

The Family Unity Newsletter

First Reunion August 30, 1992
This issue: 16th Anniversary Issue: September 7, 2008



OUR MISSION: *“Let our skills and Talents keep us united”*

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MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION LAUNCH INVITATION
 on
Friday October 3, 2008, Coblentz Inn St Anns (TBC)
Port of Spain Trinidad. 6.30 p.m. Semi-Formal

In Trinidad **PLEASE Confirm Launch Attendance by September 15, '08:**
 Phone Adeline 1-868-624-7935 or Carol 1-868-625-3516
 Outside of Trinidad - PLEASE e-mail Wilbur chowmartin@shaw.ca

Name	Yes: I will donate on or before October 3, 2008	Yes: I will donate at a later date	I will attend the Launch Cocktail Party on October 3, 2008 \$250 per person	My Land Address is	My e-mail address is	My Phone No is

All financial subscribers to the Foundation on or before **October 3, 2008**, will be recognized at the Launch Event with a Certificate, recognizing them as **JOHN 'CHOW' MARTIN CHARTER FOUNDATION MEMBERS.**

Subsequent subscribers to the Foundation will be recognized as **JOHN 'CHOW' MARTIN FOUNDATION MEMBERS.**

TO REPLY ASAP before September 15,2008

A. PLEASE FAX THIS PAGE TO:

1. Outside of Trinidad: To Wilbur at 1-604-273-9855
2. In Trinidad or West Indies: To Carole at 1-868-625-0618

B. PLEASE REPLY DIRECTLY to Wilbur at chowmartin@shaw.ca

C. PLEASE PHONE: Adeline 1-868-624-7935 or Carol 1-868-625-3516

THE MARTIN FAMILY CLAN

PROCEEDINGS FROM 16th ANNIVERSARY REUNION CELEBRATION

La Vega, Trinidad West Indies
Sunday August 24, 2008

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. June Marion James OM, FRCPC, FAAAAI
(4th Generation)



MARTIN FAMILY REUNION COMMITTEE 2008-2009

President: Dr. Alastair Martin
Directors: Mr. Anthony Lee Young
Ms. Michelle Nicholas
Ms. Lisa Martin
Mrs. Pat Brancker
Ms. Tricia Lee
Ms. Christiana Lee
Mr. Rene Hicks

Resource

Mr. Michael Headley
Mrs. Yolande Chin

MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Incorporated February 14, 2008

Directors/Incorporators

Mr. Wilbur A. Walrond
Mr. Michael Headley
Dr. Selwyn Carlyle Lee Young
Mr. John Bannerman C. Martin
Mr. Clayton Headley

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST SPEAKER

By

Dr. Alastair Martin – President - Martin Family Reunion Committee

Dr. June Marion James OM MD FRCPC, FAAAAI

Our special Guest Speaker and family member today was born in Trinidad where she received her elementary and secondary school education.

At an early age she met and fell in love with a young man by the name of Ralph Eric Vernon James who was the eldest son of Eric and Zimonia (nee Haynes) James. He grew up in San Fernando where he attended Presentation College, and later the Trinidad Teachers Training College where he obtained distinctions in English Literature and Art. His first teaching job prior to attending Training College was at the Couva EC School under the principalship of the late Randolph Walrond (4th generation) who was married to our present Matriarch Floris (nee Lee-Young).

In 1959 Ralph migrated to Canada and in 1960 he met and later married June (nee James) no relationship until that auspicious occasion. They both studied at the University of Manitoba. Ralph earned his BSC in Chemistry and later a Bachelor of Education degree prior to transferring to the University of Jamaica at Mona Campus where he received his PhD in Chemistry (1969).

On returning to Winnipeg, he spent 26 years teaching at the Winnipeg Adult Centre. While his teaching speciality was Chemistry, he also served as the unofficial consultant to the English Department, in English and English Literature.

Within the Sciences he was on the Board of the Science Teachers Association of Manitoba, (STAM) worked on the Science Curricula for Province of Manitoba and was a long time and well respected judge for Science Fairs in Winnipeg.

