



Published by the Jamaica Association of Northern California  
Volume 1 - March 2000

### Letter from the President

Dear JANC Members and friends,

The year flew by and we closed another Chapter in the life of the Association. Let us be thankful for the blessings this past year. I hope all your dreams will become your reality this New Year and new millennium.

Overviews of our accomplishments are included in this newsletter. As you will see, your Association is on the move. As we begin the year 2000, and new millennium, I ask you to bury any prior negative experiences and perceptions of the Association. Let us all (the 300 plus on our mailing list), pay dues and make a commitment to support some of the old projects or create news ones in the year 2000. I found myself in October 99 entertaining discussions from Jamaicans who claim we are a "tuppernars" Association. We are "cliquish." We are "bourgeoisie." I think if you become involved in the Association, you will see we are none of these adjectives. Instead, we are a small group of Jamaicans who love our country, regret we don't live there, and want to help our people here in the Bay Area and in Jamaica in whatever way we can.

With all the successes, there was sadness. We lost two of our long-standing active members, Dr. Horace Penso, Honorary Consul General and Ms. Rosalie Masters. While they are not here in body, we know they will remain with us in spirit.

(Continued on page 2)

### Honorary Barbara Gloudon

Honorary Barbara Gloudon O.J., O.D., journalist, communications consultant and playwright will be the guest speaker for the Independence Celebration planned for August 12<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Gloudon is one of Jamaica's senior journalists having worked as a print journalist for many years and now an established personality in radio. She co-hosts HOTLINK, Jamaica's leading public affairs talks show. She is a former Deputy of Tourism. She chairs the Little Theatre Movement, Jamaica's oldest theatre organization and is a member of various voluntary organizations including being Deputy Chairman of the Institute of Jamaica Council.

She represents Jamaica on the International Program for Development in Communication at UNESCO and heads her own communications agency in Jamaica. She is known for your special focus on women's and community issues.

Tickets to the celebration will be available in June.

**JANC survey included.  
Take a minute to give us  
your views!**

**Please fill out and return to:  
JANC  
P.O. Box 30156  
Oakland, CA 94604**

#### President

**Denise McCallaCreary**

#### Vice-President

**Tennyson Williams**

#### Secretary

**Winsome Dunn**

#### Treasurer

**Peter McKenzie**

#### Advisory Board

**Michele Gordon**

**Seymour Parchment**

### About our Board



#### Vice President Tennyson Williams

Tennyson Williams has been a long time active member of the Association. He was chairperson of the Medical Drive, and the Scholarship Committee.

He came to America in the late 60's and attended school in Massachusetts. He graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a degree in Electrical Engineering and also has a MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Tennyson worked many years in the high tech industry, and recently left to become an entrepreneur.

Mr. Williams is co-owner of the Island Paradise Club, "The Hottest International

### Executive Officers 2000



**(President's letter continued...)**

A special thank you to my 1999 Board members for your support and to you our membership for your part in keeping the Association alive. I look forward to your continued support this year.

Now, some major changes for year 2000. We increased the dues. Active members now pay \$30 per year. Associate members \$15. This increase was necessary to keep up with the cost of doing business. We are only having three general meetings this year. I repeat, three. I am asking you to take time out your busy schedule and support your Association for 3 hours every four months.

I am pleased to inform you that Ms. Barbara Gloudon, renowned talk show host in Jamaica has accepted to be our guest speaker for our Independence celebration. We will be at the Greek Orthodox Community Center again with a bigger and better program. Instead of making plans to be some place else on August 12<sup>th</sup>, mark your calendar now to spend that evening with the Association. We will be asking everyone to sell tickets.

In closing, this will be my last year as your President. If the Association is to survive, you should become active. We need your ideas, we need your financial support, we need your leadership, and we need more help. JANC could do a lot more in the Bay Area communities. However, the few people keeping it alive now cannot be the only members expected to keep it going. I hope to see you all at the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting at Island Paradise club. If you wish to communicate with me, you may do so through our web site at [www.janc.org](http://www.janc.org) or [mccalldj@mindspring.com](mailto:mccalldj@mindspring.com).

Me letter lang, but me hav a lot fe sey!  
Walk good. **Denise**

**1999 Accomplishments in review**

- Held carnival fundraiser. Net \$531 Profit
- Participated in San Francisco carnival with DiMidax Inc.
- Annual picnic held July 4<sup>th</sup>. Over 150 in attendance.
- Participated in Sister Cities celebration
- Held Independence Dance August 14th. Net profit \$1,159.
- Held Medical Fundraiser September 17th. Net profit \$1800 plus. Funds presented to Rosalie Masters prior to her passing.
- Published bimonthly newsletter "Cuyah)
- Awarded \$2500 in scholarship to Jamaicans studying in Jamaica. The scholarship raffle netted \$1848. Net loss was \$524 after expenses.
- Participated in International Week at Oakland A's coliseum
- Participated in funeral services for Honorary Consul Horace Penso and long time member Rosalie Masters.
- Executive Board members attended Oakland Lakeview Club to network with Oakland business entrepreneurs.
- Established a web site at [www.janc.org](http://www.janc.org).
- Loaned \$1000 to a Jamaican in need.
- Invested \$5000 into a Smith & Barney growth mutual fund.
- 1998 & 1999 audits were completed.
- Honorary membership was conferred on long time member Mr. Dave Jackson.
- Rachel Manley, daughter of late Prime Minister the Honorable Michael Manley was the guest speaker of Independence celebration 1999.

