



ERS Engine Room Section

A Caribbean-American Cultural Not-For-profit Organization

“Together As One”

www.engineerroomsection.com

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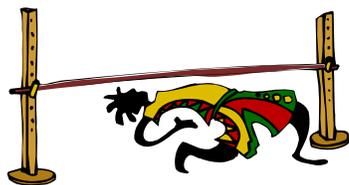
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ERS UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Saturday April 23 “Soca Wall To Wall”** 4th Annual Spring Fling @ Unity 10 Dunbar Avenue, Dorchester. Music By: Mad Man Maddy (NYC) and Tilden Hall Fame, Digital Seduction, and Sound Inc. Family. See enclosed Flyer.
- **Saturday May 14 “Steel & Brass Fete”** @ Unity 10 Dunbar Av., Dorchester. Music By: Volume II Steelband, Explosion Brass Band & Digital Seduction.
- **Friday July 8 “The Darkest Night, Wear Black”** @ Unity. Music By: Digital Seduction, Sound Inc., Love TKO and DJ Glen Direct from Orlando FL.
- **Sunday July 10 “Band-Launching”** @ 19/21 Atherton Street, Roxbury (Egleston Square). Music By: DJ Glen & Digital Seduction.
- **Friday August 19 “Boss-Town Carnival Back to Skool Jamm”** @ Prince Hall 24 Washington Street, Dorchester. Music By: King Papa Rocky & Digital Seduction (Discounted Admission w/ School Uniform – Island Style).
- **Saturday September 10 “Bus Ride Long Island Carnival”** Tickets go on sale July 10.
- **Friday October 21 “Ole Time Something Come Back Again”** @ Unity. Music By: Digital Seduction & Sound Inc.

DEDICATION

This issue is dedicated to the memory, contribution and everlasting spirit of these fallen leaders and members of our vibrant Caribbean community. The many contributions and insights they provided will most assuredly carry all of us, who had the good fortune of coming in contact with them, along the path of righteousness. We pray, and know, that our Maker and Savior have brought them safely home.

- Donna Baptiste-Hardy – November 4, 1956 to January 8, 2005
- Jennifer Castle – January 28, 1948 to January 29, 2005
- Kenneth “Dada” Oliver Bancroft – November 2, 1918 to February 10, 2005
- Leanfield Therasa Mapp-Holder – August 11, 1929 to March 8, 2005
- Carlton Alexander Cummings – April 30, 1929 to March 20, 2005
- Margaret Rose Douglas – July 2, 1949 to March 20, 2005

To all the surviving family members, friends and loved ones we wish you peace, strength, wisdom and courage to follow through on the rich legacies our departed ones have left for us. Our faith in the Almighty makes all things possible, so keep the faith and stay positive. Lord Blakie, Sundar Popo, Roaring Lion, Johnny Cochran and Keith “Sheppy” Shepherd rest in peace.

ERS New Ph#: 617-759-7134

Engine Room Section

AKA THE MUDD BAND PRESENTS

"Soca Wall to Wall"

4th ANNUAL SPRING FLING

SATURDAY APRIL 23, 2005

UNITY SPORTS & CULTURAL CLUB

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www.engineeromsection.com/www.islandmix.com For Info.

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ERS Interest Slip

Clip and return to the ERS address on page 1

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____, the best times to reach me are:

Other way(s) to contact me: _____

Check all items that apply

I am interested in the mail list, playing 'mas' with ERS,

writing an article for the newsletter

ERS GIFT SHOP

While supplies last

- ERS polo shirts...\$20.00
- ERS Hats/caps\$12.00
- Rags (get ready for carnival)\$5.00

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ODE TO JENNIFER

By Robert 'Sam' Saldenha

How many of yuh can remember ah friend

*Playing mas right down to the end
Then yuh left to mourn when she is gone.*

“Memories”

Francisco Slinger (Mighty Sparrow)

Whenever I remember Jennifer Corinthia Castle, I remember netball. She probably would have made Trinidad & Tobago netball team if she had not emigrated to the United States of America. She was that good.