He was the cofounder of the Black Writers Association of Manitoba, publisher of Creative Black Writers Magazine and later encouraged the formation of the Caribbean Theatre Workshop of Manitoba.

Ralph was a Community activist, particularly in the area of Human Rights. He was the first President of the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties, and was President of the United Nations Association of Winnipeg at his demise in 1992.

Some of his many awards are:

Manitoba Human Rights Award 1992 (Posthumously)

Outstanding contribution Manitoba Intercultural Council

Outstanding contribution to Manitoba Multicultural Theatre.

The naming of the Dr. Ralph E. James Recreational Centre for his contributions to the Black Community in Manitoba.

While Ralph was busy building his career, so also was his dear wife June, commencing with her graduation from the University of Manitoba in 1963 with a B.Sc. degree to be followed with a B.Sc. (Med) and later her M.D. in 1967.

Postgraduate studies included Paediatric Haematology, Fellow in Clinical Allergy and Immunology and a Medical Research Fellowship recipient. Dr. June James holds Specialist Certificates in Paediatrics (1972) and Allergy, and Clinical Immunology (1976), Fellowships from the Royal

College of Physicians and Surgeons (Canada) and is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology.

Dr. June James was elected as Councillor of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba in 1994, and served as chair of numerous committees, as well as President of the College for 2001-2002.

Apart from her professional contributions and achievements, her membership on a variety of Boards is often the opportunity for June to make a significant contribution to the quality of life of many community groups. Her interest in the community began in the 1960s when she joined the International Centre and served on committees involved with refugee settlement. She was also involved with the Caribbean Canadian Association in a variety of executive positions. In 1975, she became a charter member of the Congress of Black Women (Manitoba Chapter). Her emphasis was to enhance the knowledge base of the members by introducing the concept of a learning component at the monthly meetings.

As president of the Harambee Housing Corporation, she was able to assist the organization achieve funding of \$5 million for a 54-unit housing co-op, which provides affordable housing to a culturally diverse population.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Foundation since 1999, she has served on the Investment Committee and was Chair of the Post Secondary Grants Committee that awarded \$375,000 to Manitoba University and college students in 2001 and 2002.

Dr. James has been the recipient of several prestigious awards that recognize her professional and community achievements such as: The Physician of the Year Award from the Manitoba Medical Association (2000), the Citation for Citizenship from the Federal Government (1993), the Canada 125th Anniversary Medal (1992), the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, the Award of the Yam Dinamba (Nigeria) Society, YWCA Woman of the Year (1981), Honorary Diploma Red River College (2004)

In 2004 for her contributions to the social, economic and cultural life of the province of Manitoba, Dr. June James was recognized with the Order of Manitoba.

Is it any wonder therefore to learn that June and her family were one of the first members of the Martin Family to pledge their support of the Martin Family Foundation when it was first scheduled to be launched in May 2007 but was unfortunately postponed?

Not wishing to cancel her trip again following the Launch's second postponement due to Wilbur's last minute change in plans, June readily agreed to step into the breach to lend her personal support of the Foundation and to provide us with some background as to how and why the establishment of a Foundation has become a reality 16 years after that first Reunion.

Ladies and Gentlemen, members of the Martin Family Clan, please welcome Martin family member Dr. June James MD OM (Order of Manitoba).

**REMARKS AT MARTIN FAMILY REUNION
A PRELUDE TO LAUNCH THE MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION**

August 24, 2008

By

GUEST SPEAKER DR JUNE JAMES OM MD FRCP, FAAAAI

I am just delighted that I finally made it to the picnic after complaining to Wilbur that I never had enough notice. It seemed I got notice one or two months ahead, was unable to cancel patients, and did not reside in Trinidad etc. Well, in the midst of the Carnival fete this year Wilbur gave me the date so I had no excuse not to show up. Going back home I am on the last Air Canada flight since this carrier has discontinued service to Trinidad. (I don't know whether that is a good or bad omen)

Alastair, I want to thank you for the gracious introduction and a gentle reminder to me and others of the achievements Ralph James left as a legacy to his family and community in Winnipeg.

