

Wadadli West USA Inc.

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

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

TOTALLY INVOLVED



IN OUR COMMUNITIES

PLEASE DON'T ABANDON BOOTHSES!

By Bernard Henry

He is a patriot, a soldier, a leader, a native son, and a brother. For most of us who know Eustace "Boothses" Watkins, to us he is the embodiment of all these expressions and much more. The first time I met Boothses was in the early 1970's when I first attended the Villa Primary School. Since our initial encounter, Boothses has impressed me as the ultimate warrior. He may not have weighed more than 130 pounds anytime of his active life, but no one ever questioned his heart, his courage, and his dedication in whatever he did. Boothses is



➤ Wadadli West Secretary- Ms. Joyce DeCastro (left)
➤ Mr. Eustace "Boothses" Watkins (Center)
➤ Wadadli West Treasurer - Ms. Janice Donaldson-Taylor (right)

a fierce competitor. Throughout his life, he has exhibited a real sense of loyalty and commitment in all his endeavors. Hence, I would affirm that if I was under fire on a field of battle, there is no other soldier that I would rather have in the trenches with me than this brave warrior.

During his school years at Villa Primary, he commanded the respect of his peers. At the center of most gatherings, in the school yard and on the playgrounds, there stood the 5 Feet, 6 Inches figure of Boothses resembling that of a lecturing school teacher. His minute figure often seemed out of place as he stood amongst his peers who were often

much bigger and taller, which created an ambiance of someone being displaced to a land of giants.

At first, I thought that Boothses was just one of those little loud mouth characters who use lip service to fend off aggressors, but I soon found out that this man was built with a passion to conquer and a desire to succeed. His passion was transformed onto the football

field which was his safe heaven. As most of the youths on the island, back then, Boothses tried his hands at many sports. For a few years, during football's off-seasons, he played with the Barry Ball Wizards Basketball Team in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association

League. Consequently, he was associated with 2 of the team's basketball championships, but even with these successes in basketball that was never enough for him. Boothses main passion in sports remained in his love for football.

On our School's Inter-league football team, Boothses was the star midfielder. His superb skills and talent, playing in that position, graced the many football fields wherever he played throughout his school's football years. After many exciting years at the helm of Villa Primary football team, it was time for him to leave. Boothses went on to play for Aston Villa Lions FC in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association Premier League Division.

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"How to Cook Ducuna & Salt Fish with chopup"
By Earl Francis

When I first came aboard at Wadadli West USA Inc, I was skeptical towards what to expect from an organization of this nature. The petty politics that normally gets entangled in these fundraising organizations was just tasteless. Many of the organizations that I have observed appeared not to have clear objectives or defined goals. Those that came close to even having a mission often got mixed up in the chaos and diversions which stemmed from the tug-of-war of running the various operations. Therefore, I stayed away from these fundraising organizations for many years. As an Antiguan, I have always felt the passion and call-of-duty to give back to our communities and our country. Consequently, a few years ago, this passion of serving my country became paramount to my earlier concerns, so I ventured in to becoming part of Wadadli West USA Inc. This organization offered the right platform, the right chemistry of people, and the opened opportunity, for which I have been searching, for me to make my contributions.



FROM THE HEART

It has been over 2 years since I became part of this organization and I must say the progress that I have witnessed so far has been simply amazing. The secret to our success derived from one simple formula: (Unity + Dignity + Dedication + Pride + Integrity - BS = Success). In our case, our unity consists of working keenly with each other as one decision making body- very important! We are dedicated to our set goals and we take great

pride in the results. As an organization, we have placed great emphasis on the transparency of our operations, so that it presents the greatest sense of credibility in all of our doings.

It has been our philosophy here at Wadadli West USA Inc. that no single member can ever be bigger than the organization itself, so we have developed rules and guidelines that are clear to that aspect. As we have seen in the past, some organizations tended to create monarchs out of elected officials, and the outcomes to these mistakes have been horrendous. To keep things running smoothly, ever so often we all need a reality check to bring us back in line with the objectives and goals of the organization where the real emphasis belongs.

The art of giving back is remarkable. When you put things into perspective, how could you not feel the excitement of being part of something this special, which put you in a position to positively impact peoples' lives? This has been our shared feeling here at the organization. Recently, two of our members, Ms. Joyce DeCastro and Ms. Janice Donaldson-Taylor made the pilgrimage to Antigua where they made presentations to the Fiennes Institute and the Villa Junior Secondary School. The response and appreciation that were shown to our members by both institutions and the general public was enough to make us want to do more. Hence, both members left Antigua feeling such great sense of fulfillment and accomplishment. *(This story will be covered in its entirety on page 11 in one of our featured stories: "Wadadli West Delivers in Antigua" by Ms. DeCastro and Ms. Donaldson-Taylor).*

As we go forward, we know that there are lots of grounds to be covered in our quest to better service our communities. Yes, we are aware that occasional obstacles will appear to knock us down, but we are too energized and too motivated to let them become hindrances in achieving our goals. There are many people in our communities who are counting on us for help and support. We are very mindful of this everyday as we go about our daily businesses, for these are the very reasons why we are called upon to serve with such dignity, dedication, pride and integrity. On this note, let us give thanks to our many supporters who have journeyed with us thus far. You are the reason why we are able to accomplish the things that we have to this point. As we host our upcoming events, we do look forward for your continuous support. On behalf of our entire team at Wadadli West USA Inc., we thank you!

Bernard S. Henry

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernard S. Henry'.

Vice Chairman, Wadadli West USA Inc.