Although I went to Richmond Street Boys E.C. School, and she to Duke Street Girls E.C. School (now St. Catherine's), literally a stone throw away, I cannot ever remember seeing her in that uniform. We met when we started attending Wood brook Government Secondary School on French Street, and Jennifer, then Nurse, always had the class in stitches with some witty remark. She knew how “to shoo sh**t*”, she was a star. It was not until I met her brother “Skadoose”, that I realized from where she got it. If she was a star, he was a master. It was always three of them, Jennifer, Claudette and Skadoose. She had another brother – Fred – who is now living in Canada. She started going to big parties before most of us in the school (Skadoose again), and on Mondays, she would be telling all the guys, “you all are little boys, when you start going to parties, talk to me”. However, it was in Netball that she made her name as the school captain. We were fortunate enough to have Lystra Lewis

introduce the game to us, and soon Woodbrook was beating the hell out of St. Crispins, St. James and Diego Martin Secondary, by huge margins; and when ah say huge, ah mean huge. On one occasion St. Crispins did not see their way to score one point, we on the other hand scored thirty-four. We literally taught the other two schools to play netball, and Jennifer was the chief goal scorer. She was “bad”. Cheryl Peters, who played under her, went on to captain the Trinidad & Tobago team, and trust me, Cheryl though good, was not at Jennifer's level in school.

I lost track of her during the 70's, though I would see her ever so often when she returned for carnival. However, we rekindle our friendship when I move to Boston. Jennifer probably played in more steelbands than most of us (Skadoose again). In 1960 she played with City Symphony (me too), later Invaders, Starlift, and I remember seeing her in “Hilanders” one year. However, she always remained true to Starlift, she and Claudette bringing their section on Monday. Whenever anyone mentioned that I was sick, she would steups and say, “doh bother wid he, he ain't going to die, he had the whole school praying for him when he was to die”. She was referring to a year when I was on the other side, but came back.

Jennifer, where ever you are compe, just for you, the mudd band coming with real fire, dis year.

“Love thy neighbor...”

THINGS TO DO & HEAR

- **Every Friday Riddim Rider** @ The Lodge 110 Norwell St., Dorchester (corner of Harvard). Call 617-799-3181 for info.
- **Sunday May 1 “Spring Steelbands Concert”** @ Prince Hall 24 Washington St., Dorchester. Music By: Crystal Panjammers, St. Cyprian's Steelband & Branches Steel Orchestra. Call Bro. Justin 617-445-5311 for tickets & info.
- **Saturday June 4 “One Family, Musical Healing”** @ The Lodge 110 Norwell Street (corner of Harvard) Dorchester. Music By: Digital Seduction & Riddim Rider.
- **New England Revolution** 2005 (10th Anniversary) season is upon us and Trinidadian National Avery John, Jamaican National Marshall Leonard and Grenadian National Shalrie Joseph would love our support at the games this year. Contact 1-877-438-7387 or visit www.revolutionsoccer.net for tickets & info.
- **“Paradise”** New CD by singer, songwriter & guitarist Patti DeRosa is now available. Call 781-986-6150 or visit www.pattiderosa.com for sales & info.
- **Xango** “The Miracle Drug of the 21st Century” On sale now. Contact Mr. Abel 917-608-5994 or visit www.Xango.com.
- **Explosion Band** “The Hottest Local Brass Band” available

Things To Do And Hear Cont'd

for all occasions: weddings, christenings, birthday parties, anniversaries, picnics, frolics, feasts, confirmations, baptisms, and bar mitzvahs, “you name it Explosion Band will play it”. Contact Kris 617-474-0483 for bookings.

- **Rum Till I Die Soccer Club (SC)** calling all drinkers and recovering drinkers to support the local Fete Match Team this season. Contact Brian 617-407-2928 for shots (as in glass, not goals) on how you can support the cause.
- **Sunday July 3, 2005** “Boat Ride” on board the Spirit of Boston. Contact TKO for info 617-265-8911.
- **Saturday July 17, 2005** “**Soca & Associates Band-Launching**” @ 41 Mt. Ida Road, Dorchester. Call Ossie or Margaret 617-265-3005 for info.
- **Saturday July 30, 2005** “Caribana – Toronto Carnival”. Play Mas with Bazodee Connection portraying “Divinity in Golden Splendor”. Call Cecil 416-895-0286 or visit bazodeeconnection@rogers.com for info. Costumes on sale now!!!
- **Friday July 29 to Sunday July 31** “Toronto Carnival Jam Bus Ride”. (\$245.00 Per Person). Contact Mr. King 781-363-3989 for Info & Reservation.
- **Trini-Bashment (91.9FM)** Soca Music on the internet 24/7 @ www.trinibashment.cjb.net or pointalive.com. Tune in and feel the Soca Vibe.

- **Boston Carnival on the Web.** Visit www.bostoncarnival.org for info on Boston Carnival 2005. Big Mike and Lennard Communications keep up the outstanding work for the love of our culture.

