



AGE NOTES

XLCR Alumni Association of FL Inc.

Issue No. 11-12

Date: SEP/OCT 2005

Notes from the Editor

2005 is closing on us really fast. The count down to the end of year has begun. The flurry of activities at home and at work is creating a hectic pace.

Hurricane Wilma hit Florida hard last month and demolished buildings, shut down utilities, uprooted trees, sparked a gas crisis and closed shops. The impact was severe – schools closed for more than 2 weeks (the kids are not complaining), restoration of electricity and phone service are still a challenge in some areas and the general disruption borders on chaotic. The traffic lights at some major intersections are still out and are forcing us to exercise patience.

In the aftermath of the hurricane, we realize how dependent we are on such things as the telephone, electricity, cable - things that are fickle and unstable. One positive was derived - we have gotten to know our neighbors better. All the neighbors were out helping each other – now they wave and actually acknowledge me

when they pass - that is a good change.

We are recovering down South and look forward to the end of the hurricane season on November 30th.

Until then we are making sure our stock of candles, propane, matches and non-perishable foods are replenished.

Nuff preparations a gwan...so wi can be ready if another one strikes

News for September and October is combined in this issue and focuses on the upcoming Florida XMAS Bash, more updates on the one-bathroom-at-a-time project, the exciting NY dinner/dance and a reminder about the homecoming for the 75th anniversary celebration.

So jus' chill out and read on...

Florida Fundraising XMAS BASH

Its almost here...

It is exciting and encouraging to get phone calls and emails asking about the XMAS BASH. Alumni from near and far have been reaching out to make sure they have the correct date and time for the event.

Dis one going to be big and bad!

Tickets go on sale starting on Thursday, November 17, 2005. Tickets are \$20 pre-sale and \$25 at the door. Please call 954-309-4405 (Corneld) or 954-914-0811(Althea) any day any time to get your tickets.

The Inverrary Hotel
located at 3501 Inverrary Blvd in Fort Lauderdale will come alive on Saturday, December 17, 2005 when Everton from **Disco Sensation** turn on the sounds. We will get a double dose of music as Hugh from **Ecology Force** will be spinning his special selections.

Di music a go be nuff and nice!

For those people coming from out of town and seeking accommodations, there are special rates of \$89/night at the Inverrary Hotel. Please call 954-485-0500 and ask about the XLCR event.

Everything is in place now...the count down has started...approximately 23 days to go before the big event...

Mi sey people are u ready....!!!!...Oh lawd.

Let's not forget that we are congregating for a reason – it is a fundraiser and proceeds go to XLCR for the improvement of the buildings or to support students. Your contribution counts and goes to a worthy cause.

Remember the place to be on Saturday, December 17, 2005 is the Inverrary Hotel located at 3501 Inverrary Blvd, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33319.

One-Bathroom-at-a-time project

The heavy, continuous rains over the past 2 months in Jamaica have severely impacted the sewage system at XLCR. Mr. Collins reports that attention had to be turned to the pit or the soak away to ensure the toilets continue to be operational. These unpleasant events have had an impact on the project.

However, the progress on the one-bathroom-at-a-time project continues to be encouraging.

The new doors have been installed in the male and female bathrooms by the Hall.

For the 8th and 9th grade female bathrooms, 5 severely damaged toilets have been replaced. There is still more work to be done in those bathrooms.

The male bathrooms by the 4th and 5th form block are in a deplorable condition. The showers are being used as urinals, there are broken toilets and the stench is unbearable. Mr. Collins plans to rearrange the entire bathroom and has already purchased the material. The plan is to move the showers to the back of the bathroom, increase the number of toilets from 4 to 5 and move them to the front of the bathroom for easier access. Additionally the existing urinal will be removed and replaced by ceramic urinals with partitions for privacy. The floors at the entrance will be tiled and the broken lights replaced. The cost of the labor effort has not been determined. The renovation of this male bathroom is crucial as there are less male bathrooms than female bathrooms as the 8th and 9th grade male bathrooms have been closed and placed out of use.

The US\$2500.00 we donated is slowly depleting

but for a good cause. We will get a comprehensive report from Mr. Collins before the end of the year detailing material and labor costs. Additionally we will also detail the exact work completed and outstanding for each bathroom.

We must complete this project. We are committed. ALL bathrooms will be refurbished.

NY Alumni Dinner Dance was Nice...

Not even rain coulda stop dis ya show!

The crowd ignored the mucky weather – cold and wet to be there. The event started a little later than expected but it was worth waiting on the dedicated attendees that would have been disappointed if they had missed any part of this awesome event.

The speeches about the honorees **Lebert and Winsome Halliman, Carl Bradshaw and Major General John Simmonds** were dotted with amusing anecdotes. The acceptance speeches varied in length and content but were well received by the crowd.

Blacka kept the crowd amused as he skillfully sped through the agenda to allow time for dancing. The good music and the tasty cuisine warmed up

the crowd. The ball room came alive with the sounds of Ecology Force.

Mi had to beg fi a space pon the dance floor!

As the event came to an end, the attendees lingered to squeeze every bit of fun out of the moment – wishing that next October 2006 would be closer than it seemed.

Congrats to the NY alumni chapter for a well organized event!

75th Anniversary tidbit

There is a press launch targeted for the first week of December. The highlight will be the groundbreaking for the Science Lab. The special guest speaker will be Phillip Paulwell, the Minister of Technology and a 1981 XLCR graduate.

Don't forget to mark your calendars with the dates for the **homecoming celebrations** which are targeted for **November 19, 2006 to November 25, 2006**. Make your reservations early.

Check the website – www.excelsiorpsa.com for more details.

CONTACT

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