THE END OF ONE OF POINT'S ICONIC STRUCTURES – THE BLACKSMITH SHOP

By Shelly Hood

This iconic Structure is located on Mariners Lane in the Point Area. It's called the Blacksmith Shop. This structure, measuring about 12 ft x 12 ft, has been a fixture in this location for almost 60 years - having being relocated from inside Bryson's Shipping Yard. Over the years, many a fenders, bumpers, truck chassis, auto and heavy duty equipment parts as well as gardening tools and house-

It would be myopic, not to mention that the blacksmith shop played a very important role in the formation and building of the Nation's first steel band, the Hell's Gate Steel Band. Many discussions were held with members of the band and Mr. Joseph Townsend, the Blacksmith, on how to build and tune the pans. Note well that none of them had ever seen a steel pan before. Eventually, after several discussions, a method was devised which allowed



(Figure 1)

(Figure 1) The Blacksmith Shop Circa 1955 - Standing in front of the shop is the legendary blacksmith, *Joseph Townsend*.



(Figure 2)

(Figure 2) The Blacksmith Shop in its derelict state. (Figure 3) Seen in this Photo is the Bellows that drives the shop's furnace

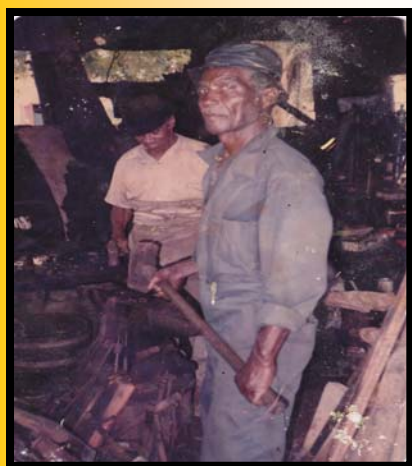


(Figure 3)

hold implements were granted reprieve on life to serve a second and third spell in service to their owners.

The craftsmanship of the work coming out of this establishment were always first class in nature, and this

Eustace "Manning" Henry to produce the first pan, which at the time had five notes. The rest is history. The Hells Gate Steel Orchestra went on to win many championships, and up this day, the band still produces sweet pan music.



(Figure 1)

The Master Blacksmith Joseph Townsend and his Assistant

(Figure 1) The Assistant in the forefront with the sledge hammer is the father of two well known persons in Antigua and here in NYC. Can you identify him and the two persons connected to him?



(Figure 2)

(Figure 2) Seen in this photo - the Master Blacksmith and his assistant working on a truck Chassis

left many people fascinated by the quality craft exhibited here. It was always fascinating to stand around and observe these talented gentlemen executing their craft.

only to be ignored. Were they toughening me up? Who knows? I guess, I just never learned. The good news from back then was that I never got harmed throughout these experiences.

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PREVIEW OF THE UPCOMING 2010 FUNDRAISING SEASON

Let the real fun begin! Here we are once again as we start our 2010 fundraising season. Before we go any further, let us recap a little on last year's events. Our 2009 fundraising season was a success. We were able to put together 6 exciting events, which included a Valentine's Day Tea Party Social, a Mother's Day Dinner, a Sum-

mer Fish Fry event, and a few trips to Atlantic City. In addition, we participated in ABCO's Caribbean Splashdown Music Festival & Health Fair in the Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem.

Nevertheless, two weeks later, on Sunday, March 14th, we hosted our Winter Break Tea Party Social at the Antigua and Barbuda House in Harlem. It



Photo of our Winter Break Tea Party Social, in a backdrop of our flag colors



Photo from our Winter Break Tea Party Social – Having a good time



Photo: Wadadli West USA Inc team at our Winter Bread Tea Party Social, dressed in our National Madras Cloth Westcott Outfit

mer Fish Fry event, and a few trips to Atlantic City. In addition, we participated in ABCO's Caribbean Splashdown Music Festival & Health Fair in the Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem.

From the proceeds of these events, our organization was able to present school supplies to the Villa Junior Secondary School and personal care items

was a spectacular event by all accounts. The decoration of the hall was very deliberate as we opted to use the colors of our Nation's flag, photos of our communities, and the backdrop of our national madras cloth to place emphasis of expanding Antigua and Barbuda beyond its 170 Square Miles land mass. In the end, we had a great turnout for this event considering the vari-



(Cynthia)



(Karen)



(Deanne)



(Roslyn)



Molly & Veronica

WINNERS' ROW

to the Fiennes Institute. What we have accomplished from these events was done through sheer teamwork. Therefore, without reservations, we believe that we can clearly state that we have gained your trust, earned your support, and achieved your friendship.

This year's events promise to be even more exciting. We have gone out of the way to improve on most of the things that we had done last year. The theme for this year's season is *"Having Fun while serving worthy causes."* Please enjoy the exciting events that we have put together for your entertainment.

Our 2010 fundraising season was scheduled to officially start on Saturday, February 27th in the form of a Winter Break Tea Party Social. On the days leading up to the event, Mother Nature intervened with downpours of snow, forcing our organization to cancel the

ous inconveniences of the rescheduled date.

On our menu, we featured a variety of Antiguan styled bush teas and a variety of tea time snacks to the delight of our patrons. In addition, because Antiguan traditionally cook elaborate Sunday afternoon meals for their families, as a special treat, we offered our guests some delightful Antiguan styled [cooked] food. The entertainment, on the other hand, was nothing less than spectacular as we featured a variety of home grown calypso and Soca music. As added entertainment, there were numerous gate prizes and raffles to be won. We would like to thank everyone who came out in support of this event. When you look at the focus of these events, by giving us your support, you are also supporting our efforts in making a difference to our communities and to our country.





