



The CHACONIA

The TTAO Newsletter

November 2013

Volume 5, Number 1

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TTAO Committees

Chairpersons

Cultural and Recreation

Joanne Meredith, Earlvin Dyer & Pat Cholmondeley

Finance and Fundraising

Anne-Marie Bostic

PR, Communication & Membership

Brenda Agard Alleyne, Carol Joseph & Joel Murray

Social

Ingrid John-Baptiste and Carol Joseph

From the President's Pen

Members and Friends,

The 2012-2013 year has come to an end and with it the culmination of a busy round of activities, including the celebration of the 51st anniversary of the Independence of Trinidad & Tobago. Sincere thanks to those of you who contributed to and supported all of our events.

On Friday September 13, 2013, at the Annual General Meeting of the Trinidad and Tobago Association of Ottawa (TTAO), a new Executive was elected (see list below). The executive and some representatives from the general membership met on September 24, 2013 to develop a strategic plan of action for 2013-2014.

An ambitious list of activities was proposed and we have kept those events which you seem to enjoy and have added a few new ones such as a Christmas Party for the children/grandchildren of our members and friends and participation in the Walk for Memories, sponsored by the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa Renfrew. In keeping with the promotion of all things national, we have scheduled the launch of the book "Curry Cascadoo" authored by Ishmael (Kamalo) Deen, a Trinibagonian resident in the United States. Kamalo is no stranger to our association as in the 1990's the TTAO sponsored the screening of his film, The Panman, at Carleton University. Details of our planned events are outlined in this newsletter and as usual we look forward to your continued patronage.

As in the past, we will be partnering with some of our Trini-based organizations to host events which we believe are of interest to you. Next year, Indian Arrival Day will be celebrated as a joint venture with the Caribbean Hummingbirds. Our Family Fun Day will once again coincide with Kites for Cancer hosted by Club S.O.C.C.A., with support from the Hurricanes Soccer Club.

Executive and Committee members have continued to lend support to events hosted by our sister organizations. The TTAO sent representation to the Jamaica Ottawa Association Heroes Banquet on October 19, 2013 and the St Vincent Ottawa Association Dinner Dance on November 9, 2013. There are also plans to have representation at the independence dinner and dance hosted by the Barbados (Ottawa) Association Inc. on November 23, 2013.

We are looking forward to the exciting year ahead. You the members, fellow nationals and friends are invited to participate as volunteers or by attending activities hosted by the association. As well, we are always

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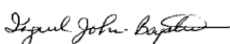
or

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happy to hear from you in the way of comments, suggestions and yes, even criticism. It's only with this feedback that we can continue to improve and host events which are of interest to you.

To the 2012-2013 Executive and Committee members, my sincere thanks for your hard work and commitment in making the past year the overwhelming success that it was.

Sincerely,



Ingrid John-Baptiste (President)

TTAO Executive and Committees

We are proud to introduce the TTAO Executive and standing committees for the 2013-2014 year. They have commenced planning for an engaging, health conscious and culturally satisfying year.

This is your 2013-2014 TTAO Executive:

President - Ingrid John-Baptiste

Vice-President - Earlvin (Joe) Dyer

Treasurer - Anne-Marie Bostic

Secretary - Joanne Meredith

Assistant-Secretary - Brenda Agard Alleyne

3 Floor members - Patricia Cholmondeley, Carmen Dyer and Judy Madhosingh

Our standing committees for 2013-2014 are as follows:

The **Culture & Recreation Committee** will be co-chaired by Joanne Meredith, Earlvin Dyer and Patricia Cholmondeley.

The **Finance and Fundraising Committee** will be chaired by Anne-Marie Bostic. This committee will be reviewing the TTAO financial processes and launching activities to raise much needed funds for our Scholarship and Charitable Funds.

The **Public Relations (PR), Communications & Membership Committee** will be co-chaired by Brenda Agard Alleyne, Carol Joseph and Joel Murray. The mandate of the committee is to broaden the TTAO's visibility and promote the association's activities to forge stronger ties with and among its members and the general public.

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As well, they inform members of the aims and objectives of the TTAO, advise them of their membership benefits and work towards expansion of the membership base.

The Social Committee will be co-chaired by Ingrid John-Baptiste and Carol Joseph. The mandate of the Social Committee is to organize and execute events hosted by the TTAO with efficiency and fiscal responsibility, while respecting the guiding principles that are reflective of the Association.