Let me tell you, let the records show that I am amazed at the joie de vivre, the diversity of the family and the networking at this picnic held in the charming, relaxing tropical ambience at La Vega Estate, Trinidad.

It is a distinct pleasure to have an opportunity in the first part of my talk to present some personal thoughts based on my experiences in philanthropy in order to galvanize your enthusiasm and support of our own, our very own private family foundation.

In the second part of the presentation you will be briefed about the exciting details of this Family foundation as I assume the role as spokesperson for Wilbur Walrond.

Successful planning of a family foundation is no mean feat and all those involved deserve plaudits and applause. Now it is up to us to help in its implementation to ensure long lasting stability. Think of foundation in two phases first as a static object – best example the foundation of a building providing the firm infrastructure for solid support despite the vicissitudes of nature.

Secondly think of a foundation in the fluid or dynamic form – the organisation – a family foundation organizing, reaching out and stretching the envelope inclusively.

Imagine the family foundation as an emerging force where the positive ions are emitted – we get charged, we become invigorated and in this nuclear family with a high molecular weight as there are numerous individuals, as we get charged, mobility and movement increases, and therefore contact with other ions (Family members) is more likely.

The ensuing chemical reactions that take place on balance result in strengthening the bonds of intra and inter family relationship.

Some may question why do we need a foundation and what benefit is it to me or my family? They may conclude that we are doing alright so far and in any event where will I get money to assist in the building of the foundation?

I live in the north; there are no oil wells on my property. The reason for the foundation is to provide a legacy of the importance of family ties for future generations. At the same time to enhance the lives of us in the here and now by active caring and sharing amongst each other. We have the resources, time and talent. You may excel in either or both. I owe it.

Let me tell you a story. I am on the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Foundation, Canada's oldest Foundation and second in North America. It started with a \$10,000 donation by a banker, a substantial sum in 1931, and nothing happened except interest enhancement. Five years later a

widow gave \$5.00 - the so called Widow's Mite - then the action started, contributions came in. We now have \$450 million in assets.

Last year the grants committee which I chair disbursed \$18 million to Universities, Hospitals, Day-care, summer camps, Boys and Girls Clubs, Women's Organisation, Environment preserves etc to name a few.

Five years ago we went into a neighbourhood where unemployment was high, students missed school and housing stock was poor. We decided to supply the financial capital. We encouraged the residents to form their own committees and they got the work done. Marvellous work – residents secured permanent work or went into training programs, students' absenteeism decreased, houses were renovated, Parent-Teaching association formed and the entire culture of the community was changed. We expect this project will serve as a model in other North American communities.

Fast forward our family foundation – it may have similar or more targeted interests. In any event it opens vistas of opportunities not only for you but the community in which you reside in Trinidad. It is a legacy for the next eight generations, and it may provide some degree of financial or merit awards for post graduate education, it may enable access for health and healthy decisions for all, it may structure summer camps, facilitate travel both educational and personal, and arrange outings for younger members in various neighbourhoods in Trinidad and Tobago.

The purpose and message today is to get you thinking outside the box, to get you interested not just in your own family (small 'f') but in the Family (capital 'F') as a whole globally. Concerning myself with not how much I can afford, but the bigger picture how I can facilitate the flame of the Chow-Martin torch to burn brighter.

The Foundation requires a constant supply of fuel for the "Torch" - not funding on an ad hoc basis. The fuel is your dollar contributions. **October 3rd** is the official launching date of the foundation. Will you be able to put aside a dollar per day or \$10.00 per week or \$500 for the month? You decide the amount of your contribution.

The most important step for our foundation is giving whether it is volunteering or financially. In this way it will ensure that each of us achieves additional success through our Family Foundation.

August 24, 2008

THE BIRTH OF THE MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION

By

Wilbur Walrond

With humble thanks to my stand-in Dr. June James, I bring you greetings from the members of the Martin Family Clan who are resident in BC and other parts of Canada and who, like myself are unable to be with you today on this the 16th Anniversary of the Martin Family Clan's first Reunion.

Please accept my sincere regrets for not being able to attend this auspicious occasion due to a last minute family commitment.