OUR READER'S CORNER: MUST READ LITERATURE

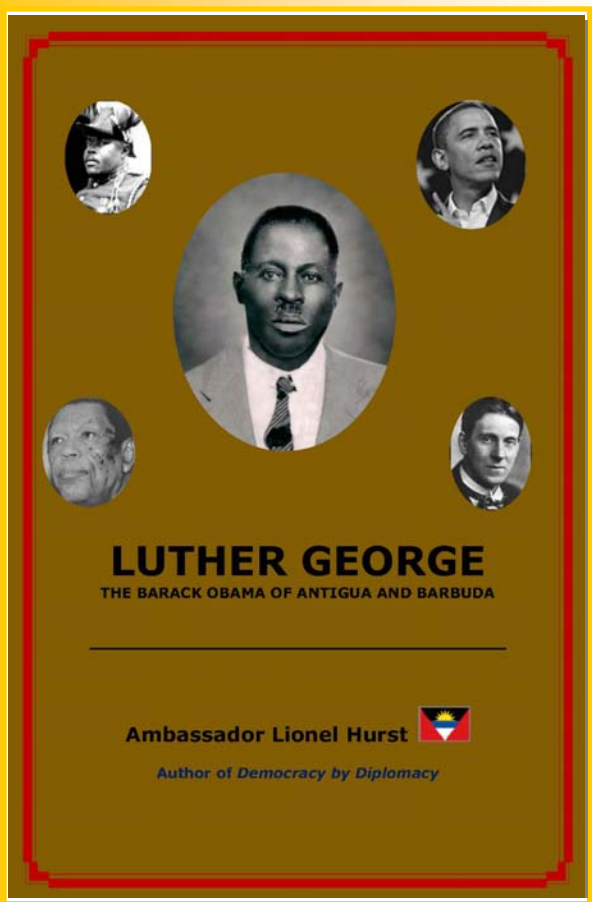
"EDUCATING THE MASSES THROUGH WRITTEN WORDS"

OUR QUARTERLY BOOK FEATURE: "LUTHER GEORGE – THE BARACK OBAMA OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA."

By Ambassador Lionel "Max" Hurst

"If you are serious about Antiguanism and Caribbeanism, this book will certainly enlighten you. Ambassador Hurst did a masterful job on this publication. It's a must read...you will enjoy it."

- Endorsed by the members of Wadadli West USA Inc. -



ABOUT THE AUTHOR & THIS PUBLICATION

MEDIA RELEASE

Former Antigua and Barbuda Ambassador to the United Nations and the OAS, Lionel Hurst, has published his second book entitled **LUTHER GEORGE: The Obama of Antigua and Barbuda**. The three-hundred page volume tells the story of a forgotten hero of Antigua and Barbuda who changed his country's history. It is very easy to read and flows remarkably well through seven chapters of facts and recollections. The publication marks yet another milestone in the literary history of Antigua and Barbuda, and of Hurst himself.

Hurst published his **Democracy by Diplomacy** almost three years ago in 2007, which was very well received. The former Ambassador is of the view that this second publication will be even better received. "The theme is far more universal," he said, "and the story of a life well-spent always generates great interest."

Lionel Hurst studied political science at Brooklyn College (CUNY), earned an MBA from Long Island University, and his Juris Doctor degree from the New York Law School. He is enormously talented and driven, and is intent on recording the history of his state through differing lenses. He is a kidney transplant recipient who measures his days and knows that only "a few useful years" remain.

The publication will be available shortly after Easter in the bookstores of Antigua, and on the shelves of the major distributors in the USA. Ambassador Hurst is planning a book-signing in mid-May 2010 in New York City and a launch in Antigua before Labour Day (Monday May 3, 2010) in Antigua. He is to travel around the USA to several cities where communities of Caribbean people live, promoting his publication. The book costs US\$20 and is available only in soft cover.



Luther Emanuel George, born December 13, 1903, was the most skilful organizer who worked to dismantle the exclusionary system created by the colonials in Antigua and Barbuda. The rulers kept the masses of African descendants of Antigua and Barbuda out of the corridors of power and in the ranks of poverty for 300 years. Luther George led the peaceful revolution in his society. He was a genius. During a quarter century, 1920 to 1945, no Antiguan/Barbudan could match his accumulated record of public good and personal achievement.

- 1945: He proposes legislation to create Village Councils since there were no electoral districts. He was appointed the first Chairman of the first Village Council in Antigua and Barbuda.
- 1944: He proposed the creation of the AT&LU Political Committee which became the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ALP).
- 1943: He was the very first black Antiguan/Barbudan to win a seat by election entitling him to sit in the Parliament or Legislative Council. There were no political parties then.
- 1939: He was a founder of the Antigua Trades and Labour Union (AT&LU) and sacrificed much to ensure its success.
- 1920 - 45: He worked tirelessly, before his 17th birthday until he fell terribly ill, on behalf of small farmers.

Luther George's lobbying of legislators would cause his colleagues to call him 'the diplomat' in recognition of his ability to cross racial divides successfully. In 1945, someone coughed in his presence, caused him to contract tuberculosis, and brought to a halt his work in favour of the downtrodden. He died on June 3, 1961.

Ambassador Lionel Hurst is the author of *Democracy By Diplomacy* (2007). He contributed many articles to several electronic and print publications during the first decade of the new century. He served as Antigua and Barbuda's top diplomat to the UN, the OAS and the USA over a fifteen-year period, writing and delivering countless speeches. His weekly radio magazine, called *Diplomatic Notes*, his many broadcast speeches from the podium of the United Nations, his foray into elective politics, and his *Fire and Steel* talk-show on ZDK Radio have made him a worthy communicator.