**New Resolutions passed in 1999**

- Membership voted to establish junior membership for children 13-18 years. Dues \$5.00 per year per family.
- Membership voted to offer discount to members for all JANC events.

- Membership voted to give preference to Jamaican deejays for JANC events.
- Members voted to increase dues to \$30 and \$15 respectively.
- Members voted to have general meetings every 3 months vice every two months.

**(Board Members...)**

Meeting Place in the Bay Area", and is owner of Uniglobe Sather Gate Travel; a full service travel agency. Tennyson is also a financial analyst with Primerica, and a faculty member of the University of Phoenix.

In addition to serving as Vice President of JANC, he is a active Board Member of the West Alameda Business Association. Tennyson has volunteered for several groups and programs throughout the Bay Area over the years.



**Secretary Winsome Dunn**

Winsome was born in Kingston Jamaica and migrated to Montreal, Canada in the late 70's. She moved to the US in the early 80's. Winsome holds degrees in Respiratory Therapy and Health Services Administration. She is also a Patent & Trademark Paralegal. Currently she works as an Intellectual Property Administrator in the Biotech Industry.



**EXPRESS PASSPORTS  
SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY**

The issuing of express passports has been indefinitely suspended, the Immigration and Passport Division of the Jamaica Constabulary announced. The suspension was due to "some technical difficulties now being experienced" by the division at 230 Spanish Town Road. The office also said that the processing and delivery time for regular passport applications would move from 10 to 20

working days. This became effective February 28, 2000.

## **RATS NO BIG PROBLEM ON THE WATERFRONT**

The nagging rat infestation problem in Kingston's commercial districts seems to be limited, in large measure, to New Kingston and Half Way Tree, a survey revealed.

Operators of businesses on the Kingston Waterfront, where rats would normally feast on imported foods, are reporting that while the rodents can be found there, they are under control. Ports are particularly vulnerable to rat infestation, as the rodents will migrate from ships coming in.

## **REGGAE GRAMMY RUNNERS**

Runners for the coveted Grammy are Burning Spear, Steel Pulse, Aswad, Third World, and Beenie Man. These runners come with impressive credentials and tough tracks of flying colors and have topped the hottest of the labels with a strong hand in the ethnic and urban markets in the U.S. Big up to the winners!! Keep up the good work by spreading the Reggae Vibe!!

Joan Savoury

### **LABRISH!!** By Joan Savoury

A lot happen since the last time mi get a chance fe talk to yu! Well remember the secretary of the Jamaica Association? Debra Byfield? Well, she nuh get married an gone a New York. Yes, she and her husband Derrick move to New York mi dear!! Good luck to her from all a will!

De las year Vice President of the Association, Karen Davis Colbert have a nice healthy baby boy on Sunday, January 16, 2000. Im name Blaise Alexander Colbert. Im sweet yu se!! Congrats!!

We have a new Consular General! Well I know yu remember Dr. Gordon, long tine member, and everything else of the Association? Well gress

what? Is im is de Consular General now. Big up to Dr. Gordon, and as soon as me have a number fe de office, I will tell yu. Congrats from all of us!!

Keep watching me on Soulbeat Television Network every day, because I bring yu de hottest and lates everything else of the Association? Well gress news from yard. Tune in on Channel 27, between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Well, enuf said for rite now!! Catch yu nex time. If yu have any gossip or labrish fe me email me at [joan.savoury@algx.com](mailto:joan.savoury@algx.com). OK? See yu later!!



### **COMING UP!!**

April 23 – 30  
CARNIVAL 2000 IN JAMAICA

June 10 – 18  
OCHIE JAZZ FESTIVAL

July 30 – August 5  
Sunfest, Montego Bay, Jamaica

For more stay tuned.....  
Joan Savoury

### **The Last Black Man Standing** by Dr. Kamau Kambon

Guest Columnist

As the last Black man faced his demise, he decided to tape-record how he was an eyewitness to the collapse and disappearance of his race on U.S. soil. He asks, rhetorically, what happened to my whole race of people, how were we forced into extinction? The following is his testament:

Now that I am the only survivor of our race, and I can't hurt anyone's feelings anymore, I CAN SAY WHAT NEEDS TO BE SAID! LET THE TRUTH BE KNOWN!

Our demise as a race WAS NOT AN EVENT; it was a PROCESS. A SLOW PROCESS THAT TOOK YEARS!

