



Hairouna Times

A quarterly newsletter from the St. Vincent & the Grenadines Nationals Association of Washington, D.C.

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Hairouna Times

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Last year's church service



Gift basket prize at the dance



Tasty cuisine



Honors and awards

Be a Part of Our Independence Week 2007 Album!

We kick off this year's Independence activities with our annual church service on Sunday, October 21, 2007 at Holy Comforter Church. Pastor Michael Jeffrey Nicholls, originally from

Kingstown, is Associate Pastor at Brooklyn Faith Seventh Day Adventist Church and will be the guest preacher. A reception in the Fellowship Hall follows.

The Independence Dinner/Dance will be held on

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The President's Corner

Lennox Simon



Dear Friends:

As we are about to celebrate St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Twenty-Eighth anniversary of Independence, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines Nationals Association's (SVGNA) nineteenth year since its formation, I am pleased to extend warm Independence greetings to all of our fellow nationals, sponsors and friends.

As we reflect on the past 28 years since St. Vincent and the Grenadines attained political independence from Great Britain, Vincentians at home and here in the Diaspora must feel a great sense of pride at what we have accomplished at the domestic, regional and international levels. Our local economy has developed from an agriculturally-based agrarian economy into a more developed and progressive economy. Our nation has made and continues to make significant progress in sectors such as Education, Tourism, and Offshore Banking and Financial Services. The

development of these sectors of our economy has allowed our nation to become a more diversified economy and not a single market economy totally dependent on the cultivation and export of agricultural produce. Moreover, we have taken our place as full members of regional and international institutions such as: the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Caribbean Community Common Market (CARICOM), the Organization of American States (OAS), and the United Nations (UN), thereby promoting the observance of international law.

In this context, we are pleased with our participation this past June 19-21, 2007, in Washington, D.C. during the historic "Conference on the Caribbean: a 20/20 Vision" and during the town hall meetings with Diaspora associations that preceded the Conference. During this conference, the Caribbean Diaspora played a significant role, making presentations on issues affecting deportees, trade, tourism, health and wellness, the environment, remittances, security, Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) and the deepening of the integration process through the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) advances. There is also a more acute awareness of the impact that the actions of the members of the Diaspora can have as stakeholders in the CARICOM-U.S. relations.

On behalf of the executive board and members of SVGNA, please join me in saying thanks to our many sponsors, friends and well-wishers who have supported us during the past nineteen years, and who have pledged to continue doing so in years to come. I encourage all nationals to join SVGNA and become active in the development of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Have a peaceful and enjoyable 28th Independence.



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[Independence Week 2007]

Saturday, October 27. We will be honoring three individuals that night--Kenley "Shortmus" John, Godfred Pompey and Robert "Bobby" Adams. Tickets to the event include cocktail hors d'oeuvres, dinner and drinks, and are available for \$75 per person. Pan Masters will provide musical entertainment during the cocktail hour. This year several of our door prizes will be donated by a sponsor. Thank you to all our sponsors who help make this event a huge success!

See the calendar of events at the end of this newsletter, and our website, for times and locations.

Farewell Reception

August 2007



Recently, **Ambassador Ellsworth I. A. John** demitted office in Washington and returned home to St. Vincent and the Grenadines to continue his government service. To commemorate his six years of ambassadorial service in Washington, SVGNA hosted a farewell reception in his honor in August. The evening event was held at the ambassadorial residence in Cabin John, Maryland. Members of the diplomatic corps were in attendance to join in the well wishes, including Ambassador Marina Valere of Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana's Ambassador Bayney Karran.

We wish the John family the best as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

SVGNA Family Picnic



Rain stayed at bay for SVGNA's annual family picnic this past August in Rock Creek Park. We were back at our traditional lot location, which allowed plenty of open space for the children's field games. It also meant ample room for the adults' football (soccer) game and tug of war.



SVG artist Lively (pictured below, left) was on hand to showcase his CD, "We Drinking."

Thank you to all who joined us, in conjunction with the Grenada Cultural and Social Association.

Other Organizations' Upcoming Events

- Holy Comforter Episcopal Church
Dinner Dance--November 2
Washington, D.C.
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organization of Pennsylvania
Dinner & Dance--November 3
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- St. John's Episcopal Church
Vincy Night--November 10
Mount Rainier, Maryland

Married Away

Canouan Island of St. Vincent and the Grenadines was the site of an upcoming episode of "Married Away." This TV program on cable's Style Network profiles couples who choose to have destination weddings. It airs Tuesday, October 30, with repeat episodes on later days.

Correction

In the last newsletter, the Girls High School centennial website should have read <http://GHSAA.homestead.com/globalsummit.html>.

Calendar of Events 2007



Sunday, October 21 10:30 am
Independence Church Service
Holy Comforter Church
Washington, D.C.

Saturday, October 27 6:30 pm
Independence Dinner/Dance
Organization of Amer. States
Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, November 7 7:00 pm
SVGNA General Meeting
Holy Comforter Church
Washington, D.C.

Saturday, December 8 TBD
Children's Christmas Party
Holy Comforter Church
Washington, D.C.

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