



# 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 6**

**April 2013**

**Executive Committee  
2012 – 2013**

Wendell Codner (President)  
Norma Jarrett (VP - North East)  
Balford Banton (VP - Georgia)  
Peterson Warburton (VP - Florida)  
Carl Gardiner Thompson (VP - Texas)  
Norma Dawkins (Treasurer)  
Lennox Brown (Assistant Treasurer)  
Jennifer Thompson (Secretary)  
Sharon Heath (Assistant Secretary)  
Paul Drummond (Public Relations  
Officer)

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Welcome to Peach Country in Atlanta, GA and to the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Ole Farmer's Reunion Event. We are looking forward to a rich experience over the Memorial Week-end 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 Atlanta Region for planning and executing the weekend of activities.

The Ole Farmers Association North America, Inc. (OFANA) is the official Alumni Association for graduates of The Jamaica School of Agriculture and Farm School and its successor colleges, COA & CASE. Founded in 2007 in New York, our mission is to preserve the spirit, values and guiding principles of our Alma Mater. We will accomplish this through a strong network of members and by leveraging our training, talents and experiences through social activities and the support of altruistic endeavors.

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. 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.

Since announcing the OFANA scholarships in Jamaica on May 30, 2010 the organization has awarded six scholarships to qualified students at CASE. Of significance this year was the Dudley Johnson OFANA Memorial Scholarship that was awarded to Mariama Brown on January 26<sup>th</sup> at Founder's Day at CASE. Nadine Johnson, daughter of the late Dudley "Johnny Cock" Johnson was in attendance and presented the award.



OFANA is also in conversation with CASE on the renovation of the Lecture Theatre.



I believe that OFANA has established an altruistic footprint and has been giving back to the community. To continue this work, we need more hands on deck. So as

you attend this weekend's celebration, think also of ways that you can leverage your skills for the organization.

The Ole Farmers Association North America is incorporated under the US Internal Revenue Code, Section 501 © (3) and is operated through regional chapters in the US and in Canada. The Executive meets once per month to conduct the association's business. Please also visit us at our website at [www.olefarmers.com](http://www.olefarmers.com).

Enjoy the festivities and have a great weekend in Atlanta.



**WENDELL CODNER**  
President  
[wenfmc@hotmail.com](mailto:wenfmc@hotmail.com)

## REUNION MESSAGE

Welcome to the peach state of Georgia, to this our 7th Annual Ole Farmers' Reunion Event. We are looking forward to a rewarding experience over the Memorial Week-end as we continue to share in the rich comradeship that exists among Ole Farmers.

As Ole Farmers converge on Georgia let me hope that everyone will have a peach of a time and that you find the planned activities both enjoyable and memorable.

We will kick off our celebration on Friday, May 24 at headquarters 8290 Equinox Lane in Fairburn with our registration and 'Meet and Greet'.

On Saturday, May 25, will be our big day. Firstly, we have the picnic from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM followed by our Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Camp Truitt Center, 4300 Herschel Road, College Park. The big dinner dance will follow at the same location starting at 8:00 PM with music provided by "Oneness Sound" featuring DJ Roy.

On Sunday, May 26, we have our church service at the Berean Outreach Ministries Center, 351 Hamilton E Holmes DR NW, Atlanta starting at 10:00 AM, to be officiated by Ole Farmer Bishop John BAKER. The brunch will follow at Clifton's Jamaican Restaurant, 426 W. Broad Street, Fairburn. The wrap up event will be a lime and social at "BR" Residence, 1005 Winding Brook Way, Fairburn, starting at 8:00 PM on Sunday, May 26.

On behalf of my team, we look forward to seeing you in Georgia and hope that you will enjoy the festivities and have a 'peach' of a time.



**"BR" Banton**

Vice President,  
OFANA GA Region

## OFANA SCHOLARSHIPS

### 2012 recipients say thanks:

Anna-Kay S. CHAMBERLAIN and Matthew M. NEUFVILLE: recipients of the prestigious **OFANA Scholarships & Maurice R. THOMAS:** recipient of the prestigious **Dr. Aston WOOD Memorial Scholarship;** presented by Wendell CODNER, President of the Ole Farmers Association of North America (OFANA) had this to say -

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit."(Aristotle).

It has been truly a tremendous change since we were awarded those prestige scholarships. We allocated the funds given, to tuition / fees and the purchase of electronic computers which enhanced research and completion assignments on a timely basis.