HAITI WE SORRY

By Mudd Man

“...When there is anguish in Port au Prince, It's still Africa crying. We're outing fires in far away place, when our neighbors are just burning. They say the middle passage is gone, so how come overcrowded boats still haunt our lives. I refuse to believe that we good people would forever turn our hearts and eyes away...Haiti I'm sorry, we misunderstood you. One day we'll turn our heads and look inside you. One day we'll turn our heads and restore your glory.” (Lyrics from David Rudder, Haiti 1988)

The love we have for our Haitian brethren and sistren has never wavered and the test of time is and will be ample proof of the admiration we have for Haiti. However, the disruptive behavior of a few descendants of the great Toussaint L'Ouverture, for the past five years, during the Trinidad-Style Boston Carnival is unacceptable and will not be tolerated any longer.

Haiti we are sorry, but the disruptive actions taken by members of the group “T-Vice” last year to willingly hold-up the smooth procession of the parade by stopping at the intersection of Cheney Street and Bluehill Avenue for 45 minutes, which caused several legitimately registered carnival bands to not reach the reviewing stage, is

unacceptable and will not be tolerated any longer.

Haiti we are sorry, that efforts taken by the Boston Carnival Committee and the Boston Police Department to amicably work with several of our community and civic leaders, among them State Representative Marie St. Fleur and City Councilor Chuck Turner, have failed to produce any positive impact on your anti-social and disruptive behavior during the Carnival. We all share the same passion and enthusiasm you have for Carnival, but none of us share the aggressively roguish and downright criminal manner in which you go about imposing your will on the Carnival Committee, Boston Police Department, Public Officials and fellow Carnival Participants. This pattern of behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated any longer.

Haiti we are sorry, but in 2003 when one of your representative bands illegally entered the parade route at the intersection of Quincy and Warren Street, in clear violations of the rules and regulations of the Carnival Committee, we all stood in awe of the bold-faced nature in which you cause the Boston Police Department, under the supervision of then Deputy Superintendent Bobby Johnson, to acquiesced and allow you onto the parade route. We later learn from representatives of the Police Department that their decision, to allow you onto the route, was made in order to avoid: 1) a riot, (2) a breach of public safety and (3) any harm to the hard-earned good reputation of the Carnival. Once again, this pattern of

Haiti We Are Sorry Cont'd

lawlessness is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Haiti we are sorry, now is not the time to air the five-year litany of transgressions you have committed against the Carnival Committee, the Boston Police Department, the community and civic leaders, the other masquerade (Mas) bands, and more importantly the decent residents of the Caribbean/American community of which you are a part of. However, we are concerned and would like to know: 1) Why during the Haitian Day Parade it appears that parade participants and onlookers are on their best behavior and order is the rule of the day? And 2) could it be that the disruptive behavior and lawlessness is intentionally reserved for Boston Carnival Day?

Haiti we are sorry, there is a time and place for everything and believe us the time has come for you to stop all the anti-social, disruptive and lawless behavior aimed at destroying our Trinidad-Style Boston Carnival. The situation has reached the point where the imposition of an immediate ban on your participation in the Carnival is a realistic option with majority support from all the stakeholders involved in making our Carnival a successful cultural and community event. Whatever personal differences that this minority rogue element within the Haitian community may have with individual members of the Carnival Committee or officers of

the Boston Police Department should be dealt with on a private level, and in no way, shape or form have any negative public impact on the other law abiding Masquerade (Mas) Bands' participation in Carnival.

Haiti we are sorry, but last year Engine Room Section's ability to pass the reviewing stand (Judges) intact, with our music of choice playing, was prohibited because of the nonsensical behavior of T-Vice. On account of this, Engine Room Section has urged the Vice President of the Carnival Committee, Alan Oliver, and Sergeant Dande Morson of the BPD to meet with representatives from the 2 Haitian/American organizations (T-Vice obviously being one of the organizations) that participate in Carnival as soon as possible to put this issue to rest once and for all. The difference this time around is that the other Mas Bands will have representation in this discussion where the primary goal is to make a firm, but fair decision on whether the participation of these 2 Haitian/American organizations is feasible and compatible with the interest of everyone involved in making the Trini-Style Boston Carnival a vibrant and safe cultural extravaganza.

Haiti we are sorry, contrary to popular belief, the Trini- Style Boston Carnival is not the personal brainchild of any one individual. It is an event that is by, and for the entire Caribbean/American community. Every year the event is brought to fruition with a lot of voluntary sleepless nights, blood, sweat and tears of the organizers and masquerade bands. The passion

and commitment that is expended to make Carnival a success is priceless, and that is not even taking into account personal monetary sacrifices that are incurred. Given everything that the organizers and masquerade bands put into making Carnival Day successful, we collectively have every right to ensure that the organizations that participate are going to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the rules and regulations of the organizers and masquerade bands, who are the most important stakeholders in this whole process. So, Haiti we are sorry if you take offense to what we are proposing, but it is a simple matter of abiding by the rules and regulations or having firm but fair punitive sanctions imposed on your participation in our Trini-Style Boston Carnival.