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PILGRIMAGE TO ANTIGUA - THE IMAGES



Photo: Reaching out to the elderly in our community. Ms. Mary Ann Farrel (102 yrs) relaxing in front of her doorstep in the Point. -----



Photo: Supporting our school. After the Presentation at the Villa Junior Secondary School, Secretary Ms. Joyce DeCastro took timeout for a photo shot with Headmistress, Ms Lois King. -----



Photo: Observing a monument. The Eustace "Manning" Henry Roundabout at lower back street in the point was named after this legendary steel band builder, tuner, arranger, and player. -----



Photo: Reaching out to the elderly in our community. Treasurer, Donaldson-Taylor and Secretary, DeCastro paid a visit to another of our centurions in the Point, Mr. Anthony Jarvis, seen in this photo. -----



Photo: Lending support to a forgotten hero, Eustace "Boothses Watkins. Secretary, Joyce DeCastro (left) and Ms. Pat DeCastro (right) sharing a light moment with Mr. Watkins. -----



Photo: Observing one of the homes of steel band music in The Point - the Harmonites Steel Orchestra pan yard with an on-the-road trolley in the band yard. -----



PILGRIMAGE TO ANTIGUA - THE IMAGES



Photo: Making a courtesy call on the legendary Eustace "Manning" Henry who was presented with copies of our first newsletter, by Ms. DeCastro (left) & Ms Donaldson-Taylor (right). Mr. Henry was the feature story in that issue.



Photo: Enjoying the performances of the students of Villa Junior Secondary School on Education Week, the same day Wadadli West made a presentation to the school.



Photo: Making the presentation to the Fiennes Institute. From the far left-right, head nurse of the institution, Director Alton Ford, Ms Joyce DeCastro, and Ms. Janice Donaldson-Taylor.



Photo: Wadadli West USA Inc. treasurer, Janice Donaldson-Taylor, addressing the students and staff of the Villa Junior Secondary School, during the presentation to the school



Photo: Sharing a moment with one of our elderly statespersons while making the presentation to the Fiennes Institute. Wadadli West's Janice Donaldson-Taylor (left) and Joyce DeCastro (right) visit with 108 yrs old Ms. Irene Carlos



Photo: Enjoying the performances of the students of the Villa Junior Secondary School on Education Week, while Wadadli West members were at the school for a presentation.

The Power of Entrepreneurship in Action

LENDING OUR HELPFUL HANDS

The power of Entrepreneurship in Action was created to lend our helpful hands to people of our Antiguan community who have chosen to become entrepreneurs. Some have opted to creating new businesses based on their expertise in certain fields. Others have chosen the line of entrepreneurship based on their discovery of new market niches. Whatever are your reasons, we are here to provide the positive exposure for your businesses through the power of our medium. Our helping hands for this issue are in support of Ms. Marie Swift Martin's newly formed business, **"Marie's Caribbean Blend."**



It has been one of Marie's dreams to be able to open her own catering business. Recently, one of these dreams was realized. With the assistance of a close friend, Ms. Juliette Ambrose, Marie created her own brand of products called, **"Marie's Caribbean Blend."**

Marie has been involved in food preparation and presentation from an early age. For many years, she has experimented on different type of foods, bringing them to perfection. She is very creative in the kitchen, and of course, very experienced. Marie brings new meaning and new excitement to the field of food preparation and food presentation.

One of Marie's greatest passions is for the creation of Hot Sauce. Through many years of trials, she now has a variety of Hot Sauce products. Her newest product, in her line of hot sauce, is called **"Pumpkin Spice"**, which is considered to be an absolute delight.

Marie is equipped to fill all of your catering needs. She is very savvy in the preparation of all types of foods, including finger foods, such as Antiguan styled salt fish cake, which is one of her specialties. Please give Marie a call. You are about to experience a new world of palatable delights.

Contact Information

"Marie's & Juliette's Caribbean Blend"

☎ (203) 354-5881

☎ Fax (203) 939-1173

✉ E-Mail: jam_orchid2@hotmail.com





Wadadli West USA Inc.

Dedicated to the Development of the Point & Villa Areas Communities

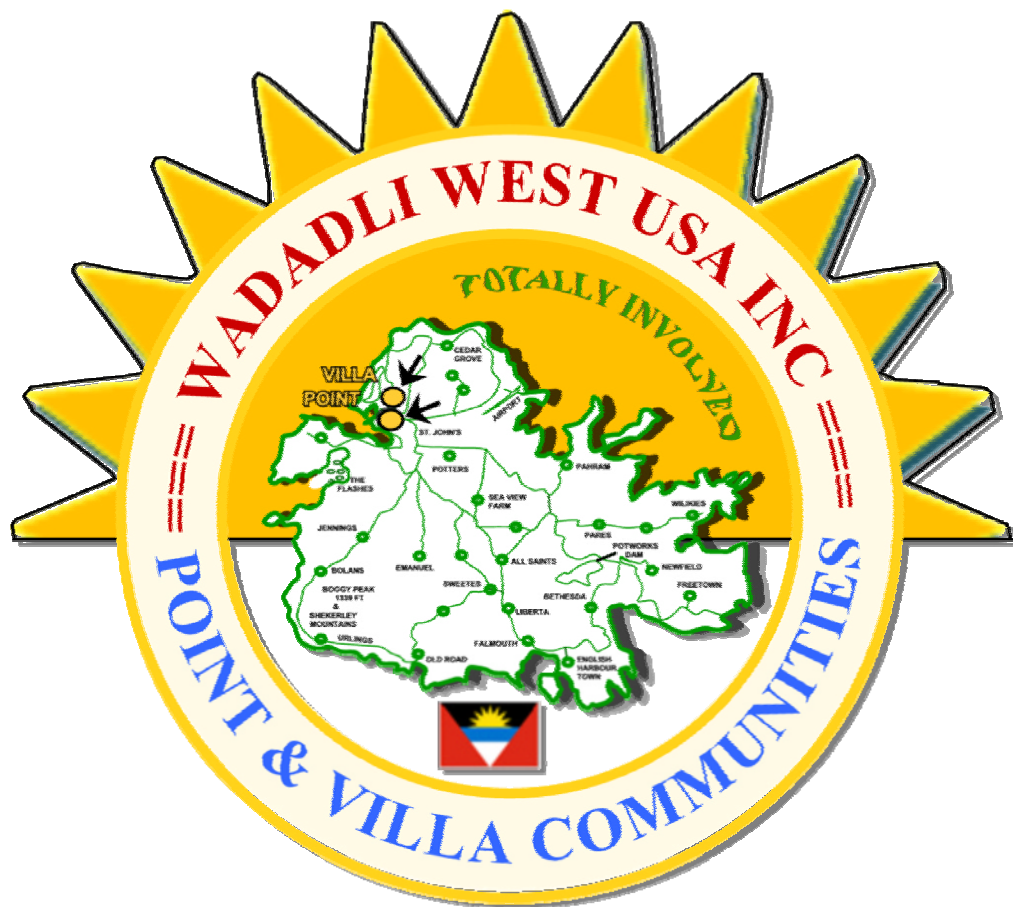
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA HOUSE - SUITE 1A - 12 WEST 122ND STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10027

