

SOUTH FLORIDA JAMAICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS NEWSLETTER



New Year's Message from Marlon Hill

Jamaican Diaspora Advisory Board Member, Southern USA



Jamaican Diaspora Southern United States
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Facsimile: 786-551-0785 or 786-777-0184

Dear Alumni Association Executives and Friends:

As we celebrate the renewal and vigor of the New Year, our enthusiasm for meeting both old and new goals is at an all time high. At a minimum, your passion for alma mater and Jamaica should be the guiding force for your contributions to your organization and the Jamaican community at large. Given the challenges stemming from the sluggish economy in 2008-2009, we should endeavor to embark on goals that assist with your mutual recovery and repositioning.

Everyone is hurting. We may not discuss it openly or honestly, but we are. There is not a week that the Jamaican Diaspora hotline does not get a call or message from an international student in distress, someone seeking guidance on foreclosure, or support for their small business. It is also likely that you hear the whispers within your own organization of those who are confronting or recovering some personal or professional stress.

In this regard, it is incumbent upon your alumni association to pursue activities and programs that help your membership or surrounding community to rise up from these pressures or in the alternative, to uplift their spirits. Likewise, it is probably more important for us to explore more ways to collaborate with our respective organizations. I would like to encourage you to take a full review of your annual calendar of your signature events and to consider opportunities to partner with other alumni or community organizations. As you are aware, some alumni associations are more organized and/or successful than others. This is a blessing and should be shared in lifting each other up to a similar level of excellence.

Let's begin this new decade with a deliberate sense of purpose for "progress in our recovery". Though we may confront the brutal reality of our economic environment, we MUST hold steadfast to our faith that we prevail and prosper. God is all around us and we will have no fear. We are Jamaicans!

I AM JAMAICA. WE ARE JAMAICA.

Marlon Hill

Worthwhile Contribution to Education in Florida: **Victoria Mutual Building Society**



UWI Alumna and Victoria Mutual Building (VMBS) Florida manager *Suzette Rochester*, (standing at far left), reads to students at the *Parkway Baptist Church Wee Care*. VMBS Florida recently made a donation of books and schools supplies to the school as part of its community outreach project in Florida. VMBS opened its offices in Miami Gardens and operates with a mandate to promote its varied products and services to Jamaicans and friends of Jamaicans in the Diaspora. By extension, existing and prospective customers of the Society have access to a wide range of financial services geared to towards savings and investments for retirement, vacation, education and mortgage loans for residential and commercial purposes.

Steps for Donating Educational Materials to Jamaica

Preparing to Ship Donated Goods

1. Prior to shipping any items you should determine the suitability of the items to be donated and whether or not they attract customs duties. For example, information on computers being donated must be submitted prior to shipping to ensure that they are suitable for the intended purpose.
2. The school or receiving agency should be given adequate notice so that the necessary approvals and waivers can be granted. This will prevent extended delays at the port of entry and possible storage charges. A letter of offer should be sent to the institutions prior to shipping the donated items.
3. The donated items must be consigned to the relevant school(s) or agency and not to an individual.
4. Educational and non-educational goods (e.g. medical supplies) must not be packed together as the approval process and requirement for customs clearance differ.

For Clearance

1. For goods being shipped by sea or air the following documentation must be sent ahead of the arrival of the goods to the beneficiary institution.
 - a. The Bill of Lading (by sea) or the Airway Bill (by air)
 - b. Invoice (if goods are new)
 - c. List of goods and approximate value (if the goods were pre-owned).
2. If goods are accompanying the passengers, the approval and other necessary letters must be shown to the customs officer at the port of entry. This may be done either by the letters being sent to the arriving passengers before they leave their country of residence or by presentation to the customs officer by a representative of the receiving institution when the passengers are clearing customs.

To get a waiver of taxes and duties on donated goods, the local recipient (school or agency) should apply to the Ministry of Finance, through the Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture, by presenting the invoice or a list of items to be donated at the time the waiver is sought. Usually, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture advises the Ministry of Finance by a supporting letter, that the institution is duly registered. The approval process takes a maximum of ten (10) working days.

