

JCAA NEWSLETTER

CARIFEST 2007

Another Carifest year has come through successfully. The JCAA Carifest organizers started the festival season with a small but fun parade group, singing and dancing their way west on Calgary's Stephen Avenue. The colours of Jamaica were proudly demonstrated throughout the group. The old saying, "We will never give up!" was evident.

It took many months to organize the big day at the park. The year JCAA had one motto "serve it with a smile". JCAA had one of the largest tents in the park. We started early that day selling food, drinks and sweet snacks, until late into the evening, keeping everything flowing with our volunteers. The local performers put on a steady show for the crowd throughout the day. Even though the sun came out occasionally the singers and dancers made up for the damp weather.

JCAA would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this year's Carifest a complete success. Special thanks to the Mount Royal students for wanting to do a write-up on Jamaicans migrating to Canada. The students came out to the meetings and Carifest day they took notes and interviewed some of the executive members. Thanks to everyone who came out and supported Carifest 2007.

REGGAEFEST 2007

Calgary's ReggaeFest was full of music, food and fun. JCAA was on the scene once again and brought their smiling faces to the colourful event. JCAA sold patties, boiled corn and fruit drinks along with some Canadian specialties.

The public came out to listen to some great music from performers across the country and overseas. JCAA proved that they can overcome any kind of challenge that faces us. The day started off sunny and turned cold and windy in the evening. JCAA workers kept in good spirits until the end of the event.

ReggaeFest 2007 was a great experience and we look forward to seeing what next year will bring with this festival. Special thanks to the volunteers who helped all day; without them we would not be able to make an impact on our community.

JAMAICA DAY

The event went ahead as planned. Heather Harding did most of the planning and the rest of the Executive threw in their support. The venue was great (Rotary Challenger Park). The weather could have been better. There was lots of food and fun. What we were lacking was people. It was very disappointing! For those who attended there was non-stop music, and enough to eat and drink, and more to take home. Everyone got some type of a gift. We all had fun. Here is hoping that it will be better attended next year should we decide to hold it next year. Please let executive members know if you think this event should be continued.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting is set for Saturday, October 27, 2007 at 700 p.m. at Winston Heights Community Hall (520 – 27th Avenue N.E.) Elections will be held at this meeting for all positions.

Issue for October 2007

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MEMBERSHIPS

Under our revised Bylaws all memberships are due at the Annual General Meeting or so after the elections. This will tie them into the financial year, which runs from Dec. 1st to November 30th. Book keeping will be much simpler under this new schedule.

FINDING A HOME FOR THE JCAA

The members have voted and our participation in the Shepard Community Centre is a go. Tony, Spencer and the Building Committee have been working hard and have reached an agreement. The future looks bright for JCAA's new home.

JCAA SCHOLARSHIPS 2007

The JCAA remains committed to the goal of giving back to the community while assisting members and supporters of our association in their academic endeavors. We have received three (3) applications and these will be processed in early October.

HURRICANE RELIEF

JCAA took donations for Jamaican Hurricane Relief at the Jamaica Day event as well as the two (2) September meetings. From our members we collected \$1170. This money was matched by JCAA so the final donation to the Red Cross is \$2340.

JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

JCAA is partnering with the Jewish Community to present a film (Wondrous Oblivion) set in London, England about a Jewish family and a Jamaican family. A Jewish boy learns cricket from the Jamaicans. Strugglah will provide music for the event and light refreshments will be served. This all takes place on Saturday, November 17th at 7 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue (1325 Glenmore Trail S.W) The cost is \$10 per person and tickets will be available through JCAA or at the door.

2007 EXECUTIVE

<i>President</i>	....	<i>Spencer Gooden</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	....	<i>Donnovan Simon</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	....	<i>Shirley Jones</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	....	<i>Verona Sinclair</i>
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	....	<i>Murline McDonald</i>
<i>Membership Assistant</i>	....	<i>Elsie Lawson</i>
<i>Social Coordinators</i>	....	<i>Anthony Singh</i> <i>Ewart Russell</i>
<i>Public Relations Officer</i>	....	<i>Phillip Carr</i> <i>Karen Thorpe-Cochrane</i>
<i>Youth Coordinator</i>	<i>Heather Harding</i>

"No man is an island. No man stands alone"

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