Your participation on any one of our committees is always welcome. Please contact us if any peaks your interest.

TTAO Activities for 2013-2014

DECEMBER 2013

Sunday December 15: Children's Christmas Party

Saturday December 28: Holiday Season Soiree

JANUARY 2014

Sunday January 26: Walk for Memories

APRIL 2014

Friday April 11: TTAO General Meeting

Friday April 25: Book Launch - Curry Cascadoo

MAY 2014

Saturday May 31: Indian Arrival Day

JUNE 2014

Sunday June 15: Tribute to the Mighty Sparrow

JULY 2014

Thursday July 3: Night at the Races

Sunday July 27: Family Fun Day - Kites for Cancer

AUGUST 2014

Saturday August 23: TRINBAGO Day

SEPTEMBER 2014

Saturday September 20: Republic Day Dinner and Dance

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Children's Christmas Party

For the festive season, the Trinidad & Tobago Association of Ottawa (TTAO) will be hosting a Children's Christmas party on December 15th, 2013 at the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, 200 First Avenue, Ottawa. We are inviting you to bring your children/grandchildren to join the fun in true Trini style.

Parents are asked to bring a wrapped gift, costing no more than \$20, with their child's name clearly marked on it which will be given to them by Santa.

A donation of no less than \$5.00 per child will be collected to help offset the cost of hosting the event. Donations can be provided to any member of the executive before the event. As exchange of funds is not permitted on the premises of the Chancery, if you intend to submit your donation on December 15th you are asked to place it in an envelope and provide to a member of the executive or Culture & Recreation Committee.

Light refreshments will be served and exciting, fun-filled games will be played with gifts for all participants.

To facilitate catering, a response by December 1st, 2013 will be appreciated along with the name, gender and age of each child.

For information:

Tel.: 613-744-8199; 613-723-0785

Past Activities: Independence Dinner & Dance

On **Saturday September 7, 2013**, close to two hundred members and friends of the TTAO gathered at the Tudor Hall to celebrate the 51st anniversary of the Independence of Trinidad & Tobago.

Included among the guests were His Worship, Mayor Jim Watson, who brought greetings on behalf of the City of Ottawa and Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service, Charles Bordeleau. Also in attendance were presidents and representation from various community associations in the National Capital Region. Mr. Capil Bissoon, Coordinating Officer, brought greetings on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad Tobago in the absence of The Trinidad and Tobago High Commissioner, His Excellency Philip Buxo.

The Guest Speaker for the event was Mrs. Erica Williams-Connell, who delivered an insightful and thought provoking address on the progress our twin island state has made since independence.

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The entertainment portion of the evening included steelpan performances by Eddie Alleyne during the cocktail hour, an amazing vocal and musical performance by Miss Angelique Francis and a scintillating steelpan interlude by Jean-Sebastien Lacombe. This trio brought their professional game to the event!

Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Keith Whittier, who effectively and cleverly threaded all the activities of the evening together.

After the formal proceedings and a very tasty and satisfying meal, the night culminated with dancing to the vibrant music that can only be supplied by our very own D.J. David Supersound.

Based on the feedback received from those in attendance, the evening was declared an overwhelming success.

In Memory of.....



The Trinidad & Tobago Association of Ottawa lost yet another one of its members with the passing of **Dr. Rudolph Ormsby Gittens** on September 18, 2013.

Dr. Gittens, a legendary sports medicine physician, was well known in Ottawa for his work with the Ottawa Rough Riders. He served as the team doctor for more than 20 years. He also worked in the same capacity with the Ottawa 67s. In 1984 Dr. Gittens took on a similar role with Canada's national soccer teams.

Internationally, Dr. Gittens served on sports medical committees, including committees for the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Football Tournament, the FIFA Women's World Cup USA 1999 and three successive FIFA World Cups from 1998. In 2007, he was the general medical officer for the FIFA U-20 World Cup Canada, which was held in six cities across Canada including Ottawa.

He was inducted into the Soccer Hall of Fame in 2007, after being part of the Canadian teams that won CONCACAF championships in 1985 and 2000. He was also a member of the CONCACAF Hall of Fame and worked as a volunteer leading the Canadian Soccer Association Medical Committee for more than 20 years.