For further information you may contact the Chief Procurement Officer at the Ministry of Education, Leon Fraser (leon.fraser@moey.gov.jm; 876-502-6008) or the Director of Technical Services, Jacienth Gordon-Brown (edirtech@cwjamaica.com; 876-9226568 or 876-922-2798)

Florida Alumni Associations Events

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**UNIV. OF THE WEST INDIES ALUMNI ASSOC
FLORIDA CHAPTER**



DINNER & DANCE



**Saturday, April 17, 2010
7:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

**CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
Sawgrass Mills
13400 West Sunrise Boulevard
Sunrise, FL 33323**

**For more information call
Margaret Barrett (954) 485-0444
Rupert Rhodd (954) 242-2529**

SAVE THE DATE!!!



THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAMAICA

FOURTH ANNUAL

***COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS
CEREMONY and TEA PARTY***

Sunday, 18th April 2010

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION, FL INC.



The Florida Chapter

*Celebrating
our*

20th
ANNIVERSARY

Sisterhood

Education

Service

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION, FL INC.



The Florida Chapter

INVITES YOU TO OUR

20th Anniversary Dinner & Dance

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2010 • 8:00 PM TO 3:00 AM

Miramar Cultural Center Aitspark, Miramar, Florida

SISTER ANGELLA HARRIS OSF, PRINCIPAL
GUEST SPEAKER

SR MAUREEN CLARE OSF, PAST PRINCIPAL
HONORARY GUEST

AUCTION OF PAUL BLACKWOOD PAINTINGS

MUSIC BY DJ RADCLIFFE

FOR TICKETS, RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION

CALL: 954-727-3656 EMAIL: ICHSFLALUM@AOL.COM

VISIT: WWW.ICHSALUMNAE.NET

New York Alumni Associations Events

MOUNT ALVERNIA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE ASSOC.of NEW YORK



presents their

"OLDIES FETE"

SATURDAY JANUARY 16, 2010

at

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church Hall
99-10 217th Lane, Queens Village, NY

ADM: **\$30.**
COMPLIMENTARY HORS D'OEUVRE

REFRESHMENTS ON SALE

contact:
CASSANDRA: 917-428-2684
SHARON: 646-696-4310
JUDITH: 516-603-5846
EVETTE: 646-249-4353



EXCELSIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (USA) INC.

in Association With

**The Excelsior Foundation
For Excellence**

Presents

MERRITONE, MLK & MEMORIES

SAT. JAN. 23rd 2010

9:00 pm - till the break of dawn!

We invite all alumni, friends and well-wishers to come

Celebrate the life work of



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**And the ongoing 40th Anniversary
Commemoration of the founding of the
Excelsior Alumni Association (USA), Inc.
and founders**

For Info Call:

- Lenny Mason 718 462 0058
- Karl "Bagga" Wilson 646 342 6810
- Michael Caballero 718 371 8626
- Leighton Young 646 784 3074
- Duane Coombs 718 251 9243
- Charles Ellis 718 781 6049

Music by

MERRITONE

Featuring the Legendary
Winston Blake

Along with New York-based

CHAPPIE'S STATESIDE



*Proceeds will be in Aid of Educational Programs to Benefit Students
of Excelsior High School and to help Secure the Future of Jamaica.*

ADM: \$30.00

CHEF ORCHID

SOUTH SERVICE ROAD. BUILDING #14, JFK INTL. AIRPORT

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~ Celebrating its 25th Anniversary ~
**Immaculate Conception High
School Alumnae Association**
New York Chapter

Invites you to their
**WINTER CELEBRATION
DANCE PARTY**

Saturday, February 6th 2010

9:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.
Chef Orchid
JFK Airport

*Music by: Soul Tone Music
D.J. Prentice
- Official 25th Anniversary DJ -*

*Be prepared to have fun and
dance the night away!*

For Tickets Call:

Karlene 516-713-8270
Leslyann 301-395-0827
Camille 917-776-0989

Contribution:
\$35.00 per person
Complimentary
Refreshments
and Cash Bar

Other “Tidbits” from Florida’s Alumni Community.....

Clarendon College Alumni Association will have its “Kick-the-year-off-right” Church Service on Sunday, January 17, 2010 at 10:00 AM at the METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH, 7200 Davie Road Extension, Hollywood, Florida 33042 (Phone: 954-963-0634).

