



# ERS Engine Room Section

*A Caribbean-American Cultural Not-For-profit Organization*

**“Together As One”**

[www.engineerroomsection.com](http://www.engineerroomsection.com)

617-524-0539

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## Inside this Issue

- 1 Essay Competition  
Special recognition
- 2 A night to remember  
Saying goodbye to 2002  
ERS remembers the year
- 3 ERS remembers the year  
cont'd

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## ERS ESSAY CONTEST

ERS will be hosting an essay contest in celebration of our Caribbean heritage and Black History month. All children from Elementary to High School are eligible. The essay must be based on an African Caribbean figure (male or female), whose contributions have changed the course of a Caribbean Island or the region. The essay must be in Standard English, and while a minimum of 1,000 words is desirable, essays not attaining the criteria will be entertained.

A sample list of Caribbean personalities include, from Jamaica: Marcus Garvey, Paul Bogle, Michael Manley, Norman Bustamante, Everton Weekes, and Bob Marley. From Haiti: Mackandal, Dessalines, Toussaint L'Ouverture, Henri Christophe and “Papa Doc” Duvalier. From Trinidad: Uriah Butler, Captain Arthur Cipriani, Eric Williams, Makandal Daaga, Albert Gomes, Dr. Ellie Mannette, Winston “Spree” Simon, Claude Noel, Hasley Crawford, Brian Lara, and Anthony Williams. From Barbados: Sir Grantley Adams, Sir Garfield Sobers, Emile Straker and the Merry Men. From Grenada, Maurice Bishop, Eric Geary and Dame Hilda Bynoe. Of course there are many more, and the essays are not limited to the above.

Judging will be based on knowledge of the subject matter, grammar, punctuation, expression and writing style. The judges will include a Caribbean journalist, a High School teacher from a Boston Public School and the executive Board of ERS.

The prize for the essays judged to be the best will be a US Savings Bond and the publication of the essay in this newsletter.

All essays should be submitted to ERS by email or postmarked no later than June 30, 2003. Any posted essays will not be returned. The essays must include the full name, date of birth, address, telephone number and other contact information on the cover page. The written approval of a parent is also required.

All children or relatives of the ERS Executive Committee are not eligible for any prizes, though their essays will be entertained.

## Special Recognition

Much love and respect goes out to Tom, Carol and all the members of the Grenada Social & Cultural Organization on the success of their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Black Tie Affair held at Lombardo's in Randolph on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Your steadfast commitment

and hard work to bring the Hospital to fruition will pay off.

The members of ERS are the proud recipients of the Cambridge Carnival fourth place award for the parade of bands competition of 2002. The plaque occupies a prominent place at our mas camp. Much thanks to Nicola and her board members, keep up the good work. Big props to the Toronto Massive for bringing home the bacon. Plans are currently in the works to have discounted hospitality packages available for Boston/Cambridge Carnival 2003 at the Hotel at MIT. Contact Rhythm & Spice for further details (617) 497-4308.

### **A Night To Remember**

On Friday October 25, 2002, Skiffle Bunch Steel Orchestra of Trinidad and Tobago treated Bostonians to a once in a lifetime steel orchestra performance. The event was the collaborative effort of Selwyn R. Cudjoe, professor of African Studies at Wellesley College and Founder and President of the National Association for the Empowerment of African People (NAEAP), and Mr. Paul Lewis, one of the founding members of Unity Sports and Cultural Club. The MC for the event was Sprangalang, one of Trinidad and Tobago's comedic ambassadors. Sprangalang is also famous for the song "Two Chords". As an Afro-Trinidadian and one who boldly professes to be "Trini to the bone", I must confess that this was the first time I (personally) ever heard steel pan music sound so sweet. Every note was sharp

and crystal clear and each member of the seven piece orchestra did a solo rendition that made all in attendance weak in the knees and sent chills up the spine. We would like to urge the organizers to do this again. This event was a qualitative success by all standards.

### **Saying goodbye to 2002**

As we wind down the last days of 2002, we would like to wish our friends and family all the best for the New Year. Lets take stock of our blessings and thank our Creator for granting us another day and year to be the best person/organization we can be. Engine Room Section (ERS) made it through 2002 on account of the invaluable support and sacrifice of all of our members, friends, family, associates and sponsors. Without your assistance we, ERS, would cease to exist. The outpouring of generosity comes from so many that it's virtually impossible to thank you all individually, but we will try to do a better job of acknowledging your support in the future. However, in the meantime we would like to give thanks and praise to everyone who attended our Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> "Old Time Something Come Back Again" function at Unity Sports Club and formally thank the management team of Unity for positively receiving our request to have this function. Special thanks must be given to Digital Seduction for coming on board the card at the last minute and performing admirably under the circumstances. The contributions of Cassanova (Conrad and Curt), Junior Rodigan, DJ Glen and

Mr. Hudson was what we have grown accustomed to – Stellar and beyond reproach. We are looking forward to repeating this format, but all the logistics are yet to be worked out. Stay tuned for future updates. We would be remiss if we did not mention the positive patronage we received from the Grog Sippers Crew (Waynie, Flexy, Sleepy, Plenty and Groover) and the entire Brooklyn contingent that supported us – Much respect! Our "Second Annual Member Appreciation Fete" on Friday, November 15 at Somerville Holiday Inn was well attended and very enjoyable. However, we are looking for suggestions on how to improve this function. Special thanks must be given to Maureen Minichello, Michael Pelosi and the Holiday Inn management team for providing the space and means to make this event possible. Formal recognition is in order for PJ Adamson "The Panjammer", Uncle P, Jamming Joe Johnson, and the fellas who we here at ERS call the "Good Fellas Crew" or GFC for short – Digital Seduction, Ox, Winnie and Anton for going the extra mile to make this event a success. Peace be with you and Jah Bless.