Martin Family Reunion Background

For the benefit of the seniors who may have forgotten as well as for the younger generation - our present and future leaders - who were probably in their pre or early teens when we started this trip on August 30 1992, let me take a few minutes to recap the journey we have taken over the past 16 years.

A Reunion of the Martin Family was first conceived by Cousin Michael Headley and me during various stages of euphoric inebriation while trying to recuperate after several annual carnival indulgences.

In a moment of weakness we decided to walk the talk but in a subsequent brief jolt back to sanity we lasted long enough to add one very important condition - ***that for any family reunion to be worth the effort it must result in some long lasting benefit to the Martin Family at large.***

On that first memorable day on August 30, 1992 at the home of Professor George Maxwell Richards (4th) then Chancellor of the UWI in St Augustine, the Chairman of the first Reunion Committee Clayton Headley, put that *condition* into perspective when he expressed the hope that that first Reunion would see the continuation of many more similar family gatherings and that a Foundation Fund would eventually mature to give assistance to deserving cases in the family such as for example, advanced education and health care, and that the Martin Clan would serve as an inspiration to other family groups to pool their talents and resources toward the improvement of the quality of life for their respective family members.

This is all recorded in the first Martin Family History in 1992 which was prepared in six short months by the late Joy Worrell (4th generation).

From that challenge evolved our Martin Family Motto: ***“Let our Skills and Talents keep us united”.***

The plan of attack now seemed to be a very simple one – or so we thought:

1. Spend the first few years bringing the family together through various social gatherings with the hope of establishing strong ties and lines of communication for the next steps ahead.
2. At the same time try to avail ourselves of any opportunity to demonstrate by example whenever or wherever possible, how members of the family could indeed benefit in some of the areas as suggested by Chairman Clayton at that first reunion.
3. Research and formulate plans for the formation of a **Foundation**.
4. Create the ways and means for ensuring that the **Foundation** can become self sustaining.

5. Structure the Bylaws of the Foundation in such a way that the Foundation will serve as the vehicle whereby the Reunion Committee, while using the combined skills and talents of our membership at large, can effectively achieve the end results of those goals envisioned at that first Family reunion in 1992.

The Road thus travelled

What have we accomplished todate?

1. The first Reunion Committee which consisted of 4th and 5th generation members remained in office for ten years and concentrated on the organization of several anniversary reunions and other social get togethers. As examples of the types of long term benefits that could be achieved through our goals, scholarships / bursaries were awarded to several of our youths to help further their education, emergency funds were raised to provide medical assistance to some family members as well as much needed financial assistance was provided to some families toward the celebration of the life of a dearly departed loved one.
2. The 2nd Reunion Committee, which remained in office for five years, endeavoured to bring to the board some of the younger members particularly from the 5th and 6th generations. Here again the emphasis was on social gatherings in order to continue developing unity through fellowship as well as working toward the realization of our vision for a **Foundation**.
3. The 3rd Reunion Committee was the first Committee to be based on the democratic (railroad maybe?) election process in order to try to achieve active participation from within the general family membership at large. The self imposed mandate on this Committee was to organize at least one major social function a year and to continue to improve upon our lines of communication. For some strange reason we are still struggling in this last area.
4. The current 4th Reunion Committee is continuing on in the footsteps of its predecessor and still trying to fill those communication gaps but they need everyone's concerted assistance. In this high tech world today there is no reason why we cannot forward our immediate family's contact information to members of the Committee. It's as easy as sending SPAM!
5. Finally the **Martin Family Foundation** was duly incorporated on Valentine's Day **February 14, 2008**.

Note: *Pending the legal establishment of the Foundation, funds for many of the above projects mentioned were provided primarily through the generosity of some of the Reunion Committee members who had hoped that by leading by example others would follow their lead. This was easier said than done – for 16 years!*

The Foundation

The Directors/ Incorporators of the **Martin Family Foundation** sincerely believe that the funding and sustaining of the Foundation should be such as to make every family member, regardless of age and socio-economic standing, feel proud to be an integral part of its formation, existence and continuing growth whether or not that participation is individually or collectively - for example through fund raising measures.