Jamaica College takes wings - Introduces aviation course – Career choices for senior students at one of the Jamaica’s oldest secondary institutions, the prestigious Jamaica College (JC), have widened with the introduction of an aviation program in the school's curriculum in September 2009. The program is the first of its kind to be offered at any high school in the English-speaking Caribbean. The program is being offered in partnership with local company, The Flying Club. It will operate under the Aircraft Training Organization's approval granted to The Flying Club by the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) for a private-pilot license ground school.

Dinthill Technical High School Alumni Association Florida Chapter's 2010 Spring Gala

- Friday, March 5, 2010 to Sunday, March 7, 2010 (Three day schedule of events)
 - ✚ Friday - Meet & Greet,
 - ✚ Saturday - Gala - Doors open @ 7:30pm - Hors d'oeuvres (mingle), Dinner served 9-10:30pm
 - ✚ Sunday Picnic - Tree Tops Park in Davie - 12pm 'till dusk
- Location - Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- Contribution - Gala Only - \$70.00 (Cash Bar will be available)
- For additional info please send us an email –
 - dths_dinthill_of_florida@hotmail.com
 - or contact a Florida Chapter Committee Member.
 - Gala Feature - Recognition of 40th Anniversary - Batch of 1970
 - Raffle - Drawing on Sunday, March 7, 2009
 - Prizes - To be announced

SAVE THE DATE: 4th Biennial Jamaican Diaspora Conference will take place on June 14-16, 2010. Details of this conference will be announced soon.

Information for Alumni Associations in South Florida

1. **Convent of Mercy Academy “ALPHA”**
Pat Lee (President) (305) 389-8605
alphaflchapter@aol.com; frstflit19@gmail.com
2. **Ardenne Alumni Organization of Florida**
Judith Lawson-Keane (President) (954) 483-0833
Jkeane208@aol.com
3. **Calabar High School Alumni (Florida Chapter), Inc**
Michael Schloss (President) (754) 422-3307
sylquee@yahoo.com; www.cbarfla.org
4. **Camperdown High School Past Students’ Association, Florida Chapter**
Michelle ChueSang Cooper (President) (954) 802-6590
cdownpaststudent@yahoo.com; mchuesang@aol.com
www.camperdownfl.org
5. **Campion College Alumni Association**
Toni Brice (President) (954) 804-4068
bricetoni@yahoo.com; www.campionflorida.com
6. **CAST/UTECH Alumni Association – Florida Chapter**
Dr. Marilyn Morrison-Padilla (President) (954) 578-5858
mluem@yahoo.com; dr@morrisonrx.com
7. **Clarendon College Alumni Association**
Bethany Powell (President) (786) 262-3404
Bethpow06@aol.com
8. **Cornwall College Alumni Association of South Florida, Inc.**
Lance Gibbs (President) (754) 368-5532
president@ccalumni-florida.com; <http://www.ccalumni-florida.com>
9. **DeCarteret College Alumni Assoc. of Florida, Inc**
Godfrey Comrie (President) (305) 305-8108
G_Comrie@yahoo.com;
10. **Dinthill Technical High School Alumni Association**
Barry Nugent (President) (954) 552-6331
Dths_dinthill_of_florida@hotmail.com; <http://dinthillfloridaalumni.com/>
11. **Excelsior Alumni Association of Florida**
Corneld Lindo (President) (954) 309-4405
Jahar4m@aol.com
12. **Garvey Maceo Alumni Association**
Claudette Salesman (President) (954) 647-4724