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) 885-9154 ☎ Janice Taylor: (718) 753-7442 ☎ Joyce DeCastro: (347) 576-3677
☎ Earl Francis: (347) 302-8098 ☎ Elderfield Luke: (917) 331-1836 ☎ Henzelle Richards: (646) 372-2769 ☎ Nicole DeCastro: (347) 465-4072



**Membership
Registration on Reverse Side**

WadadliWestUsaInc@Hotmail.com

WADADLI WEST USA INC DELIVERS IN ANTIGUA: THE REPORT

By Janice F. Donaldson-Taylor & Joyce DeCastro

Going home to Antigua has always been special for us, but our last trip home was the most miraculous. We were placed in a position where we were able to feel the joy and excitement of giving back to our beloved communities and our country.

After many months of planning and deliberating, it was time for our organization to stand and deliver. This we did with great alacrity and efficiency. My colleague, Joyce DeCastro, and I were given the assignment by our organization to make that special pilgrimage back to our homeland. Even though this was not one of our usual vacation trips, we were still bubbling over with excitement, because we both knew that we were about to become part of something very special.

On Wednesday, February 17, 2010, on a beautiful Antiguan afternoon, we arrived at VC Bird International Airport to start our mission. After we had recouped from our jetlag flight into Antigua, we immediately began making contact with those people who were relevant to our being in Antigua for the presentations. We were determined at this point to make sure everything was scheduled according to plans.

The following morning, after making preparations for the presentations, we descended upon the Villa Junior Secondary School. When we arrived at the school that morning, we arrived to a pleasant surprise for at that moment we both found out that the school was celebrating education week and that there was a great program planned for that day. It was such a delight to have the students performed before us in such splendor and beauty. Just as we had no idea about this program ahead of time, the students had no idea that we were there to present them with gifts.

The students were very elated by our visit. Just being in their presence, it brought out the child in me, especially when the younger ones did their skits and read Bible verses. It all reminded me of the days when I did the similar. Some of the older ones and a teacher were real live actors in a motivational play which was designed to remind the students the importance of education. Much praises should be given to the staff and students for time and energy well spent. The occasion turned out to be a memorable one as we presented the supplies as promised. The glows in the eyes of the kids that morning were a sight to behold. Everyone on hand was very appreciative of the gifts.



Photo: Students at the Villa Junior Secondary School performing a skit in the school's program to celebrate education week.



Photo: Ms. Janice Donaldson-Taylor (left) and Ms. Joyce DeCastro (right) visits with 108 year old Ms. Irene Carlos (center) on visit to the Fiennes Institute



Photo: Director of the Fiennes Institute, Mr. Alton Ford, addresses the gathering at the Fiennes Institute which was covered by ABS TV.

At this juncture, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Head Mistress, Ms. Lois King, and her staff for the warm welcome which we had received. In that same token, we would also like to pay homage to them for a job well done in their pursuance of excellence in the school. As we press forward, we hope that we can continue to be of relevance to them by providing the tools needed to succeed.

On leaving the school, we made a brief visit to my old neighborhood. This visit took me down memory lane where everything became fresh in my mind as yesteryear. As I walked through Bryson Street, the old neighborhood seemed the same. Elick shop, which was adjacent to my old home, remained a full functional shop. Of course, I had to make a visit to the shop to have a chit chat with the proprietor, Mr. Elick King. Reminiscing on my childhood years, I could remember one scenario involving the shop which still brings a smile to my face to this day. When I was a young girl, my friend Hydrie Henry and I would pool our money together to purchase Sea Moss from Elick's shop after school. In our estimation, no one on the island made this drink as nice as Miss Alice who provided it for the shop. When Mr. Elick found out that we were the ones drinking the Sea Moss, he said to us with the sternness of dialect, "Likkle Gals, a chain ar you want fu buss?" We were so naïve at the time for we had no clue what he meant by that statement. All we knew was that we were just drinking the Sea Moss for its unique taste, but later in life we found out that the locals considered it the ultimate male enhancement drink.

While in the neighborhood, we also visited Mr. Eustace "Manning" Henry where we presented him with copies of our first Newsletter, since he was our main feature in that issue. As usual, he was very pleasant and very appreciative. We spent a little time with him and his family while we tried to catch up on old times.

After Ms. Donaldson-Taylor had delivered the feature presentation to the Villa Junior Secondary School, it was time for me to deliver the ultimate presentation to the Fiennes Institute. The following morning Ms. Donaldson-Taylor and I made our way to the Fiennes Institute to make that presentation. This visit to the institute was an emotional one for me. ABS Television was on hand to

(Continued on Page 13)



Boothses (front) with Dooga Matthews & Dane Richards to the back.

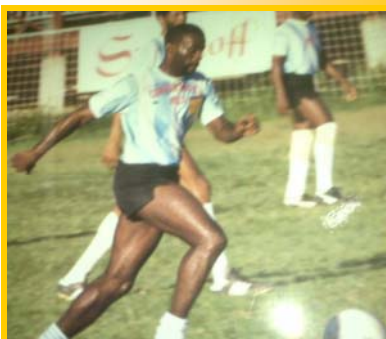
For many years, this little midfielder general orchestrated many of the team's victories. Consequently, Boothses played a vibrant role on the Aston Villa Lions' 1983/84 and 1985/86 championship teams. With these 2 championships under his belt, Boothses joined a rare group of people in becoming two time champions in 2 different sports.