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Born in Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Gittens moved to Saskatchewan at the age of 21. He obtained pharmaceutical and medical degrees from the University of Saskatchewan before earning a fellow in orthopaedics from the University of Ottawa.

Rudy Gittens was a man of integrity, respect and compassion. His brilliant mind, infectious humour and warm, caring manner left a lasting impact on all who came into contact with him. We extend our sincere condolences to Dr. Gittens' family and loved ones.

Did you Know...?

Some interesting Trinidad and Tobago facts...

1. Trinidad and Tobago Carnival has been consistently ranked as one of the top ten Carnival celebrations in the world. It is popularly known as 'The Greatest Show on Earth'. Claudia Jones, the founder of the Notting Hill Carnival, Europe's largest street festival, hails from Trinidad and Tobago.
 2. The limbo dance originated as an event that took place at wakes in Trinidad and Tobago, but became internationally renowned through the work of Julia Edwards and her dance company in the 1960s.
 3. Trinidad and Tobago's Dr. Joseph Lennox Pawan achieved international acclaim for the discovery of the transmission of the rabies virus by vampire bats. This led to the development of a vaccine for the virus.
 4. Trinidad and Tobago's Brian Charles Lara holds the record for the highest individual score in a test innings (400 not out against England, Antigua 2004). He is also the only batsman to have ever scored a hundred, a double century, a triple century, a quadruple century and a quintuple century in first class games over the course of a senior career.
 5. The Trinidadian accent ranks 10th on the CNN's top ten sexiest accents in the world.
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On the Bookshelf...Interesting Reads:

For Children:

The Color of my Words by Lynn Joseph

Twelve-year-old Ana Rosa is a blossoming writer growing up in the Dominican Republic, a country where words are feared. Yet there is so much inspiration all around her -- watching her brother search for a future, learning to dance and to love, and finding out what it means to be part of a community -- that Ana Rosa must write it all down. As she struggles to find her own voice and a way to make it heard, Ana Rosa realizes the power of her words to transform the world around her and to transcend the most unthinkable of tragedies.

For Adults:

Boundaries by Elizabeth Nunez

A moving and spirited story of Caribbean-born Anna Sinclair's efforts to find love and foster a successful career as a book editor, all the while caring for her aging parents.

Available at the Ottawa Public Library and at Chapters and Indigo bookstores.

On the Internet...Interesting Links:

Last train to San Fernando.....literally
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdkz-rZs3s0>

Alphabet of Trinidad and Tobago.
http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=_uLUHqj1264&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D_uLUHqj1264

How "Badjohn" became a word.
<http://www.socawarriors.net/forum/index.php?topic=60269.0>

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What's on Around Town!

Tune in:

Saturdays - CHUO 89.1FM (www.chuo.fm) and CKCU 93.1FM (www.ckcufm.com)

African, Caribbean and Latin American music and news.

Joe Sounds Calypso Oldies: Internet Radio featuring Calypso, Soca and Reggae (www.LIVE365.com)

Events of Interest:

Santa Claus Parade

The Ottawa Professional Fire Fighters Association will hold their 44th Help Santa Claus Parade on November 23rd from 11:00 a.m. For information and the parade route visit <http://toyparade.org/>

Santa's Parade of Lights Orleans

Once again the Ottawa Professional Firefighters Association will be hosting SANTA'S PARADE OF LIGHTS on Saturday November 30th at 6 p.m. on St-Joseph Blvd. in Orleans.

The Mayor's Annual Christmas Party at City Hall

December 7, 2013

3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Ice skating on the Rink of Dreams, hot chocolate and horse-drawn wagon rides outside on Marion Dewar Plaza. Meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, create a craft in Santa's workshop, have your face painted, and enjoy live performances.

Santa's Theatre

3:10 - 3:20 p.m. Storytelling by Santa's Elves

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Ottawa Children's Choir

4:15 - 4:45 p.m. Atlantic Voices

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Movie- A Charlie Brown Christmas (English)

5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Movie- Joyeux Noël Charlie Brown (French)

6:30 - 6:45 p.m. Storytelling by Santa's Elves

Admission to this sponsored event is a non-perishable food donation to the Ottawa Food Bank.

OC Transpo will offer free bus rides on all routes to and from City Hall from 2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to children 11 years and under when accompanied by a fare-paying adult.

