



# 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](http://www.olefarmers.com)

## Volume 5

### January 2013

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2012 – 2013**

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## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Welcome to 2013 and to Volume 5 of Grapevine. Since its first issue in October 2011, Grapevine has been serving as a conduit for disseminating information on OFANA activities as well as keeping us inform on activities in the ole farmer community. Thanks for your readership and participation in the process.

One of OFANA's significant accomplishments has been the scholarships given to qualified students at the College of Agriculture, Science & Education (CASE). To date we have awarded 6 scholarships, two of which were the Dr. Aston Wood and the Dudley Johnson OFANA Memorial Scholarships respectively.

I am happy to inform you that the OFANA scholarships are yielding results. I recently attended the 2013 Founder's Day event at CASE where we awarded three 2012-2013 OFANA scholarships. The recipients from the previous year showed their appreciation in a letter to the organization. "With our tuition fees partially covered, we were able to focus more on our courses ... and improve our grades", they said. In addition to the scholarships, OFANA is considering a request to assist in the renovation of the Lecture Theatre on the campus.

OFANA funds these activities

through membership dues and by fund-raising activities in the regions. Please support the various region activities as well as the payment of your membership dues. You can access the membership form at [www.olefarmers.com](http://www.olefarmers.com) or from your region Vice President.

The region fundraising activities also have the added benefit of connecting with one another before the Annual General Meeting over the Memorial Day weekend.

On December 8, 2012 the NE Region had a successful Dinner Dance. The guest of honor was the Jamaica Consul General, Herman LaMONT. Below please view the Consul General with the Northeast organizing team and a group of



Ole Farmers enjoying the fun.

So go out to those region activities, have fun, support OFANA and pay your membership dues.

Thank You

*Wendell Codner*

## **OFANA SCHOLARSHIPS**

After rigorous vetting, the following were awarded Scholarships for the academic year 2012 – 2013 presented on 'Founders' Day':

**Mariama T. BROWN**  
**Dudley Johnson Memorial  
Scholarship**

**Almarie A. EDWARDS**  
**OFANA General Scholarship**

**Emilio G. ARCHER**  
**OFANA General Scholarship**

C.A.S.E. Students are encouraged to start preparation to apply for scholarships for the academic year 2013 – 2014. Download an Application Form now:  
<http://www.olefarmers.com/forms/>

**'OFANA: - supporting the enlightenment of education in pursuit of agricultural excellence'.**

## **OUR WEB-SITE**

Any Ole Farmer may submit articles or items of breaking news either directly or via email to [info@olefarmers.com](mailto:info@olefarmers.com). Members in good standing may log

in to the secure "members" only portal for access to financial information and photographs of recent events.

Anyone can make a donation by clicking on the PayPal "Donate button". For more information please logon to [www.olefarmers.com](http://www.olefarmers.com) and try it now.



## **MEMBERSHIP**

Please remember to bring your OFANA Membership up to date. Together we Ole Farmers are making a difference in the lives of our people. Not yet a member? For as little as \$2.00 per week, you can be a paid-up member. Download an application form now using the link below:

<http://www.olefarmers.com/forms/>.

Also follow on Facebook at us <https://www.facebook.com/groups/207036532652382/>

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**OFANA REUNION 2013:**  
**Ole Farmers to take over Fairburn and College Park, GA May 24 – 26, 2013.**

Details for booking accommodation will be circulated soon.

## **AROUND THE REGIONS**

### **Northeast Region donated \$10,000 towards OFANA Scholarships**

On Saturday, December 08, 2012 the Ole Farmers Association, North America (OFANA) NE Region held its annual dinner dance and fundraiser at the Stamford Marriott Hotel & Spa, Stamford, CT. The event was well supported and the 175 attendees enjoyed a memorable evening of festivities and dancing.

Proceeds from the event were in aid of the annual OFANA scholarships. The event was also attended by members of the late Dudley "Johnny-cock" JOHNSON and the family contributed \$3,000.00 towards the OFANA 2012-2013 Dudley JOHNSON Memorial Scholarship. The event raised over \$10,000 towards the OFANA scholarships.

Congratulations to the NE Region and its leader, Norma JARRETT for such a splendid effort.

Also attending was Alvin 'Visi' LYLE, as a specially invited guest. He was presented with an OFANA Appreciation Award for his contribution to education at the Jamaica School of Agriculture. Mr. LYLE expressed his gratitude for the fine gesture and really enjoyed reconnecting with Ole Farmers.

The Guest speaker at the event was the Consul General for Jamaica, Herman Lamont. He thanked the group for its great altruistic work and emphasized the important role that agriculture and agricultural education play in the history, development & continued growth of Jamaica.

Event Chair & Vice President of OFANA NE Region Norma Jarrett thanked the hard working committee members in the Connecticut, New York / New Jersey area for their continued hard work & commitment to ensuring the annual scholarship dance is a memorable event.