Being an ardent supporter of the team, I was privileged to witness many of the team's exciting battles against perennial powerhouses; Empire, Superstars, Pares Village, Parham Village, and Freeman's Village football teams, just to name a few. Boothses held his own against these teams that featured name brand players in the likes of Mervin "MR" Richards and Olrick "Durban" Looby. The Aston Villa team was no less shabby for the team featured one of the most prolific goal scorers in the history of football in Antigua in the name of Everton "Batow" Gonsalves. Boothses was one of the support midfielders on this dynamic team. Rightly so, it was not long before the name of Boothses became a household name in the Point and Villa Community and beyond. In those glory days, football was king of the day and Boothses in his majestic was declared one of the crowned princes.

Boothses never took his skills for granted. He was a hard worker who devoted many hours training and harnessing his skills. Every day at the height of the afternoon, the slim figure of Boothses could be seen leaving his home at lower St. John's Street in the Point heading for the Aston Villa Park. As he travelled his regular route onto Wapping Lane, crossing Back Street (Dickenson Bay Street) Bridge, and onto Bryson Street, Boothses could be seen carrying his Football Boots tied together by the end of the laces and balancing around his neck resembling the scale of Libra. His daily migration from Point to Villa reminded us of the Garling birds of our lands that migrated daily from their sanctuary in the mangroves to their feeding grounds in the inner lands. His daily journey from Point to Villa clearly reminded us that Point and Villa is one community. Yes, he is a [Point Man] but he is a [Villa Man] too. Boothses love of football, and his love for the game led him to make this journey almost everyday for over

15 years. He played his heart out for the Aston Villa Team until he could play no more.

As we have been thought from an early age, all things will come to an end one day. Boothses completed his football career in 1988 with grace and style, but in 1991, the struggles for his health and his life began. This was not the after-football life that we have envisioned for this once great football player and a great human being. In that same year [1991], Boothses began feeling excruciating pains in his lower extremities. His condition became so extreme that it was not long before he



"Boothses" on the move with the ball during a game at the Antigua Recreation Grounds

lost the ability in using his legs. Through the ensuing 19 years of his conditions, many doctors and specialists in the field of neurology were summoned in an attempt to treat his



**Awarded Most Outstanding Midfielder (1984)
By the Aston Villa Lions Football Club
- Eustace "Boothses" Watkins -**

condition, but after many years of therapy and treatments, Boothses is still unable to walk.

When I spoke to Boothses about his condition, he told me that he is blessed to be alive, but in one solemn moment he spoke of a friend, whom he met through therapy, who passed away a few years ago from a similar illness. According to Boothses, "Many people thought that I would have suffered the same faith, but thank God, I am still here today."

As the years pass by, so have many of the people whom he once called friends. Many have shunned him as if his condition is a death sentence. Others stayed away from him as if he would rob them of their finances. The Boothses that I know is a man of dignity and pride. Even in his present state, he does not expect handouts. He is ably supported by his mother and others who sincerely care for him. What he desires most from us now will not cost us a single penny. At this stage of his life, he is looking for that love, the support, and the respect that will help him through this rugged journey. Is this too much to ask for a man who has diligently served his community and one who has been a son of our lands? The answer is in our hearts.

Meanwhile, at the bottom of Bay Street, just 200 yards north of Dickenson Bay Street, there stands the house of Boothses, sitting in isolation, reminding us of the TV show, "Little House on the Prairie." The surrounding areas, even though beautiful, seem to paint a metaphorical image of his latter life. In the immediate west of his home, just a stone's throw away, lays the remains of Dredge Bay. Further out in the distance, on a clear evening; he watches the sun sets upon the sea, as it bids its goodbye to the dust of the day. Sometimes in the evenings, if he is that fortunate, when the band practices, he would be serenaded by the music of Hells Gate Steel Orchestra, playing the role of a lullaby as he falls asleep. Boothses is alive in spirit today as he was in the past, but sometimes isolation and loneliness will get the better part of any man. In a dog eat dog world, many have been left to carry their own crosses, but in your busy schedules, in your moments of thoughts, and in your daily prayers, please don't forget about Boothses.

WADADLI WEST USA INC DELIVERS IN ANTIGUA: THE REPORT

By Joyce DeCastro & Janice F. Donaldson-Taylor *(Continued from page 11)*

provide coverage of the event. The director of the institution, Mr. Alton Ford, did a tremendous job in coordinating the event. As we presented the gifts to the residents, it seemed like Christmas all again at the institution. The seniors were especially humbled and appreciative for our visit and the gifts. Each one of them had their own expression of love and care for us. One of the male occupants was extremely compassionate towards us. He kept on telling us that we should get something to eat and drink because we were there [sorting out items for the gift bags] since early in the morning. We told him that was the reason we came and that we had to get the work completed. He further stated that he felt sorry for us because we were working so hard. The rest of the residents kept thanking us over and over. Ms. Carlos, at 108 years old, could not be livelier. She just kept on praising God and thanking us for our visit. I could see that she felt very special. Ms. Eulalie, who is a prior resident of Point, was such an inspiration as she reminded us that we were "Silver Dollar Babies" and that she was "Melancholy". Oh, how she sang for us. Much laughter filled the air as we were entertained. What blessings it was for us to be able to make a difference in peoples' lives and to touch their lives the way we did.

Mr. Alton Forde and the rest of the staff should be commended for their daily work. Leading up to this event, Mr. Forde and I kept communicating with each

other as we prepared for the trip. He was on the ball with everything. He even arranged the taping of the event with the media. Mr. Forde, "Nothing goes unnoticed."

