



Ole Farmers' Grapevine

A Publication of the Ole Farmers Association North America, Inc.
P.O. Box 398, Tuskegee Institute, AL 36087
Visit us at www.olefarmers.com

Volume 2

March 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENT

OFANA Reunion 2012 will be held in Houston, TX this year. Please mark your calendar to rendezvous at the Crowne Plaza West – Energy Corridor on May 25th to 27th. We are looking forward to a rich experience over the weekend as we continue to share in the deep and exciting comradeship that exists among Ole Farmers. The OFANA Executive would also like to express thanks to the Texas region for planning and executing the weekend of activities.

This year we will be celebrating the 6th reunion of OFANA and we are looking forward to a Texas-size turnout. Come and be part of the OFANA brand and share in its accomplishments as well as its current initiatives. Since its inception, OFANA has participated and has contributed to many altruistic activities for fellow Ole Farmers as well as sending toys and educational supplies to children in Jamaica.

Among OFANA's significant accomplishments are the honoring of the late Dr. Aston Wood, former principal of the Jamaica School of Agriculture in May 2011 and the award of three OFANA Scholarships to qualified students at the College of Agriculture, Science and Education, (CASE) on January 28, 2012. One of the scholarships was the Dr. Aston Wood Memorial Scholarship, which

was presented to the recipient by his daughter, Andrea Wood.

Let's continue to build on these successes. See you in Texas on May 25th to 27th and please also visit us at our website at www.olefarmers.com.

WENDELL CODNER

President

wenfmc@hotmail.com

OFANA SCHOLARSHIP



<http://www.facebook.com/notes/college-of-agriculture-science-and-education/top-agricultural-students-awarded-american-scholarships/264947123574002>

OFANA Scholarships presented by **our own Wendell CODNER (OFANA President)** at a forum hosted by C.A.S.E. quite fittingly on Founders' Day, January 28, 2012; with the **Hon. Ronald THWAITES (Minister of Education)** and **Ms. Andrea WOOD (daughter of the**

late Dr. Aston WOOD) in attendance:

- **Dr. Aston Wood Memorial Scholarship of \$1,000.00 to Maurice R. Thomas**
- **OFANA General Scholarships of \$500.00 each to Mathew M. Neufville and Annakay Chamberlain.**

'OFANA investing in young minds to achieve greatness'

OLE FARMERS ON THE MOVE

Patrick MAITLAND (Class of '78) makes his presence felt as Editor in Chief of a Community Newspaper serving the NY-NJ-CT Tri-State Area. View the Ole Farmers' work at <http://www.streethypenewspaper.com/web/>

Hearty congratulations to **Angela 'Slick Chick' WILSON-BREWTON (Class of '81)** who has been accredited a PhD in Education by NOVA Southeastern University.

OUR WEB-SITE

Our new look website is up and running. Members are now able to log in to the secure "members" only portal to get additional information. Anyone can now make a donation via our PayPal "Donate button" on the Website.

2011 – 2012 Executive Committee:

Wendell Codner (President); Norma Jarrett (VP-NY Tri-State Area); Balford Banton (VP-Atlanta / Assistant Treasurer); Trevor Lewis (VP-Florida); Jennifer Thompson (VP-Texas); Leslie Latty (VP-Canada); Norma Harris-Dawkins (Treasurer); Peterson Warburton (Secretary); Sharon Heath (Assistant Secretary); Paulette Russell Clair (Public Relations Officer); Jurist Willis-Taylor (Membership Liaison Officer)



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Logon and try it now.

EVENT REVIEWS

North East Region's Holiday Dinner Dance held at the Sheraton Stamford on 12/10/2011 was well attended; proceeds so far exceed \$3,000.00.

Texas Region's series of mini-fundraisers has accumulated just over \$1,000.00.

Florida Region's inaugural Grown Folks Night Out held at Reggae Village in Ft. Lauderdale on 01/28/2012 was modestly attended. Proceeds so far are \$800.00 with pledges outstanding.

Georgia Region's Games Night and Raffle held in Fairburn on 02/25/2012 raised just over \$1,100.00. Congratulations to Canada Region's Collin 'Rexo' Reid who bagged the big raffle prize; a 32" Flatscreen LCD Television set.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please remember to bring your OFANA membership current by May 25, 2012

FINANCIAL / LEGAL

The IRS has accepted our Tax Return for years 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The latest Financial Information of the Association is available at the Members ONLY portal on the website

UNDER CONSIDERATION

The Executive is examining the cost benefit of Membership in the **Union of Jamaican Alumni Associations** as a vehicle to disseminate information in the wider community and broaden our own support base. Annual dues for that organization is \$200.00

SAVE THE DATE

Reunion 2012: May 25 – 27, 2012 in Houston, TX. Your contribution for a full weekend of activities is \$90.00; for persons attending ONLY one day, 'Day Passes' are available for \$50.00.

Please make checks or money orders payable to: Ole Farmers Association N.A.' Inc.
Mail: c/o Jennifer Thompson or Lennox Brown
21823 Silverbrook Lane
Katy, TX 77449

Book special accommodation (\$85.00 per night) on-line at the Crowne Plaza Houston West:

https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=7906442

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Earl S. BROWN (Class of '57) who passed away 01/16/12 in Florida and was laid to rest in the Hollywood Memorial Gardens, Hollywood, FL on 01/28/2012

<http://www.fredhunters.com/obituary/80298/Earl-Brown/#memories>

Samuel A. CROOKS (Class of '58) who passes away 01/10/12 in Jamaica and was laid to rest in a Family Plot in Duncan's in Trelawny on 01/29/2012

Vernal TULLOCK (Class of '77) who passed away 01/17/12 in a Kingston Hospital and was laid to rest 01/28/12)

Ole Farmers you will be sorely missed.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWm1NbF1kw&feature=related>

INSPIRATION

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel"

Maya Angelou

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