In order to accomplish the above, each member of the family is invited to become a full fledged active and participating member of the **Foundation**, by making a financial contribution of his or her choice on behalf of themselves and / or on behalf of any other family member or members of their immediate family regardless of his or her age.

Whether or not you choose to make an **annual** donation of your choice to the **Foundation** in order to maintain your membership therein does not preclude you from the opportunity to make further donations at will to the Foundation should you wish to honor other family members and/or to celebrate special occasions such as births, marriages anniversaries or even to commemorate the celebration of the life of a dearly departed loved one.

As a further incentive, and to commemorate the launching of this milestone in the history of the Martin Family Reunions, all financial subscribers to the Foundation on or before **October 3, 2008**, the new date for the Launch, will be suitably recognized as **JOHN 'CHOW' MARTIN CHARTER FOUNDATION MEMBERS**.

Subsequent subscribers to the Foundation will be recognized as **JOHN 'CHOW' MARTIN FOUNDATION MEMBERS**.

The PROPOSED Structure of the FOUNDATION & Role of the REUNION COMMITTEE

A. The Reunion Committee

The Martin Family Reunion Committee has been and should always be the organizing and Operating Body of the Martin Family Clan and to that end:

1. Members of its Board of Directors shall be elected annually by and from within the ranks of all subscribing members of the **Martin Family Foundation**.
2. This Committee shall be responsible for the organizing of all fund raising functions, inter alia, for the welfare and general well being of the **Martin Family** and the **Foundation**.

B. The Foundation

The Board of Directors of the Foundation shall be elected annually and be represented by member(s) from within the following categories:

1. Past and current Presidents (Chairpersons) of the Martin Family Reunion Committee and who have subscribed financially to the Foundation.
2. Member(s) at large who have served on previous and current Reunion Committees and who have subscribed financially to the Foundation.
3. All members who have subscribed financially to the Foundation.

Note: The Reunion Committee and the Foundation are not to be viewed as separate entities per se, but rather the Foundation is the means whereby the Reunion Committee can achieve the aims and objectives as laid out in the Foundation's Constitution.

Election of the 1st Board of Directors

The current interim Board of Directors is comprised of the '**Incorporating Directors**' and some of the members of the 1st Reunion Committee.

Following the Launching of the Foundation now slated for **October 3, 2008**, the election of the first Board of Directors will be held at a general meeting consisting of all financial subscribers to the Foundation regardless of the amount of their donation.

APPENDIX A – INCORPORATING THE FOUNDATION

Form 3

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

1331491

Computer ID No.

M. 3559(95)

Company No.

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1995

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Name of Company

I hereby certify that the above-mentioned Company, the Articles of Incorporation of which are attached, was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1995 of Trinidad and Tobago.



Dep. Registrar of Companies



14th February, 2008

Date of Incorporation

G.P., Tr./To. —

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE COMPANIES ACT, (CHAP. 81:01)

(Sections 9 and 309)

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

NON-PROFIT COMPANY

SCHEDULE 'A' - ITEM 4

1. MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION (Name of Company) 2. (Company No)

3. Restrictions on the undertaking that the Company may carry on: REGISTERED The Company is established for the purpose of carrying out the following undertakings only:

- (1) To carry out research into and preserve the history of the Martin Family and more specifically the lineal descendants and antecedents of John "Chow" Martin and his wife Margaret (nee Augustus) and to promote fellowship and co-operation between members of the Martin Family.
(2) To assist in the relief of poverty, suffering and distress and the provision of financial and other assistance for disadvantaged Martin Family members and their dependents in Trinidad and Tobago and members of the public of Trinidad and Tobago.
(3) To promote the advancement of education for Martin Family members in Trinidad and Tobago in particular as well as members of the public of Trinidad and Tobago including, but without limitation to the generality of the foregoing, the establishment and/or maintenance of schools, colleges, scholarships or prizes; the provision of school teachers and the promotion of education in the arts, sciences and languages.
(4) To promote the benefit of Martin Family members and/or to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare including facilities for leisure time occupations with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said Martin Family members and other members of the public of Trinidad and Tobago.

Handwritten signature and date: 27th Sep 2008

DIRECTOR/INCORPORATOR.....