On our leaving the institution that day, we felt fulfilled. It was amazing to see how appreciative everyone was for the gifts that we had presented. The warmth that we felt that day was unimaginable just to see how we were able impact peoples' lives just by showing that we cared.

After we had completed our presentations, we had a few days to walk around the community to assess areas where our organization could be of good service. We used this opportunity also to make acquaintances with people in our community. As we made our tour, we called upon one of our community's centurions, Mr. Anthony Jarvis, where we presented him with a gift bag and spent a few moments chit chatting with him on how he spent his days. We also called upon another of our centurions, Mrs. Mary Ann Farrell, presenting her also with a gift bag, and visited with her for a few moments. While we were on that path, we paid a visit to one our community's well known figures, Mr. Eustace "Boothses" Watkins who has been wheelchair bound for over 17 years. As we spoke to the people in the community, we had a chance to listen to their needs

and concerns. Everyone that we had spoken to showered us with praises for the work we have been doing.

As we returned to the United States, my colleague and I were very excited about our accomplishment. Our mission turned out to be one big learning experience. From this trip, we had a better understanding of the things that were needed to help our community and in making a difference in the lives of the needy. What a trip it was! It was successful, worthwhile and fulfilling, but we cannot take all of the credit for ourselves. There are lots of people who worked behind the scenes in making our trip a success. At this time, we would like to thank Ms. Carol DeCastro-Henry, who helped with transportation and accommodation; Ms. Linda Nibbs, who also provided accommodation; Ms. Patricia DeCastro, resident of Montréal, who came on the trip with to assist; Ms. Janet DeCastro-Staun and Mr. Fenton, Donaldson, who assisted with transportation; Ms Williams at the Ministry of Arts & Cultural for the presentation of our national flags and streamers; our friends at Antigua Tourist Board for providing us with samples of Antigua's products; and most of all you our supporters who have being supporting our fundraising events and making all this possible. On behalf of our team at Wadadli West USA Inc, we sincerely thank you.

THE END OF ONE OF POINT'S ICONIC STRUCTURE: THE BLACKSMITH SHOP

By Shelly Hood *(Continued from page 3)*

After the opening of the deep water harbor in 1968/1969, this unassuming structure and its operations became one of the most photographed items in the area, if not in the country by the thousands of tourists that would disembark from the cruise ships, as they wend their way, through the community, to the city of St. Johns. For the next 30 years, the blacksmith shop became one of the main tourist attractions until the Government decided to save the tourist the shock of walking through the Point Area and, consequently, moving the disembarkation area to Heritage Quay. How did they prevent the said tourists from the shock of strolling through the Grays-Green Community?

Apart from the interest drawn by the curious visitors, this establishment held an interesting concern for some residents of the Community. Every year, after the passing of a prospective hurricane, members of the community would check on the shop to see if it sustained any damages. Once it was found intact, they would run around the community announcing that the Blacksmith shop was still standing. Was there a bookmaker involved taking bets on its survival? I don't know but most people were amazed

that such a lithe structure would continually survive the onslaught of a hurricane year after year while other more substantial structures would show signs of wear or damages. The question then was how could this be? After all, just looking at this structure would lead one to conclude that the slightest bit of strong wind would cause it to topple over. Though the shop is now basically derelict due to non-use, you can take a look at the photos on page 3 and try to determine why you think it survived all those years. *(The person with the right answer will win a Johnnie walker carry-on bag. Should there be more than one winner, the names of all winners will be placed in a bag and one winner will be selected from the bag.)*

Many in the community have been calling for the saving of the structure. This was a very good idea, only that it is too late, as the property is now owned by others, and the structure itself is too far gone. After all has been said about the blacksmith shop, there goes another piece of community history gone the way of the model-T.

OUR FEEDBACK CORNER

Hi Shelly,

Great newsletter! The articles are informative and the format draws the reader in. The photos and the layout give it a top-quality appearance. I congratulate you, as Chairman, and the team for utilizing the technology to connect us. Although I reside in New York and will remain forever domiciled in Antigua, the production appeals to the both halves. Thank you for your talent and leadership, your drive and foresight. Keep it up!

- Lionel "Max" Hurst, former Antigua & Barbuda Ambassador to the United Nations -



Dear Friends, I had a read of your informative newsletter and now I send a copy from Antigua Commercial Bank for you to share with your members. I will certainly add you to our mailing list.

Additionally, you are free to visit us at our website at www.acbonline.com. Regards"- **Shawn M. Nicholas** -

Marketing & Public Relations Executive - Antigua Commercial Bank

Thank you for sharing your newsletter with me. Your organization produced an outstanding newsletter. Very well done! Looking forward for the next issue.

- **Lucaso** -

Thank you very much for the newsletter. I will make sure I take some copies to our meeting on Saturday. Hope to make the acquaintances soon. Enjoy the weekend. Be blessed."

- **E. Burton** -

Thank you very much. Very nice!

- **Andy** -

Feedback Corner: Please email your comments to us at WadadliWestUsaInc@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.

DONATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



In the past few years, several people have come forward with their general support in assisting our fund-raising campaign. Some have donated materials and others have donated monies. Whatever were your contributions there were deeply appreciated. As the saying goes, no good deed should ever go unnoticed. It is only fitting then that we acknowledge the following people for their efforts, love, and kindness shown by their donations.

- For their *monetary contributions*, many thanks to **Bernadette Davis**, **Mavis Williams**, **Andy Carbon**, **Eustace Watson**, **Madeline Blackette**, **Foster John**, **Charles Jarvis**, and **Denville Webson**.
- For the *Personal Care items* donated to the Fiennes Institute, many thanks to **Eugene Knight** & **Jasmine Mack**.
- For a *Wheelchair* donated to the Fiennes Institute, many thanks to **Ms. Sandra Ward**.
- For a *Wheelchair and a Walker* donated to the Fiennes Institute, many thanks to **Mr. Darian Goodwin**.
- For the *Books* donated to the Villa Junior Secondary School, many thanks to **Juneth** & **Jacquelyn Webson**.