“In the past 4 years the event participation has grown significantly affording greater contribution to the OFANA Scholarship Fund from the region annually”, Ms. Jarrett stated. Jennifer Morgan Petgrave a committee member promises next year will be even bigger & better.

OFANA President Wendell Codner states that since the inception of the organization, OFANA has granted six (6) scholarships to qualified students at CASE.

OFANA is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes to foster the advancement of Agricultural Education among students pursuing degrees in Agricultural related Sciences in Jamaica.

The Association is incorporated under the US Internal Revenue Code, Section 501 © (3) and is operated through regional chapters in the US. The Executive meets once per month to conduct the association’s business. Please also visit us at:

<http://www.olefarmers.com/>

**OFANA Florida’s GROWN FOLKS NIGHT OUT** held Saturday, February 02 at Reggae Village in Ft. Lauderdale, FL though not well attended was an enjoyable tropical evening outing.

## **BACK A YAAD**

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, damage to the campus of the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE) was assessed at J\$75 million. The Japanese Government is committed to underwriting 50% of the cost of restoration and the remaining 50% will have to be raised from / by other stakeholders including the Alumni. Accordingly, a Restoration Fund has been established and Ole Farmers are encouraged to contribute to the fund as a demonstration of their gratitude for the role played by this noble institution in molding the individuals that they have become.

Contributions may be made to:  
**C.A.S.E. RESTORATION**  
Account # **212013986**  
National Commercial Bank,  
NCB Towers  
2 Oxford Road  
Kingston 5

St. Andrew  
Tel: 926-6628 / 6623 / 4

**Deposit slips clearly marked CASE RESTORATION should be scanned and emailed to**

[elthamgardens@cwjamaica.com](mailto:elthamgardens@cwjamaica.com)

(Joseph JOHNSON – Treasurer C.A.S.E. Alumni Association). All deposits will be acknowledged by an official Alumni Association receipt.

Notwithstanding, Founders’ Day was commemorated on January 26, 2013 to mark the 103rd Anniversary of the founding of Government Farm School, the foundation institution of what is now known as the College of Agriculture Science and Education.

Founders Day was conceived as the primary vehicle to realize these noble ideals. As Ole Farmers we have the tremendous responsibility of ensuring that the student body cultivate and nurture an appreciation for the very rich heritage, tradition and tremendous legacy of which they are the beneficiaries.

In keeping with the theme ‘**Celebrating our Legacy: Creating Visions of Future Excellence**’ Alumni engaged present students in face to face inspirational, motivational and educational discourses on the rich heritage and tremendous legacy of the College, presentation of scholarships to deserving students and in competitive sporting



competitions in sporting events.

**The 'Jolly Ole Farmers' successfully defending their titles in Soccer and Dominos (the weather did not allow for a sweep with Cricket).**

Webster McPHERSON, C.A.S.E. Alumni President had this to say:

"I would like to convey heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to those members of the Ole Farmers' fraternity who joined us on Saturday January 26th at the College as we celebrated Founders' Day 2013.

I am extremely happy that you were able to attend to support us as we highlighted the roles of the key founding fathers in the birth of our Alma Mater as well as the achievements of distinguished alumnus, Dr. Karl WELLINGTON as a means of inspiring and motivating the present students towards the pursuit of excellence. The gifts presented to the College and scholarships donated by OFANA to three (3) deserving, needy students were well received."

**OLE FARMERS CAN DO ANYTHING**

Ole Farmer **Everett STREETE a.k.a. EVER-G (Class of '78)** is once again poised to harvest **GOLD** in the categories of 'Favorite Artist' and 'Reggae Ambassador' at the 2013 Virginia Reggae Awards.



Enjoy our Brother's music at [www.evergmuzik.com](http://www.evergmuzik.com) or [www.myspace.com/evergm1](http://www.myspace.com/evergm1) and vote to show your support every day until May 14, 2013 at <http://virginiareggaeawards.com/vote/>

Congratulations to **Ole Farmer / Ambassador Derrick "Manny" HEAVEN (Class of '61)** who has received the Jamaica Observer Business Leader Lifetime Achievement Award for 2012.

Ambassador HEAVEN (the incumbent Executive Chairman of the Sugar Industry Authority) has previously provided distinguished service to Jamaica in the following capacities:



Secretary Manager of Jamaica 4H Clubs, Member of Parliament for St Catherine South Central, Minister of State in the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Jamaica's Consul General for New York, Jamaica's first Ambassador to Japan, Jamaica's High Commissioner to London and Chief Executive Officer of the Sugar Company of Jamaica.

Ambassador HEAVEN has been elected Vice President of the International Sugar Organization (ISO) in appreciation of his astute leadership of the Jamaican Sugar Industry for the past fifteen years and in recognition of the quality of his representation in the advancement of Jamaica's sugar interests.