With our tuition / fees partially covered, we were better able to focus on our courses. This proved to be advantageous as with the help of the almighty we dramatically improved our Grades, despite other challenges.

We were also motivated to continue doing voluntary work on the college campus and wider community, through sports, clubs and environmental restoration projects. It is now our duty to challenge others to do better than what we have done and strive for the highest, as the limit is the sky.

It is with sincerity that we the awardees of OFANA Scholarships express our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Wendell Codner. We also whole heartedly thank everyone that contributed towards the success of the Ole Farmers Anniversary commemoration.

Copy to:

Rev. Dr. Mary NICHOLS  
(President)

Rev. Glenville McLEOD (Director  
of Student of Affairs)

Mr. Wendell CODNER (President  
OFANA)

C.A.S.E. Students are encouraged to start preparation to apply for scholarships for the academic year 2013 – 2014.

Application Forms may be downloaded now at:

<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 us on Facebook at <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** as Georgia hosts the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual OFANA Reunion.

For details visit

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

## BACK A YAAD

### **‘Jubilee for ‘63’**

The **Class of ‘63** cordially invites Ole Farmers at large to join them in celebrating their **‘Golden Jubilee’** with a slate of activities culminating at the 2013 Denhigh Agricultural Show. Members planning to be home for the Independence Holiday(s) are encouraged to turn out in support.

### **‘Campus Restoration’**

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.

**‘Knockalva Great House Facelift’**

The 2013 Knockalva Labour Day project scheduled for Thursday, May 23 will focus on a facelift for the Great House. Knockalva has been ‘Prep-School’ to hundreds of Ole Farmers whose support is being sought to make the project a success.

Contact:

**Canute SADLER** - President  
Alumni Association (876 – 564 - 6327)

**Lenny WEBB** - Vice President  
(876 – 414 – 6049)

**Josh NELSON** – Principal /  
Superintendent (876 – 279 – 7735)

**Ray HILL** - Chairman School  
Board (876 – 367 – 1978)

Follow at:

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/  
Knockalva-Agricultural-  
School/312438358820666](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Knockalva-Agricultural-School/312438358820666)

‘FACTA NON VERBA’

**OLE FARMERS CAN  
DO ANYTHING**

OFANA salutes the following:

Ole Farmer **Lenworth FULTON** (Class of ‘77) on his recent appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) effective May 01.



Ole Farmer **FULTON** previously served as:

- Executive Director of Jamaica 4H Clubs
- Managing Director of the defunct College of Agriculture Jamaica Foundation.
- Project Agricultural Economist at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Agricultural Extension Officer with the Ministry of Agriculture

Ole Farmer **FULTON** brings to RADA, substantial managerial

experience, tremendous organizational ability, vast knowledge and passion for the development of the agricultural sector and the capacity for successful networking throughout the agricultural sector in Jamaica and OFANA wishes him boundless success going forward.

Ole Farmer **Patrick MAITLAND** (Class of ‘88) in addition to his success with ‘Street Hype Newspaper’ in the New York Tri-State Area, has gone global with



‘The Agriculturalist’;  
<http://www.scribd.com/doc/128159050/The-Agriculturalist-newspaper-March-2013>

a free newspaper for progressive farmers in Jamaica and the Caribbean, with highlights of news, views and technical matters affecting farmers.

The paper is circulated by the Agri Life Foundation (of which Ole Farmer MAITLAND is Chairman) established as a non-profit organization to foster and encourage farmers to become more self-sufficient and competitive in a free market economy.

The Foundation seeks to achieve these goals through collaboration, professional support and advice from experts in the field. Such collaboration will provide a platform for individuals from academia, business, government, and the farming community to share research-based information and technology regarding environmentally sound management and profitable agricultural production practices.

Visit [www.agrilifefoundation.org](http://www.agrilifefoundation.org) to see what our Brother is doing.

Ole Farmer **Everett STREETE a.k.a. EVER-G (Class of '78)** continues to rock the music world from Hampton, VA where again showcased his talent for the 2013 Virginia Reggae Awards and at several popular venues.



Enjoy our Brother's music at [www.evergmuzik.com](http://www.evergmuzik.com) or [www.myspace.com/evergm1](http://www.myspace.com/evergm1)

Watch him in action at: <http://www.reverbnation.com/everg>

Go see him live at the Herndon Festival, Herndon, VA on June 01.

