what did the ladies do during those years for that I can't really recall. Oh yeah, playing doll House? Maybe I am incorrect, so ladies here a chance of setting the records right. □

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IMMIGRATION * REAL ESTATE CLOSINGS
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I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT...

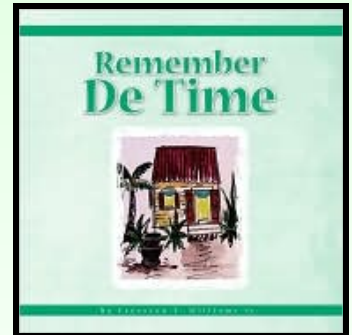
Obituary



Anthony Jarvis

One of our community's centurions, Mr. Anthony Jarvis, whom we featured in the last issue of our newsletter, passed away on August of this year. By the mercies of God, may his soul rest in perfect peace

Book



"Remember De Time"

Antiguan born writer, Freeston E. Williams, has a new book in publication called, "Remember De Time." According to Mr. Williams, this book is an anthology of poems written to take us back in time when life was just beautiful. Freeston's book is in paperback format and can be ordered online through Barnes and Noble Book website. Please give Freeston your hearty support.



Wadadli West USA Inc.

Dedicated to the Development of the Point & Villa Areas Communities

OUR HEADQUARTERS LOCATION - 3708 AVENUE H, BROOKLYN, NY 11210

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION		
NAME:	BIRTHDAY (M/D):	DATE:
HOME TEL #:	MOBILE #:	EMAIL:
ADDRESS:		
PROFESSION:		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		
HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT US? <input type="checkbox"/> WEB <input type="checkbox"/> A FRIEND <input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE MEMBER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHERS		
EXPLAIN: _____		
DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS THAT YOU BELIEVE WILL BENEFIT OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
IF YES, EXPLAIN: _____		
WERE YOU EVER A MEMBER OF AN ORGANIZATION? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
IF YES, THE NAME AND IN WHAT CAPACITY? _____		
HAVE YOU EVER LIVED IN THE VILLA & POINT COMMUNITIES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
IF YES, WHERE? _____		
Special Note: You DO NOT need to have direct ties to the Point and Villa Area Communities to be part of this organization. Wadadli West USA Inc is open to all prospective members who wish to be friends of our organization and hence our communities. We do welcome your participation and your support. Thanks so much for your interest.		
SIGNATURE:		DATE:
OFFICIAL USE ONLY		
<input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED:	<input type="checkbox"/> REJECTED:	MEMBERSHIP #
<input type="checkbox"/> If Rejected, please explain in the following spaces:		DATE OFFICIALLY REGISTERED
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		
SHELLY HOOD, CHAIRMAN		DATE:
BERNARD HENRY, VICE CHAIRMAN		DATE:

MEMBERS CONTACT:

Shelly Hood: (347) 251-7821 | Bernard Henry: (347) 895-9154 | Janice Taylor: (718) 753-7442 | Joyce DeCastro: (347) 676-3677
 Earl Francis: (347) 302-8098 | Elderfield Luke: (917) 331-1836 | Henzelle Richards: (646) 372-2769 | Nicole DeCastro: (347) 465-4072

I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT...

A Special Tribute

By Marie Swift-Martin

Antiguan born, Marie Swift-Martin, has a fascinating video presentation posted on **Facebook** for the world to see. This presentation was put together as a special tribute to her father and her father's country, Antigua and Barbuda. It beautifully depicts her glorious family ties and the wondrous splendor of our country in all its beauty. In this same presentation, Marie graciously featured a copy of Wadadli West USA Inc most recent newsletter, of which we are extremely grateful. Please checkout Marie's presentation. □

Music



Walbridge "Sobers" Lewis

Roots Vibrations is a Westchester based band that plays a variety of music including reggae and calypso. The band is made up of a diverse group of people including Antiguan, Jewish, Italian, American, and Jamaican. Their services can be utilized for private parties, weddings, restaurant settings, and even live shows. Antiguan born Walbridge "Sobers" Lewis is a member of this band. For more information, please visit the band's website by typing in the search word, "Roots Vibration," in your Browser. □

"Tell us something about Point or Villa you think we didn't already know"



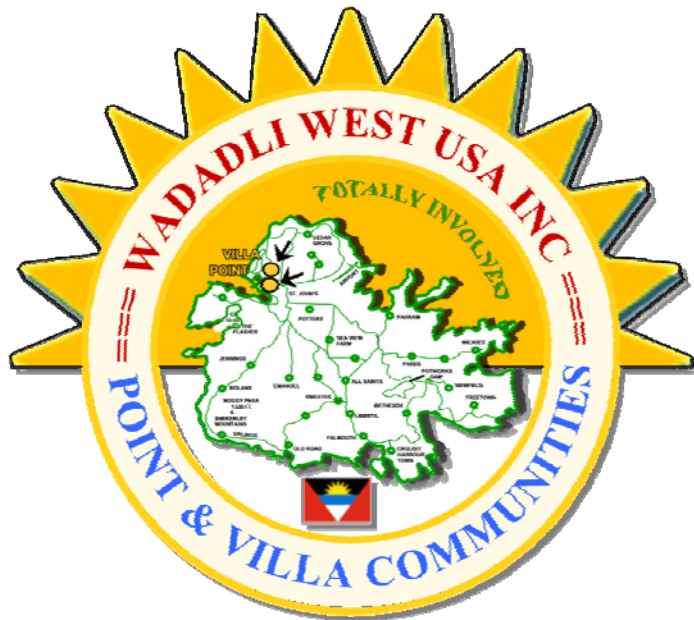
By Henzelle Richards

In our next issue we will be introducing the above title in a new column. Our readers will get an opportunity to help keep our stories and history alive. Of course, we are not a town of 8 million stories as many of the big cities are, but we are rich in folk tales, jokes, follies, and history that are worth sharing. Please send us your entries at: WadadliWestUsaIncl@hotmail.com.