Haiti we are sorry, if your actions of the last 5 years are any indication of what we can expect this year, then our decision will be made for us. But what the hell you would still have the Haitian Day parade to participate in. Haiti the decision is yours. However, Haiti we are proud of the recent remarkable political accomplishment of our sister State Representative Linda Dorcena-Forry. Her victorious campaign is a testament to the great things we can accomplish if we decided to pool our resources and work together, so let us utilize her victory to keep the positive momentum going and do the right thing.



AN ANGEL AMONG US

We all have the ability to affect positive change in our life and community, but far too often we choose to stand by and watch events unfold without taking assertive action to influence the impact these events can have on us or on others. However, this is not the case of Mrs. Roslyn Morris who saw the need to help her homeland, Grenada, after the recent devastation Hurricane Ivan leveled on the Spice Isle in September of last year. With the assistance of a few friends in the Boston area and in Grenada, Mrs. Roslyn took assertive action and personally delivered nine barrels of nonperishable food items and clothing to the residents of Grand Anse Valley on January 3rd, 2005. More of us need to take this type of initiative to affect the kind of positive change that makes a difference not only in our own lives, but more importantly in the lives of the recipients of these generous acts of human kindness. ERS will definitely take a lead from Mrs. Roslyn and her excellent example of what it means to be my Brother's (Sister's) Keeper. This is also known as being in the business of service to others, and according to the late great civil rights leader, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., "there is no greater calling than being in the business of service to others." Mrs. Roslyn, ERS salutes you, and keep on keeping on...Peace, Guidance & Jah Bless

TnT CARNIVAL PASSENGERS

ERS would like to thank all the people and members that

purchased airline tickets from us for Carnival 2005, which was once again, a treasure to behold. We know you had a great time and most importantly we pray that you made it back safe and sound. This was our first experience in the reservation business and from all indication everything went according to plan. We are already planning for Carnival 2K6 (February 27 & 28) and will keep you posted as the count down draws near. In the meantime keep good and God willing we will meet to exchange stories and share pictures of our vacation well spent. Take care and thanks for the support. Trini Revellers, we did it again and it was definitely twice as nice. Lets' do it again next year God Willing.

BOOGSIE

By Robert 'Sam' Saldenha

The first time I heard or saw "Boogsie" was the Carnival of 1968, while playing bass with "Esso Tripoli" steel orchestra of St. James. We had moved from town to St. James, Tripoli was in back of us, and every night I would hear them rehearse. Willard Timothy, a school friend (Richmond Street Boys E.C.) encouraged me to take a "knock" for the Carnival (I could not even think about the stage side, because I was attending John S Donaldson Technical Institute). At that time "Tripoli" was very popular internationally, having just returned from a successful tour of Canada, and performing at "Expo 1967", and another tour with the fame US pianist – Liberace – was in the works for 1968.

During a lull in the rehearsal I went out in the street, and there a player name "Belle" was challenging anyone to a bet. He was willing to bet anyone \$20.00, that this little guy about fifteen (15) years, though not playing with the band, (actually Boogsie was playing with "Starlift") could go into the panyard and play the identical tune on any of the instruments, from tenor to bass.

This was amusing as Tripoli road band did not actually have a yard. Tripoli used to rehearse in "Big boy" also called "Wrecker" mechanic's shop, which also had a house. The smaller pans were set up on the pavement to the front of the yard, while the guitars and cellos were to the side, and the bass in the mechanic shop, the view of the street was blocked off completely by the house. Big Boy was an earlier captain of the band, having succeeded "Joe Crix" the first captain, whose claim to fame among other things was threatening to ban the tuner – Granville Sealey – for 99 years, even though he, Crix could not tune a pan.

Anyhow, getting back to Boogsie, of course no one took the bet, because everyone knew about Boogsie and his potential, and as I stopped hanging out in town, and started hanging in St. James, Boogsie's name always came up, when one was talking about steelband and players in St. James and Woodbrook. Woodbrook and St. James knew about Boogsie, but town and the rest of the country was to find out about him in the 1970's. It is said that Boogsie's uncle was "Shadow", the leader of

Boogsie Cont'd

Symphonettes steel orchestra of St. James, and because he was barred from playing with the band as a youngster of six, seven years, he could be seen looking at what the players were playing through his back door at nights. During the day when no one was around, he would then venture into the yard, and practice the tunes on his own, completely from memory. I remembered in the early 1970's Boogsie performed on "Scouting for Talent", and was kicked out in the preliminaries. I had asked friends to listen to him and gave me their impression. I was laughed out of the office. Two workers stood up with me. One was Gerald Clark (the current captain of Starlift), who played with Boogsie in Starlift, and the other a woman name Gloria Richards, while not recognizing the talent was going on the word of her husband, who realized that Boogsie had talent.

