

AfroPanamanian Newsletter



English opens doors. Read the Newsletter

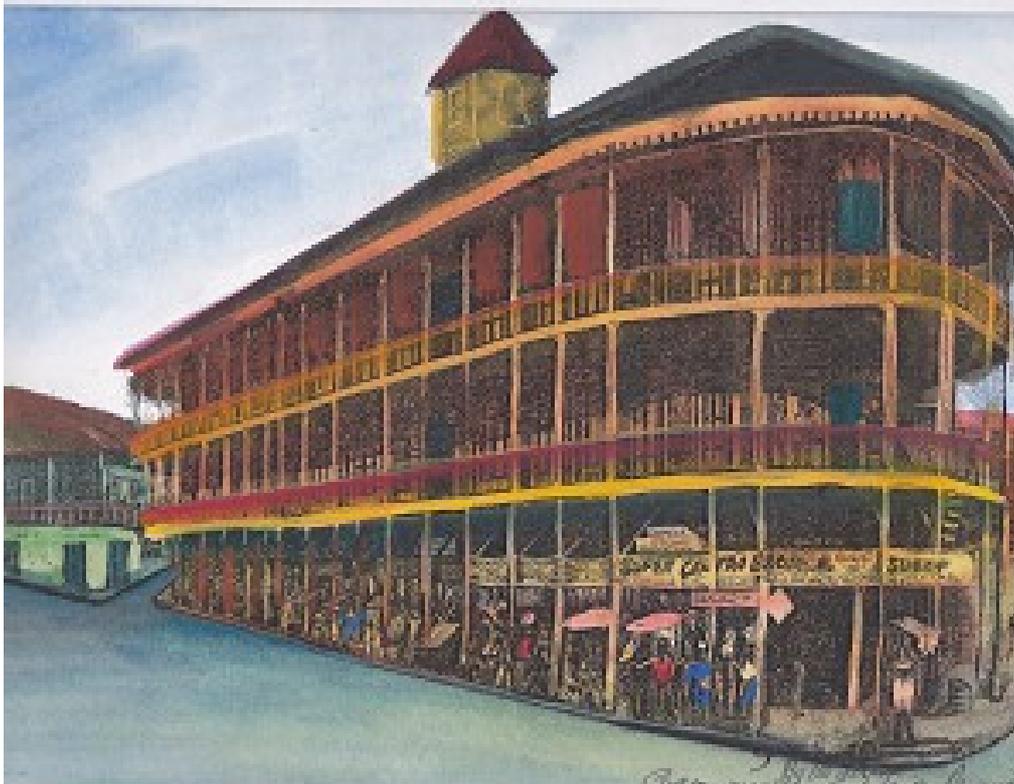
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We encourage our web readers to feel free to use our links to find scholarships, jobs, grants and others.

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Müller's Building

Built in 1910

Anecdotes

Controversy

Poetry

LOS AMIGOS :

**Por la superación de la Etnia Negra
(Incorporated to SEAPAT EVENTOS, S.A.)**

A group of friends, in Panama, decided to join forces to work on the rescue of values, customs and cultural traditions bequeathed to us through our ancestors. These have been displaced by others, thus losing a large part of our Black Heritage. We are evaluating all these forgotten traditions and values and highlighting figures as examples for future generations.

“For Black history to be done right, we must do it ourselves.” Edward Gaskin

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The editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by our collaborators

Cover Page: The stamp which appears on the cover was proposed to the Canal Zone Government by Mr. George W. Westerman (r.i.p.) accepted and issued in 1951 as a 10 cent postage stamp, used for years. Permission for its continuous use was given by his grandnephew, Cecil Reynolds.

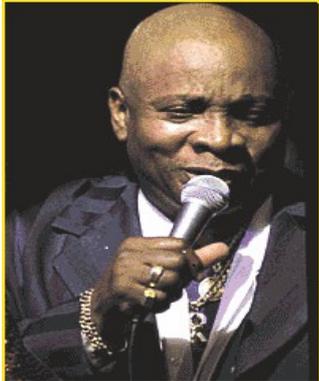
Editorial ADVICE FOR LIFE

*Cherish your old friends·
Seize every opportunity
to meet;
such meetings
will become fewer
as they pass on·
Friendship ends
when you stop
sharing.*

Kindness is the language the blind can see and the deaf can hear.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please type REMOVE and reply to afropanamaniannewsletter@gmail.com

August feedback.