Call 3-1-1 for more information.

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Christmas Lights Across Canada

December 5, 2013 to January 6, 2014

Thousands of lights will light up downtown Ottawa & Gatineau

Carriage Rides & Holiday Choirs on the Byward Market

Saturdays and Sundays - December 5 and 6, 12 and 13, 19 and 20
12 noon - 4 p.m.

Stop by the corner of George and ByWard to listen to great local choirs who are raising funds for their organizations and creating some holiday cheer!

Free Horse Drawn Carriage Rides every Saturday & Sunday before Christmas during the month of December from 1 p.m. to 4p.m. Register early in front of the Moulin de Provence at York St and ByWard.

Alight at Night

Upper Canada Village

December 6, 2013 to January 4, 2014

The heritage buildings are all lit up (over half a million lights). You can take a horse drawn wagon ride, visit the life size Gingerbread House or take a toy train ride. For more details

visit <http://www.uppercanadavillage.com/index.cfm/en/activities/alight-at-night/>.

8 Ways my Mother was Conceived

written and performed by Michaela Di Cesare, Directed by Tamara Brown.

November 19-23 at the Gladstone Theatre, 910 Gladstone Avenue, Ottawa.

This play centers around a young Italian-Canadian woman (Di Cesare) who goes through a breakup. As her life begins to veer off script, the young protagonist goes on a quest to discover the truth behind her mother's legendary conception.

This is the second run for 8 Ways my Mother was Conceived, having been performed initially at the Montreal Fringe festival last year. Since then, with the help of a funding award and local institutions such as Playwrights Workshop Montreal, the play has been re-written and re-worked and has taken a more minimalist approach with the help of a different director, Tamara Brown. Tamara is the daughter of one of our Ottawa nationals, Nancy Coelho.

Visit www.thegladstone.ca for further details.

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Baccanalle for Christmas

Baccanalle is a new local catering and prepared foods company specializing in Caribbean and Soul inspired food with healthy choice options. In preparation for the festive season, check out the Baccanalle Holiday Menu for all of your Trini favourites and more, including sorrel, sweetbread, callaloo and fruitcake.

Visit www.baccanalle.com or call (613) 859-6297 for more information.

Call for New Members

To enhance what the TTAO can do for the community, we need your support. Support us by becoming a member. New members are always welcome! Does an event or committee peak your interest? If you are 16 years of age or older, looking to get involved, then consider becoming a member and joining a committee that interests you the most.

Feedback

Interested in contributing to the next newsletter? Would you like to provide comments or suggestions to the TTAO? Send us an email, write us a letter or put a posting on our Facebook page and tell us what you think!

The Trinidad & Tobago Association of Ottawa



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*invites you to
their
Holiday Season Soiree
at
The Chimo Hotel
1199 Joseph Cyr Street, Gloucester
(Opposite the St.Laurent Shopping Centre)
on
Saturday, December 28, 2013
from
8:00 p.m. 1:00 a.m.*

Admission: \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door



*Tickets & Information:
613-834-1718; 613-850-0870; 613-834-4282
(Light Hors D'oeuvres will be served)*

Dress: Semi-Formal

ALZHEIMER "WALK FOR MEMORIES" 2014

In an effort to enhance our contribution to the community and raise the visibility of the TTAO, we will be registering a team to participate in the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa Renfrew's Walk for Memories on Sunday January 26, 2014.

While there is no fee to register, each participant or group is expected to fundraise in order to contribute to the cause and raise awareness. Fundraising dollars fuel the mission-related initiatives of care, support and research. Through fundraising and participation in the event, the TTAO can help heighten Alzheimer's awareness in our local community.

Join

TEAM T&T

Sunday, January 26, 2014

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Carleton University Fieldhouse, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa

Registration process

Our Team Captain is Linda Prevost

- Linda has officially registered Team T&T
- Anyone willing to participate may **Join Team T&T** (accept the waiver and click on "Join an existing team") on-line or by notifying the association using the contact information provided below
- If you are unable to participate but wish to make a donation to Team T&T, you may do so on-line by notifying the association using the contact information provided below
- Participants will be asked to wear a red T-shirt on the day of the walk. Further details will be provided about our team logo in the near future

Contact information: Email: Imdprevost@hotmail.com or tandtassociation@gmail.com or **Tel.:**613-834-1718