Congratulations to **Ole Farmer Robert St. Aubyn "Lion" MONTAGUE (Class of '85),**



newly elected Chairman of the Jamaica Labour Party.

Ole Farmer MONTAGUE's elevation continues a trend of altruistic service to his fellow men by his valuable contributions in the capacities of:

President of the COA Student Council, President of the COA

Alumni Association, President of the Kiwanis Club of St Mary, Lieutenant Governor of Division 24, Eastern Canada and Caribbean District of Kiwanis International; Councilor for the Carron Hall Division of the St. Mary Parish Council, Mayor of Port Maria, Member of Parliament for Western St. Mary, Minister of State for Local Government, Minister of Agriculture (the 2nd Ole Farmer to be so appointed).

Congratulations to **Ole Farmer Joslyn WILLIAMS** (Class of '82) on his elevation to the rank of Bishop of Emmanuel Apostolic Church, 2 Slipe Rd, Kingston 5.



He continues a very rich tradition of members of the Ole Farmer fraternity articulating into and distinguishing themselves as persons of the cloth.

**Ole Farmers, our wish for you is success without boundaries in all your future endeavors. Be assured that 'Carlos' is well pleased.**

## WELLNESS CHECK

When it comes to the dreaded phenomenon known as cancer, your best defense is a strong offence; this is truly 'mortal combat'. To win we MUST be prepared. The time to start is now. Let's go:

As always, early detection is critical <http://www.cancer.org/index>

The foods we eat will help you in the fight:

[http://www.cancure.org/cancer\\_fighting\\_foods.htm](http://www.cancure.org/cancer_fighting_foods.htm)

Now that we've eaten the good stuff Let's not forget to exercise:

<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/exercise/HQ01676>

Here's to a healthier Ole Farmers everywhere:

<http://www.naltblackchurch.com/health/health-books.html>

## GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Ole Farmer **Headley "Sam" LAWRENCE** (Class of '62) made the transition to be with his maker on Monday, January 28, 2013 after falling ill the previous night. Ole Farmer LAWRENCE played a pivotal role during the formation of Sugar Workers' Cooperatives in the turbulent '70's with the FROME-MONYMUSK Land Company.

He went on to lead an illustrious career in politics with the Peoples

National Party, serving as Member of Parliament for Eastern Portland from 1989 – 1997 (appointed Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Planning and Production from 1989 – 1993).



After parliamentary politics he went on to serve the Caribbean region, as a Technical Advisor at the CARICOM Secretariat in Guyana.

A Candlelight service was held at for Folly Oval, Port Antonio, Portland on Friday February 8, 2013 and s Home going service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Ole Farmer LAWRENCE was held inside the Gymnasium of Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville, Manchester.

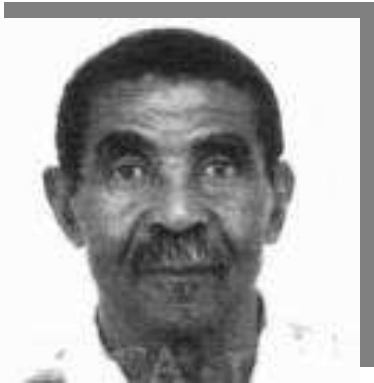
Ole Farmer **Eric JOHNSON** (Class of '60) made the transition to be with his maker December 27, 2012 after prolonged illness during which he suffered two strokes and other medical complications.

Mr. JOHNSON made his mark researching small livestock nutrition and production systems with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development

Institute.

The home-going service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Ole Farmer JOHNSON was held on Sunday, January 20, 2013 at the Spanish Town Seventh Day Adventist Church, 7 Brunswick Ave, St. Catherine. Interment followed at Meadow Rest Memorial Park, St. Catherine.

Ole Farmer **Lloyd 'Wiggie' WIGGAN (Class of '54)** made the



transition to be with his maker on December 21, 2012 after a long and valiant fight with prostate cancer.

Dr. WIGGAN, a stalwart livestock scientist, quietly and unassumingly gave exemplary service to the development of the Livestock Industries and Agriculture in general in the Caribbean Region for almost fifty (50) years.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Ole Farmer WIGGAN was held January 12, 2013 at Grace Missionary Church, 7 West Avenue, Kingston 8. Interment followed at Dovecot Memorial Park, Green Acres, St. Catherine.

Ole Farmer **Ayo BAPTISTA (Class of '61)**, a resident of the United States of America, passed away early December 2012. A wake was held on December 09, 2012 and his funeral service followed on December 10, 2012 in his home state.

Ole Farmer **Stanley GORDON (Class of '57)** passed away December 03, 2012 in Queen's County, New York after a six month battle with lung cancer.