### **ERS Remembers The Year**

Our annual band launching on Sunday, July 14 at the Mas Camp 19/21 Atherton Street in Roxbury was our most successful launching to date. The weather was perfect and the gathering of supporters, friends and family gave the event a special feel and quality, which we plan to maintain for next year's event. The music of the Mudd band road DJ, DJ Glen and the special guest

appearance of Digital Seduction created a musical vibe that is still reverberating in the ears of everyone who attended the launching. God willing, we look forward to seeing you all next year. **The band launching next year will be Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003 same time, same place.** So, save the date. We thank each and everyone for making the launching a fun, safe and uplifting community affair. Special recognition goes out to our members, Prince, brother Bully, Kevin, April and our always-accommodating sister Cissy. We could not have pulled it off without you. Big Up!!!

On Friday, July 19 a group of thirty ERS supporters and members took an overnight bus trip to Mohegan Sun Casino in Connecticut and enjoyed a night of gaming experience. The Mohegans (our Native American brethren & sistren) definitely took a loss on that particular night. The game of choice was Caribbean Stud Poker, a real moneymaker for the experienced gambler. And at dinner time the complimentary buffet was KO'ed like Mike Tyson in his last fight with Lennox Lewis. As a matter of fact, the Head Chef wonders, "how come they ran out of food?" To say a good time was had by all is an enormous understatement, and we are looking forward to making this an annual affair. Stay tuned for the date and time of the next Casino Bus Ride. Special thanks to Mrs. Thomas and family, Tony and family, C. Forde, Lorna and friends, Cynthia Coker and family, Mr. Duntin, Laureen, Marina, Natty and Sandra, the Framingham Crew and the ERS

contingent that made the trip. You are all winners.

On Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup> ERS hosted a "Count Down to Carnival" fete at Unity and we were pleasantly surprised by the turn out we received, in light of the fact that Krosfyah and Machel Montano were performing at William E. Reed auditorium on the same night. We consciously try to avoid these conflicts, but this was one of those rare instances where it was unavoidable. However, we would like to thank our many supporters and friends who attended the event and give special acknowledgment to the musical wizardry of Digital Seduction, DJ Glen, Junior Rodigan, Ground Zero Sound System and Hudson Samuel. Special props must be given to Sandra Kennedy and the entire Unity management team. The overall success and quality of this event provided the proper vibe and "groundwork" to carry ERS through a spectacular Carnival Week. ERS came out of this event on such a high that we proceeded to win the coveted King competition at the annual King and Queen show the following Friday night, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at White Stadium. This victory is a first for the "Mudd Band" and we would like to take this opportunity to recognize the judges for being impartial and objective in their deliberations of the competition. We are still receiving fan mail for the King with the golden posterior. We will be back next year to defend our title. Roz, Martin, Jesse and Bertie you are the best and we here at ERS dedicate

R.Kelly's "World's Greatest" to you. And detractors remember this "who vex loss". Much respect to all the other bandleaders who toiled many countless nights to complete their costumes for this competition, your efforts did not go unnoticed. Keep up the fantastic work. Special shout out to D'Horizon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dimension, D'Midas, T&T Social Club, Soca & Associates, Unity, Mas Women & Men and all the others who work tirelessly to make Boston Carnival Week a smashing success.

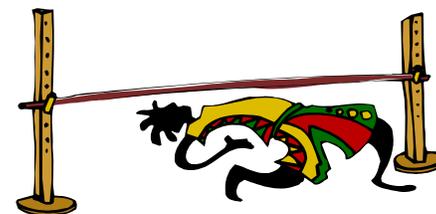
### Display Ads

**Half Page (7 1/2" W x 4 3/4" H) - \$100**

**One fourth Page (3 1/4" W x 4 3/4" H) - \$50**

**1/8 Page (3 1/4" W x 2 1/4" H) - \$25**

**If typesetting and layout is desired ads will be billed at an additional \$25.00 per hour. ERS reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.**



## ERS Boston 2003 Carnival Presentation

“Out Of Africa

All-inclusive Cost \$50.00 Adults

25.00 Kids

50% deposit required

See a picture of our 2003 costume in our June newsletter and on our website.

Call 617-524-0539 for more information

*As it is an objective of ERS for its Newsletter to be a forum for the free expression and interchange of ideas, statement of positions or expressions of opinion appearing herein are those of the authors and not by the fact of publication necessarily those of ERS, and likewise, the publication of any advertisement is not to be construed as an endorsement of the product or service offered unless it is specifically stated in the ad that there is such approval or endorsement.*

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