To all our friends who have made donations, thanks you so much for being the shining star that you are!



OUR REMAINING EVENTS FOR 2010

❖ Saturday, May 8

Pre-Mother's Day Dinner
Antigua & Barbuda House
12W 122nd Street, Harlem, NY
5:00PM – 9:00PM

❖ Saturday, June 26

Bus Trip to Atlantic City
8:00AM – 6:00 PM
Details TBD

❖ Saturday, July 24

Fish Fry at Antigua House
12 West 122nd Street, Harlem
2:00PM – 8:00PM

❖ Saturday, August 28

Bus Tour: Baltimore Crab Fest
Details TBD

❖ Saturday, October 16

Bus Trip to Atlantic City
8:00AM – 6:00 PM
Details TBD

❖ Saturday, December 18

Wadadli West Christmas Party
Details TBD

Anatomy of a Community

✕ Our People ✕ Our Schools
✕ Our Churches ✕ Our Culture

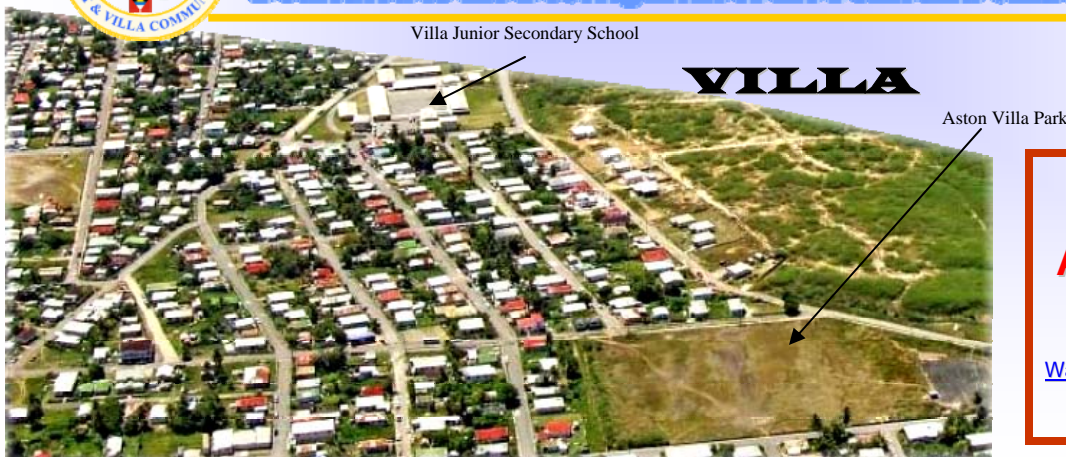
We Are In the Heart of Our Community

Striving to made a Difference

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



Wadadli West USA Inc.
"Dedicated to the Development of the Point and Villa Area Communities"



**We Are Now
Accepting New
Memberships.**

Email us at:
WadadliWestUsaInc@hotmail.com

Wadadli West USA Inc.

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PLACE
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TOTALLY ANTIGUAN

OUR BACK PAGE FEATURE: "DUCUNA & SALTFISH WITH CHOPUP"

By Earl Francis



This Quarterly Back Page issue features how to cook, one of Antigua's national dishes, **DUCUNA AND SALTFISH WITH CHOPUP**. 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: DUCUNA: Sweet potatoes, dried coconut, 1 large carrot, flour, sugar, raisin, either fig leaf (banana), seaside grape leaf or foil paper, nutten-egg (nutmeg), cinnamon, vanilla essence, salt, black pepper. **CHOPUP:** Spinach, choba (eggplant), squash, okro (okra) salt, black pepper. **SALTFISH:** Salt Fish, onion, green pepper, scallion, thyme, tomato, cooking butter, tomato paste and sweet oil (cooking oil).

STEPS 1 -PREPARING DUCUNA

(1) Get one big bowl for the mixture. **(2) Break** the coconut, dig out the meat, and then wash and grate. **(3) Peel** the sweet potatoes, then wash and grate them. **(4) Scrape** the carrots then wash and grate them too. **(5) Combine** the grated coconut, sweet potatoes and carrot (the carrot is added for moisture, and can also be substituted with pumpkin if so desired). **(6) Add** raisin, sugar, nutten-egg, cinnamon and essence to desired taste. **(7) Add** a dash of salt and a sprinkle of black pepper. **(8) Add** enough flour to this mixture and then mix it with a wooden spoon until it creates a thick paste.

(9) Immerse either the fig leaf or seaside grape leaf in some hot water; this will make the leaves flexible. Wipe the leaves dry, and then spoon the mixture unto the leaves. Once that is done, fold the leaves and tie each with a piece of string.

(Special note, if you are using foil paper, no stings are necessary). Just place the mixture onto the foil and wrap accordingly. In a pot of boiling water, put in the Ducuna and cook until firm.



ANTIGUAN STYLED
DUCUNA & SALTFISH WITH CHOPUP

STEPS 2 - PREPARING CHOPUP

Put the spinach, Choba, okro and squash in a pot with a little water. Add a little salt and then allow it to boil. When cooked, strain off the water, then chop up the vegetable, add a little black pepper to taste if so desired.

STEPS 3 – PREPARING THE SALTFISH

Boil the salt fish in a pot of water and remember to change the water at least 2 times or else the salt fish might be too salty. Chop onion, green pepper, thyme, tomato, scallion, then put it in a pan with some sweet oil. Let it simmer then add the tomato paste and cooking butter. Put the salt fish in the pan with the other ingredients and turn accordingly.

EATING TIME

Open about three of the Ducuna and place them on a plate. Put about a pot spoon full of the salt fish on the plate and garnish with the chop up. No nyam plenty, cause yu na warnt fu get dung gut. (Totally Antiguan)