Ole Farmer GORDON left his mark on the Agricultural Extension Service, Jamaica 4H Clubs and after migrating to the USA in 1969 on New York's Wall Street with Merrill Lynch and American Express.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of the Ole Farmer was held at the St. David's Episcopal Anglican Church, Cambria Heights, Queen's, New York, on December 8, 2012. A second service of thanksgiving was also held at the St Andrew Parish Church, Half Way Tree, Saint Andrew on December 15, 2012.

Ole Farmer **Wayne 'Brucky' WELLINGTON (Class of '77)** passed away in the St. Ann's Bay Hospital on November 23, 2012 after a fierce battle with cancer.

'Brucky' made his contribution in the field via the Agricultural Extension Service, the Cocoa Industry Board, T. Geddes Grant

Ltd. and Antilles Chemicals Ltd. To know him was to love him.



A service of thanksgiving for his life and work was held at the St. John's Anglican Church in Ocho Rios, St. Ann on December 10, 2012. His remains were interred in the church yard.

From his widow:

<http://www.123greetings.com/send/view/01102113618958258266>

Ole Farmer **Jones BISCETTE (Class of '77)** passed away October 23, 2012 in St. Lucia.

Ole Farmer **Michael ROMAN (Class of '77)** also passed away October 07 in New York after succumbing to a heart attack.

Ole Farmer ROMAN served Jamaica's Sugar Industry well, before migrating to the USA.





A service of thanksgiving for his life was held October 21 at Faith Chapel Baptist Church, 554 Prospect Place in Brooklyn, NY and interment followed at Pine Lawn Cemetery, Long Island, NY.

**Ole Farmers, you all will be sorely missed:-**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWm1NbF1Ikw&feature=related>

## CONDOLENCES

OFANA extends sincerest condolences to the following:

**Hyacinth BELLE-TAYLOR** (and Family) who lost her dear Sister and Brother-In-Law, Ivel and Anthony RAMBARAN on January 08, under very tragic circumstances in Rosemount, Linstead, St. Catherine.

**Hazel McGHEE** (and Family) who lost her Son-In-Law, Carey SPELLER on January 06, when he succumbed to bone cancer in Duluth, GA.

You remain in our prayers.

## FOR YOUR SAFETY

Consider keeping your car keys beside your bed at night. In the event you hear a suspicious noise outside your home or someone trying to break into your house, simply press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be

activated and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies. If there is in fact an intruder, the last thing he or she wants is the attention of neighbors or passers-by, so changes are they will elect to leave the scene.

As well, remember to carry your keys in hand while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there to ward off a personal attack.

A car alarm system (now standard on many models) requires minimal maintenance and is an important tool in the fight against crime.

## JAMAICA 50

Get the highlights and images of the curtains coming down on Jamaica's Golden Jubilee Birthday celebrations:

[www.jis.gov.jm/ja50/v2/](http://www.jis.gov.jm/ja50/v2/)  
<http://jamaica50.ca/>  
[https://www.google.com/#q=jamaica+50th+anniversary&hl=en&tbo=u&source=univ&tbm=shop&sa=X&ei=JizrUOGHLYbc9AT\\_n4GYBA&ved=0CJgBELMY&bav=on.2,or.r\\_gc.r\\_pw.r\\_qf.&fp=6bdeb78ad73680a&bpcl=40096503&biw=1280&bih=923](https://www.google.com/#q=jamaica+50th+anniversary&hl=en&tbo=u&source=univ&tbm=shop&sa=X&ei=JizrUOGHLYbc9AT_n4GYBA&ved=0CJgBELMY&bav=on.2,or.r_gc.r_pw.r_qf.&fp=6bdeb78ad73680a&bpcl=40096503&biw=1280&bih=923)

[https://www.google.com/search?num=10&hl=en&site=img&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1280&bih=923&q=jamaica+50+celebrations&oq=jamaica+50&gs\\_l=img.1.6.0110.2533.7320.0.17608.10.8.0.2.2.0.91.665.8.8.0...0.0...1ac.1.e9hu4LB9liE](https://www.google.com/search?num=10&hl=en&site=img&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1280&bih=923&q=jamaica+50+celebrations&oq=jamaica+50&gs_l=img.1.6.0110.2533.7320.0.17608.10.8.0.2.2.0.91.665.8.8.0...0.0...1ac.1.e9hu4LB9liE)



Ambassador Usain BOLT, in keeping with Jamaica's rich heritage in Track & Field and following his brilliant performances at the Olympic Games in London, was awarded the BBC Overseas Sports Personality of the Year for the third time.

The award is decided by a panel of over 30 sports journalists and is presented annually to a non-British sportsperson considered to have made the most substantial contribution to a sport in any given year.

**OFANA endorses 'four more years' of Usain BOLT.**

## INSPIRATION

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

**Nelson Mandela**