<p>Ines, thank you guys for another well done set of information. I would like to add another pioneer in scouting in Panama was Mr. Marshall who was my scout master who lived in 14 th Rio Abajo. He is the father of Yvonne Marshall wife of Raymond Jaimeson who also was a member of the scout group. Iness, there is a tall guy that I saw dancing Quadrille he was Assistant to Mr. Marshall, his name I can't remember, but they used to call him Flaco.</p> <p>Keep up the good work Hank</p>	<p><i>Thank you H.</i></p> <p><i>Together with the history of scouting we will be including biographies of the outstanding participants, like we did with Baden-Powell.</i></p> <p><i>The tall guy was Calton Francis.</i></p>
<p>...Let's Do It In The Caribbean (www.letsdoitinthecaribbean.com) has partnered with Melida Harris and Dalton Ferdinand publishers of Palenque Magazine to be our Exclusive Latin America and USA Management Partners.</p> <p>I have contacted this magazine (Newsletter) on many occasions in search of ways that we could collaborate in promoting and marketing each other products and services.</p> <p>I think that this merger and partnership with Melida Harris and Dalton Ferdinand, both Panamanians, could easily find the synergy between both companies.</p> <p>Looking forward to your positive response...</p> <p>We always enjoy your well written and informative newsletter. I think that we can help to spread your newsletter to a wider audience.</p> <p>One Love Theo & Sharon Chambers</p>	<p><i>Thank you Theo:</i></p> <p><i>We've found that Palenque is a very good sister magazine, our only hesitation is the fact that Palenque needs registration to read it.</i></p> <p><i>We've mentioned this to Melida.</i></p> <p><i>Our intention is that our information be available to everyone in the world free of charge or encumbrance.</i></p> <p><i>That is what we mean by share and forward.</i></p> <p><i>Any information that you wish to spread that is not for immediate usage, (since we only publish once a month) we will promote.</i></p>
<p>(contributed by Sharon-Parris-Chambers)</p> <p>Barbadians are known for their obsession with cars, and motor sports is the most popular spectator sport on the island.</p> <p>In May of 2014 Barbados plans to host the first of three Top Gear Festivals. Click here for more info on the upcoming sports festival.</p> <p>Source: Happy Travels, Linda Thompkins ---</p> <p>Cuban Presence in Construction Sector in South Africa http://www.brazilsun.com/index.php/sid/216790602/scat/e25e481de4af3ed3</p>	 <p>Mighty Sparrow in Coma</p> <p>http://www.caribnewsdesk.com/news/6524-mighty-sparrow-in-coma (contributed by Robert Jackman).</p>

OPPORTUNITIES:

- [Panama Int'l Youth Entrepreneur Conference – Preparing Youth for Leadership Today](#) (use control CLICK to see this article) (contributed by Sharon Parris-Chambers)

- Obtain your Masters in the United Kingdom through a Chevening Scholarship

Do you have the potential to be a future leader and a desire to study in the UK? If you would like to enhance your leadership skills and become part of the growing Chevening network, read about [how to apply for a Chevening Scholarship in Panama](#).

We aim to attract talented professionals who are potential future leaders, decision-makers and opinion formers.

The Scholarships not only offer financial support to study for a Master's degree at the UK's leading universities, but the opportunity to become part of an influential and highly regarded global network.

To apply for a Chevening Scholarship you should check your country page for details of priority areas and any specific information that applies to applicants from your country, including the closing date for applications.

Before applying, it is imperative that you thoroughly read the [Guidance for Applicants](#) and the [Terms and Conditions for Chevening Scholarship Awards](#) as these contain important information on what details you will need to include in your application.

All applications for a 2014/15 Chevening Scholarship must be submitted online by completing the [Chevening Scholarships online application form](#). Instructions on submitting your application can be found in the Guidance for Applicants.

Applications for 2014-2015 Chevening Scholarships in Panama are now open and will close on **8 November 2013**.

A Chevening Scholarship in Panama includes: a monthly stipend, travel to and from your country via an approved route, an arrival and excess baggage allowance, a thesis or dissertation grant, the cost of an entry clearance visa and tuition fees. Tuition fee payments for Master's in Business Administration (MBA) courses have an upper limit of £12,000 in all countries.