We refused to unite with one another, letting our affiliations separate us- fraternities, sororities, one was a democrat, one a republican, the dark ones

didn't like the light skinned ones, and so on. We all worshipped differently; most believed Jesus to be white, and this, perhaps, above all, paved the way for our psychological extinction. Other races united along racial, economic and cultural lines, but we could not or would not.

It was very strange to see us in all of our odd behavior and skewed thinking in the last days. We had been a pure, unadulterated people before the invaders. We were such a Blacknificent people, but the invaders not only invaded our land, worst, they invaded our minds and contaminated our hearts. We descended into thinking of ourselves as "minority," as "third world," and living in a "crib." We cherished our enslavers' name, clothes and values.

Our descent was swift because we had given up our own cultural values. We formed all of these little groups who talked big but produced nothing concrete-no schools, convention centers, restaurants, hotels, bus lines, or manufacturing plants.

We all spent our money lavishly and foolishly: Black men spent most of their money buying cars that put them deep in debt. They bought these cars to show off, to style, to front like they had wealth. They, unknowingly, made other races rich. They were car rich but land poor. Just the interest on the loan for the car could have enabled the Black man to buy and own his own land. There were reports that he spent more money on his car than he spent on the education of his children.

The Black man also spent enormous amounts of his money on alcohol and malt liquors. Apparently, his pain and psychological self-hatred were too much for him to bear. Look at how much marijuana he smoked, marijuana laced with deadly chemicals which destroyed his perception, personality, and his genetic potential (his children were born with many emotional, psychological and intellectual deficiencies).

The Black woman, also majestic as the mother of all races and civilizations, lost sight of her authentic self. She started imitating the women of other races-it is difficult for me to talk about all this, but I must leave at least a taped message as a legacy about my people.

The Black woman spent billions of dollars in what was called beauty parlors. She never realized she was the original beauty queen and everyone modeled her image. She spent large sums of money on clothes and made unwise use of her money, buying bleaching creams, hair dyes and, especially, getting her nails painted. How economically foolish.

A silent way her money left the community was through her excessive use of the telephone. This was money spent that was never talked about in any business magazines or economics classes. I went back and looked at all the telephone bills of Black people and the money spent on the phone alone could have enabled the race to rebuild and restore Africa completely.

In the area of economics, both male and female are to blame for the building of more churches than was needed. Oh! I know this tape will hurt the feelings of any who finds it. The naïve Black people thought they were praising the heavens by building all these churches. What a mistake! Our people were merely making their enemies, the contractors and vendors, richer and richer.

In other words, other communities were the beneficiaries of Black mismanagement of financial resources.

Time is running out, I must hurry! Another critical area that hurt us was food consumption. My race continued to eat foods that were "death foods," foods contaminated with chemicals and other toxins. They ate lots of "fast foods," and genetically-engineered "foods." How pitiful!! In the last days, Black people became an obese and out of shape people. They drank something called soda and ate untold mounds of sugar, pork and fried foods. As a result, and over time, many got sick and had to go to hospitals that performed unnecessary surgeries, pumped them with drugs and overcharged them.

Above all this, the Black man and Black woman refused to listen to their warrior-scholars, African-centered psychologists and educators. These warriors, psychologists and educators wanted to restore our thinking about the importance of remembering our ancestors, educating our children through reading to them and building their identity and self esteem.

Those who had our interests at heart fought night and day to get us to change for our own good, but the media (television, radio and the newspapers) had us brainwashed against our leaders and ourselves. Black radio stations, in particular, were actually against us: many only played lewd music, gave us no relevant survival information and aired ads to get us to spend more money and party.

Well, the tape has about run out and, I must admit, it is a very sad day for me, as **The Last Black Man Standing**. I am so very sorry to have to say all these things about the demise of my race. We were a very beautiful and loving people but, oh! what a hard-headed and stubborn people we were. It seemed as though we were on a non-stop path of self-destruction.

I am sorry to have to report all of this but, Wait!! What! Who! Is that a Black Woman! Someone else survived! Impossible! Maybe if she and I can examine all the mistakes of our people, and not repeat them, perhaps we could.

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CHANGE, BLACK PEOPLE, BUT TIME IS RUNNING OUT!! DON'T MAKE THIS STORY COME TRUE!**

Kamau Kambon is author of several books and runs the Blacknificent Bookstore in Raleigh, N.C. He can be reached at (919) 250-9110.



**National Association of  
Jamaican and  
Supportive  
Organizations presents:**

**NAJASO's Annual  
National Conference,  
August 19<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>,  
2000 in Los Angeles.**

**More  
information to come**

**Place Your Ad here!**

Caribbean friends! We welcome you to advertise your businesses in our Newsletter at a rate of \$30.00 per issue. JANC's information number is:

**(510) 464-1300**

Design Layout:

**Sundee Lioness, Inc**

P.O. Box 857  
Alameda, CA 94501

**Pager: (510) 819-6202**  
**E-mail: dlioness@pacbell.net**

|