Form 2

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE COMPANIES ACT, (CHAP. 81:01)
(Sections 9 and 309)



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
NON-PROFIT COMPANY
SCHEDULE 'B' - ITEM 7

1. MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION (Name of Company) 2. (Company No.)

7. Other provisions if any,

- (1) The members of the Company may at any time wind-up the Company whereupon the assets of the Company, after payment of all debts and liabilities of the Company, shall be distributed in accordance with Section 316(2) of the COMPANIES ACT, (CHAP. 81:01)

Names and Occupations	Addresses	Signatures
Clayton Martin Headley, Businessman	64 Victoria Gardens, Diego Martin	REGISTERED
Selwyn Carlyle Lee-Young, Civil ENGINEER	14-16 Dere Street, Port-of-Spain	
John Bannerman Christopher Martin, Chartered Accountant	11 Idlewild Road, Knightsbridge, Cascade	
Wilbur Alexander Walrond, Civil ENGINEER	23 Palm Drive, Champs Fleur	

[Handwritten signature]
Date: *15 July 2008*

DIRECTOR/INCORPORATOR *[Signature]*
Wilbur Alexander Walrond

16th ANNIVERSARY REUNION LA VEGA ESTATE
La Vega Estate Trinidad

Martin Family Reunion Committee 2008-2009



The Venue
Guest Speaker



IPP: Tony Lee Young & President Alastair Martin (5th)
1st Reunion Committee Members



Dr June James (4th) OM FRCPC
1st Reunion Committee Members



Brothers Leo C. & John B. Martin
1st Reunion Committee Members



Carol & Arthur Gomez (*In his Canadian garden shirt*)



Edmund, Clayton Stokeley Headley & sister Peggy Douglas

16th Anniversary Reunion at La Vega Estate
Instigator of the Martin Family Reunion
4th & 5th generation cousins



Michael Headley and cousin

Siblings

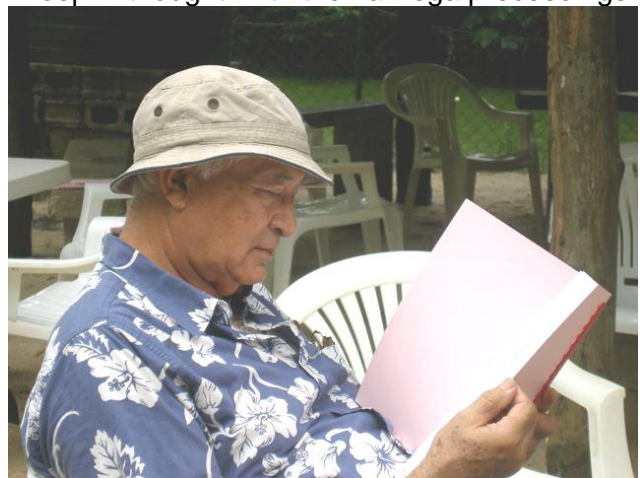


Jennifer & Gordon Headley, Alma Walrond & Esmond Lee Young
Deep in thought with the La Vega proceedings



Pat Brancker (Committee Director) & members
of her immediate family

Who's Who at La Vega



Treasurer John Bannerman Martin

Who's Who at La Vega



The Headleys



Roxanne Soverrall and the Smith Clan

16th Anniversary Reunion at La Vega Estate
Who's Who at La Vega



Who's Who at La Vega



Who's Who at La Vega



Who's Who at La Vega



Must be the conga line!
Who's Who at La Vega



16th Anniversary Reunion at La Vega Estate
Who's Who at La Vega



Who's Who at La Vega



Jennifer Martin (4th) (1st Committee member) & cousin
Having a word with the Guest Speaker



Shazina Lee Young (5th) and children Jamie & Laurelle (6th)
Each with their own thoughts



Cousins John Martin and June James
Who's Who at La Vega



R to L: Esmond Lee Young, Gordon & Jennifer Headley & Terry Lee Young
Getting to know you...



Strangers when we meet – family when we leave!



The younger generation

If you know the names of any of the above family members please submit them to Wilbur at chowmartin@shaw.ca