If you study for an MBA you will be expected to fund any difference above this sum.



----- **Or Bachelors' in the US**

The Walton International Scholarship Program

The objective of the program of universities in Arkansas, USA, has been to promote democracy and free enterprise in Latin America through education. Each year, rigorous screening processes are carried out in El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Belize and Mexico to identify the next class of students. **Online applications will open on September 01, 2013.**

OLDEN DAYS SAYINGS

The lottery just played. I got **“pipped”**. I bought 24 and 25 played.

Eh! eh!. Kuya...(well, well; look at her/him) **“See me is one, come live with me is another”**. When he was courting, it was **“honey move yuh footsy-footsy,”** after he got married, it was **“woman, move yuh hoof”**.

Acrostic to Earl Newland published in
 “La Republica” Thursday June 25, 1981
 by Charles L. Barton (R.I.P.)

E very human need, he endeavored to fulfill,
 A lways concerned about human lives in speeding buses,
 R eady always to stretch hand to beggars on the street,
 L aughs and talks with a chuckle in the purest sense of humor.

V isited hospital patients like community sick visitor,
 I nvited to a luncheon, Earl would taste it in modesty,
 N either a buyer, a seller, nor a user of tobacco and rum,
 C ritized many church activities, but always suggested improvements,
 E very call for ideas, can find Earl ready to assist,
 N ever early for church sermons, but never late for closing,
 T alks and thinks only of Social Economy for Blacks.

N oted for shorthand writing, a system he alone can read,
 E very hospital patient he visited, received his Christian cheer,
 W riting poetry constantly to describe community needs,
 L ove in action is his masterpiece and his song,
 A rgues at every point, many times right or wrong,
 N ews writing his life's hobby, before and after retirement,
 D own to earth – the man Earl V. Newland is no hypocrite.

Smiling is Infectious

Anonymous

**Smiling is infectious,
 you catch it like the flu,
 When someone smiled at me
 today,
 I started smiling too.**

**I passed around the corner
 and someone saw my grin.
 When he smiled I realized
 I'd passed it on to him.**

**I thought about that smile,
 then I realized its worth.
 A single smile, just like mine
 could travel round the earth.**

**So, if you feel a smile begin,
 don't leave it undetected.
 Let's start an epidemic quick,
 and get the world infected!**

GAMES WEST INDIAN CHILDREN PLAYED (boy's games contributed by Mustafa)

STATUE OR FREEZE

A particular group of people, who agreed to play, would lay-wait each other, trying to catch them in compromising positions in which to order "statue or freeze" making the frozen one the laughing stock. If and when one refused to keep the "position" (I, Mustafa, was caught kissing once) until the rest arrived and saw them, then one accepted a punishment, which could be more embarrassing. But, why would one hold a position while the Ice cream cone melts or while the gang comes to see you lip to lip? That's unthinkable!

SOLDA'O

Like with most games, there's a social momentum that either originated it or it (the game) intended to curve a situation.

One of those such games was solda'o; the single rule of this game is that one receives a blow for any obscene word one utters.

All one had to do was agree to play with one or more boys, as a result, anytime one said a "bad word" within hearing distance of the others he earned a blow from each one or all at once. This could become very vicious for only the face was off limits, leaving the rest of the body to be punished seriously.

SCOUTING series (continued) (*snippets from here and there*) by Cecil V. Reynolds

1923 Clyde H. Smith (Reds) joined Troop No. 5 at the Methodist Church in Guachapali, British Boy Scouts Brigade.

1924 Identified with the leadership of the Baden-Powell Boys Scouts in Panama, **Sydney Young** went to England as their representative. (excerpted from G.W. Westerman's LOS INMIGRANTES ANTILLANOS EN PANAMA)

1930 Lord Robert Cecil Stephenson Smyth Baden Powell made his second visit to Panama, there was a parade in Panama where all the scout paraded in front of him and Clyde Smith along with Lewis from Colon had the honor of shaking their leaders hand.

The hand shake explained:

(left hand because it is closest to our heart, the three middle fingers together representing cubs, scouts and rovers; and the thumb over the small finger symbolising that the big one protects the small one).

This information has been passed down to their scouts. On this second visit he was received by Clifford Bolt on behalf of the British Boy Scouts Brigade and Isidoro Beluche on behalf of the “*Exploradores Panameños*”. There was strong discrimination among the groups at the time.