13. **Glenmuir Alumni Association of South Florida**
 Fitzroy Benjamin (President) (305) 588-0521
fitzroy_atc@yahoo.com
<http://www.glenmuiralumni.com/ghs-associations/south-florida.html>
14. **Green Island High Alumni Association of North America**
 Dalvin Williams (President) (305) 431-1955
guhana@greenislandalumni.com; www.greenislandalumni.com
15. **Holmwood Technical High School Alumni Association**
 Hamlin Dalrio (President) (954) 484-9600
Kenrio69@aol.com
16. **Immaculate Conception High School Alumnae Association**
 Jennifer Hoyes (President) (561) 400-3400
ICHSflalum@aol.com; www.ICHSalumnae.net
17. **Jamaica College Old Boys Association of Florida**
 Ray Stephenson (President) (305) 505-3008
Regs75@bellsouth.net, www.jcobaf.org
18. **Kingston College Old Boys Association**
fortis_florida@bellsouth.net; www.kcobaf.org (954) 587-5257
19. **Knox South Florida Past Students**
 Jean Clarage-Slosberg (President)
jslosberg@comcast.net; knoxmail@comcast.net
20. **Manchester Alumni Association, Florida Chapter** (786-260-3411)
 Janet Plummer-Brown (President)
manchesterhighschool@gmail.com
21. **Meadowbrook High School Alumni Association**
 Paul McPherson (President) (954) 383-0321
info@mhsalumniassoc.org; www.mhsalumniassoc.org
22. **MICO Alumni Association of South Florida**
 Errol A. Evans (President) (954) 804-7200
eevans5686@aol.com; www.miconians.com
23. **Montego Bay High School Alumnae Association, South Florida**
 Karen Morris (President) (561) 714-3441
kam52004@bellsouth.net; www.mobayhighfl.com
24. **Mount Alvernia High School Alumnae Association**
 Andrea Smellie-McIntosh (President) (954) 242-4830
mahssf06@yahoo.com; www.mahsafl.com

25. **Munro-Hampton Alumni Association**
L. Ashley Coke (President) (954) 423-3961
lerac@bellsouth.net
26. **Northern Caribbean University Alumni Association (Central Florida Chapter)**
Vilma Campbell (President)
vdc@cfl.rr.com; <http://www.ncucentralflorida.com>
27. **Queen's High School Alumni Association**
Natalie Chung (President) (954) 471-4744
qhsalumni_fl@hotmail.com; www.qhsafl.org
28. **Sam Sharpe Teachers' College**
Max Beckford (President) (954) 478-9475
Becksoma@yahoo.com
29. **St. Andrew High Old Girls Association**
Deirdre Benka-Coker (President) (954) 805-6796
BENKACOKER@aol.com; www.sahsflorida.org
30. **St. Andrew Technical High Alumni Association**
David Jemison (305) 687-1677
dpjamie@comcast.net
31. **St. Catherine High School Alumni Association (SE Chapter)**
Monica Harvey-Palmer (President) (954) 655-1419
stcatherinehigh@yahoo.com
32. **St. Elizabeth Technical High School Alumni Association**
Dawn Bramwell (President) (941) 815-7223
Dawnbramwell@bellsouth.net
33. **St. George's College Old Boys Association of Florida**
Dennis Barnett (954) 347-1092
dbsquare_2000@yahoo.com; www.stgcfl.com
34. **St. Hilda's High School Alumni Association**
Claudette Nelson (President) (754) 422-0090
Claudnelson2@yahoo.com
35. **St. Hugh's Alumnae Association of South Florida**
Karen Lee Murphy (President) (954) 536-0016
st_hughs_alumnae_association@yahoo.com
36. **St. Jago High School Alumni Association**
Garnett Walker (President) (305) 766-6213
garnettwalker@yahoo.com

37. **The Alumni Association of Titchfield High School**
Edith Walsh-March (President) (954) 240-3296
taa@titchfieldhigh.com; <http://www.titchfieldhigh.com>
38. **Trench Town Comprehensive High School Alumni Association**
Rev. Dennis Grant (954) 249-5073
Grantmin@aol.com
39. **UWI Alumni Association of Florida**
Margaret Barrett (President) (954) 485-0444
Margaret@jnbs.com
40. **Vere Technical Alumni Association**
Carlton Robinson (President) (561) 793-8108
carobinson@vere-tech.com
41. **William Knibb Memorial High School Alumni Association**
Charmaine Shettleworth (President) (561) 396-0447
Knibb.william@gmail.com; <http://www.williamknibbalumni.com>
42. **Wolmer's Alumni Association**
Kidson Barnes (President) (954) 742-0550
kidson@ayninsurance.com; <http://www.wolmersouthfla.org>

To advertise your events in the newsletter or to correct information about your association, please contact the editors

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&

[Sandra Schrouder \(sansch33@yahoo.com\)](mailto:sansch33@yahoo.com)