In 1972, some players from Starlift who lived in St. James left and opened "3rd World" Steel orchestra under David "Splav" Waddell with Pelham Goddard as the arranger. Boogsie and some of his close friends – Ian Gibson (from Lynn), Selwyn Taradath, "Joe Beetle", Glaude, Mikey (former captain of Starlift), his brothers Pat and Andy Philips, (the more famous brother being "Mouther-bee") among others left to open their own band "Phase II" with Peter Aleong (a former manager of Starlift) as the manager. This was inevitable, for on one hand there was a huge void in St. James for a good Steelband. Tripoli had

disbanded, so too was "North Stars", "Symphonettes", "Pandemoniacs", "Crossfire" and "West Side Symphony". The only band carrying the St. James flag for panorama was "Nestle's Ambassadors", and they were not saying anything. They would only appear for the preliminaries and that was it. "Power Stars" was around but while they were from the "West", they were more considered a "Cocorite" steelband.

Boogsie leaving to open his own band was also inevitable, for although he had the potential, he was not getting the respect in Starlift, because Ray Holman the arranger was going guns, having won Panorama in 1969 ("The Bull" by Lord Kitchener) and undoubtedly the better arranger at that time. As they say "two man-rat cyar live in the same hole". In 1973, the first year Phase II came on the road, they also entered Panorama. That year – 1973 – the three bands came down the "barber-green" one after the other. First was Starlift number 33, the Phase II – number 34, followed by 3rd World – number 35. While the other two bands were on stands and pulled by their supporters, Phase II came down the stretch "miked up", and pulled by a tractor on two trollies. They did not play Boogsie's composition, and neither did they make any impression. They played Sparrow's 'Mas in May' From 1974 Boogsie began going Panorama with his own composition. In the earlies he was not impressive even though he had good arrangements. One tune that easily comes to mind was "Rags to Riches". Some folks complained that Boogsie

should give up his quest of winning Panorama with his own composition as it was a waste of time, for the judges preferred the calypsoes from the established calypsoians (Kitchener, Sparrow and Shadow). They even pointed to 3rd World who had made it to the National Semi finals, their first year 1973, with Lord Kitchener's "Carnival in '73. and again the following year with Lord Kitchener's "Jericho".

He however was never swayed by these arguments, never complained (at least publicly), and continued plodding along with his compositions. He had relative success, winning the North Zone finals in 1977, but never the National finals. It was not until 1984 when Boogsie made everyone sit up and listen to his own composition of "I-Music" did he started to get the credit that was due to him. Many predicted that Phase II would be the winner, but on the final night they did not, many attributed the loss to a slow tempo. I have heard it said that Ray Holland advised him to slow the tempo for the final night (again this is to be confirmed). Never-the-less that is water under the bridge and each year the nation looked forward to what Boogsie was coming with. 1985 and onwards Boogsie became a household name in both Trinidad and Tobago, then up the islands, USA, Europe and Japan. It took Boogsie fifteen (15) years to win Panorama, and it is only because he was an integral part of Phase II from the very beginning, and that his players believed in him, and his commitment to composing his music. Boogsie had been credited with a lot of pan playing

Boogsie Cont'd

innovations. One carnival he was seen playing his pans from in front. Usually players are behind their pans. He also played from under the pans. I have heard that on occasions even though his double seconds were hung up incorrectly, he was still able to play correctly. I once saw a video of Boogsie on a show playing a tune on a tenor,

second, cello and bass, moving from pan to pan., never faltering. One thing I can say personally about Boogsie, is that he never forgot where he came from, he never forgot his boyhood friends no matter in whose company he was. On several occasions I would see him with some Trini dignitaries, and tried avoiding him, but he would be

calling out to me. People usually link panist to violence, that was not Boogsie. On one occasion, when steelbands were not getting any gigs around the carnival season, he told me that panists should throw bottles in the parties, but I figured that was tongue in cheek and a sign of the his level of frustration. Yet, that was exactly how I felt when a female worker back in Trinidad claimed that when steelband started to play in a fete that was the time to go to the bathroom, or go to the bar. Through it all Boogsie has shown us the Mt. Everest of steel pan.

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