**Ole Farmers, our wish for you is success without boundaries in all your future endeavors.**

## WELLNESS CHECK

ASPIRIN to the rescue! Who knew?

Keep ASPIRIN close to you (in your car, pocketbook, wallet, bedside, etc.) in the event of a heart attack.

Apart from the pain in the left arm, other symptoms of a heart attack include:

- intense pain in the chin
- nausea
- sweating

Approximately 60% of persons who suffered a heart attack during their sleep did not wake up. Where the chest pain wakes one up from deep sleep, one should immediately dissolve two aspirins in the mouth and swallow with water.

Note: There may be NO pain in the chest during a heart attack

Afterwards: CALL 911

- say "heart attack!"
- say that you have taken 2 aspirins.
- phone a neighbor or a family member who lives very close by
- take a seat on a chair or sofa near the front door, and wait for their arrival and DO NOT LIE DOWN!

Bayer is making crystal aspirin to dissolve under the tongue. They work much faster than the tablets.

## GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Ole Farmer **Lloyd GRANT (Class of '54)** made the transition to be with his maker March 13.

Ole Farmer GRANT (a Hanoverian) gave dedicated service to the livestock subsector of the Jamaican agriculture. He worked tirelessly at Bodles Research Station as a Livestock Officer on the T.P.LECKY led team that developed Jamaica's indigenous cattle breeds. He was the first Manager of the Commercial Farm at the Jamaica School of Agriculture, Livestock Manager of the Agricultural Development Corporation, Farm Manager of Bodles Agricultural Research Station and later a successful goat farmer himself.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Ole Farmer GRANT was held at the Spanish Town Cathedral (Anglican) in St. Catherine on March 26.

Ole Farmer **Leon Rudolph CROMBIE (Class of '57)** died on February 13, 2013 in Jacksonville, Florida.

A service of thanksgiving for his life and work was held February 23, at Brookside Funeral Home, Cypress Creek, Houston, TX. He was laid to rest next to his wife who had preceded him, at

Memorial Oaks Cemetery,  
Houston, TX.



Ole Farmer CROMBIE gave yeoman service to the Jamaica Livestock Association, Ministry of Commerce, Jamaica Development Bank, Agricultural Credit Bank and to Prairie View A&M University.

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

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

## CONDOLENCES

OFANA extends sincerest condolences to:

Ole Farmer **Balford BANTON (Class of '79)** and Family over the passing of his beloved Mother-In-Law, Ms. Ambrozone THOMAS on April 29 in the Mandeville Regional Hospital.

The wake for Ms. THOMAS will be held on Thursday, May 30, in Lampard District near Frankfield, Clarendon. The Funeral Service will be held Saturday, June 01, at

the Church of God of Prophecy, Pennants, Clarendon. Interment will follow in the family plot in Lampard District.

**You remain in our prayers.**

## FOR YOUR SAFETY

### At Home

- Always leave your headlights on when arriving home after dark until you have unlocked the garage door, or unlocked the front door.
- When arriving home by private auto or taxi, ask the driver to wait until you are safely inside.
- Have the door key in your hand so you can open the door immediately when you return home.
- If you are a woman alone, list only your first initial and last name on the mailbox, or in the telephone directory.
- When moving into a new apartment or residence, **ALWAYS** have the locks re-keyed, or changed.
- Know who is at your door before opening it. Wide angle door viewers (180 degrees or 190 degrees) enable you to identify the visitor. You can see the person, that person can't see you.
- Never rely on chain locks. They are a privacy lock, but not a security lock.

- Never dress in front of windows, always close your drapes.
- Never let anyone into your home without proper identification. Don't be afraid to ask for identification.
- Never let strangers into your home to use the telephone. Make the call for them while they wait outside.
- Always leave outside lights on after dark, or use motion lights.
- If you receive a wrong number phone call, don't give out your name or phone number.
- If you receive an obscene phone call, hang up and call police.
- In an apartment building, **NEVER** be alone in the laundry room.
- If you suspect anyone is in your house, do not go in. Go to a neighbor and call the police.
- If you see or hear anything suspicious, call the police.

## INSPIRATION

If you have no confidence in self, you are twice defeated in the race of life. With confidence, you have won before you have started.

*Marcus Garvey*