Villa

We are anxiously awaiting your responses. Thank you...

Point



**Membership
Registration on Reverse Side**

WadadliWestUsaIncl@Hotmail.com

Wadadli West USA Inc. Calendar of Events 2011



❖ Winter Break Tea Party Social

4:00PM – 8:00PM

Venue to be Announced



❖ Pre-Mother's Day Dinner

5:00PM – 9:00PM

Venue to be Announced



❖ Bus Trip to Atlantic City

8:00AM – 6:00 PM

Details TBD



❖ Fish Fry

❖ Venue to be Announced

4:00PM – 8:00PM



❖ Dinner Theater in Westchester

Details TBD



❖ Bus Trip to Atlantic City

8:00AM – 6:00 PM

Details TBD



For more information on our upcoming 2011 events, please email us at WadadliWestUsaIncl@hotmail.com or contact one of the listed members on the back page of this newsletter. We do appreciate your patronage.

**Antigua & Barbuda Council of Organizations
Caribbean Splashdown Music Festival & Health Fair**

OUR CULTURE



The Stars



The Food

The Music



If you enjoyed 2010, then we will do it again in 2011!



The participation



Antigua and Barbuda Council of Organizations Event

Caribbean Splashdown Music Festival & Health Fair

Saturday, September 3rd, 2011

Venue to be announced



OUR FEEDBACK CORNER

“Very informative and precise, can you better this for the next issue??? Good Luck”

- Murdock Reynolds, former Villa/Point resident now residing in Houston Texas -

Hi Murdock, thank you so much for your positive feedback. For every issue, we strive to reach newer and better heights, bringing to you information about our communities and our country that matters most to us. Your feedback let us know that we are being heard and that means a lot to us. Thank you once again. Best wishes from our entire team.

- Bernard S. Henry -



Feedback Corner: Please email your comments to us at WadadliWestUsaIncl@hotmail.com. When you email your comments, please provide your first name and last name. If you wish to add your aliases, please feel free to do so. Thank you.



Gold Star Appreciation Award

This is to certify

★ **Hazel Reeves**

(Honorary Member)

★ **Eustace Watson**
★ **Candice Tonge**

★ **Chesley (T-Man) Donaldson**
★ **Sandra & Sharon Luke**

have been awarded

**The Gold Star Appreciation Award
for their generous contributions & support**

Recognized in this Year's Quarterly Issue, November 2010

Shelly Hood
Chairman

Bernard S. Henry
Vice Chairman

Wadadli West USA Inc. Committee

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Email: WaladliANU@aol.com

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STAMP
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TOTALLY ANTIGUAN SEASONED RICE | By Earl Francis



This Quarterly Back Page issue features how to cook, one of Antigua's national dishes, **SEASONED RICE**. To guide us through the preparation of this delicious dish, we called upon one of our organization's chefs/Cooks, Mr. Earl Francis, using a touch of Antiguan dialects and terminologies.

Ingredients: rice, red bean or black-eyed or pigeon peas, back-n-neck chicken, pig tail, salt beef, pig mouth, salt fish, onion, green pepper, cooking butter, sweet oil (cooking oil), black pepper or Peggy mouth pepper, if desired, and fresh herbal seasonings.

Step by Step Preparation

1. **Cut up, wash and season** chicken and put pan de side.

2. **Wash and scald the pig** mouth, pig tail and salt beef in a pot of boiling water. When boiled for 15 - 20 minutes, tek de pot off de fire and throw way de water. Put fresh water in the pot wid de meat again and put it back on de fire. Change and replace the water in de pot as desired until most of the salt is boiled out from de meat. Remember, as mama used to say too much salt give you high blood pressure.

* **Special note:** Old people used to say when salted meat is tough fu boil, you should put a nail in de pot and it will help. I am a little modern so I will use my pressure cooker.



3. **When meat is almost cooked, cut them up** in small pieces and put pan de side till you ready for them again.

4. **Wash and scald de saltfish, change** the water accordingly just like you did wid de meat until most of the salt is boiled out. When you finish that, chip up the salt fish and put pan de side too.

5. **Wash and boil the red bean or** black-eyed or pigeon peas in a pot of water until cooked. In the same pot add the chicken, the cut up meats and the chipped up salt fish, and then bring mixture to a boil.

6. **Add rice, cooking butter, onion, green pepper,** fresh herbs, and sweet oil.

7. **Cook until rice is dry.**

8. **Na badder mek E bun. Me know ar you lub bun rice** jus foo scrape out de pot bottom, but arwe a go nyam dis from de plate wid one fark.

Dinner is served

Please send your feedback to us at: WadadliWestUsaInc1@hotmail.com