1933 John Cameron joined the British Boys Brigade troop No. 3 in Colon as a Cub Scout, returned to Jamaica continued in scouting there. Then returned to the British Boys Brigade and later joined the Association of Scouts in Panama, where he moved up the ladder to become a District Commissioner and Laison Officer.

1935 Calton Francis joined Troop No. 1 of the Methodist Church known as the British Boys Brigade, this group was abolished in 1940.

1935 J.S. Wilson from England met with Gunmar Berg and Ray Wyland of the Boy Scouts of America at Balboa, Panama on his way to Bogota, Colombia for a conference of mixed race scouts in the Panama Canal Zone, who claimed British and not Panamanian Nationality, it was agreed to host them under the International Bureau. As a result of this meeting the name was changed to the International Boy Scouts.

1940 Clifford Bolt and Isidoro Beluche requested authorization from England to resolve the problem of discrimination. Lord Hampton a commissioner from London came down and they met at the National Institute and since that meeting only one flag identified both groups and ended the discrimination.

Boy Scout uniforms were sold at Gaspar Omphroy's store in San Miguel – Calidonia.

1940 – 1944 Calton Francis joined “*Club de Exploradores de Panama*” under Clifford Bolt and in 1946 they started working as “*Asociacion de Scouts de Panama*”.

1944 Vicente Martin joined the British Boys Brigade at the Methodist Church in Malecon, Santa Ana.

1944 Clifford Bolt, Alfredo Sinclair, Carlos Zelenka, J.M Garrido, M.A. Maxwell, Jr. Blades, C. McAllister published the magazine “*El Scout*” “*órgano oficial del cuerpo de exploradores panameños*”.

1947 The International Boy Scouts was founded by the World Organization Movement but not recognized until 1955.

1947 Vicente Martin joined “*Cuerpo De Exploradores Panameños*” as a team leader No. 1 Simon Bolivar and recruited boys from the following schools: *Venezuela, Pedro J. Sosa, Guillermo Andreve, Gil Colunge* and others.

1948 The British Boy Scout Brigades participated in all the 3rd, 4th & 5th of November parades bearing the British flags for the last time. Name of some of the leaders of the British Boys Brigade: McAllister, Raymond George, Cyril Atherly, Sydney Young, Federico Maloney and others.

1951 Inez D. Mckenzie began the International Girls Scout movement in the Canal Zone along with Blandina Waterman, Omita Millet, Sylvester Callender, Hilda Butcher, Berdense Mackerson and others.

1951 Clyde H. Smith was called by the Methodist Church at Malecon to be a scout master at the IPA school, where he remained until he became a Commissioner and retired when he got married and had his first child.

Beresford John Cameron, son of West Indian parents: Vivian Cameron and Linda Rowe, born in Colon on March 19, 1923, was very much into the Boys Scout Movement. He joined the British Boys Brigade troop No. 3 in Colon as a Cub Scout in 1933, at the age of 11.

He went off to study in Jamaica, during which time he enrolled in the Scout Movement, becoming a "Rover" and "Rover Marine". Upon his return to Panama he reenlisted in Troop #3, where he remained till 1959. In 1969 he began working with Troop #58 as a Scoutmaster. From there on, he occupied the following positions: Sub Commissioner of the 8-D District; Scoutmaster of Troop #41; Scoutmaster Troop #38; National Commissioner and Counselor of Rover Clan #38.

He later joined the Association of Scouts in Panama, where he moved up to be a District Commissioner and Liaison Officer.

"John-John" as he was lovingly called, was honored on two occasions by Scout Troops for his dedication and service to the Scout Movement in Panama: District D.S. Troops #41 and #58.

CALTON FRANCIS was born in the province of Colon on January 23rd. 1927, the only son of Vera Clotilde Markham of Saint Lucia (R.I.P.) and Calton Francis of Colon (R.I.P.).

In 1935 he joined the British Boys Brigade Troop No. 1 as a Cub Scout at the Methodist Church, 16 St. From 1944 through 1948 he was in charge of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts with the Explorers of Panama under the guidance of the Ministry of Education, with Professor Manuel Roy and Clifford Bolt as Chief Scout. In 1951 he was the Cub Scout Commissioner.

In 1960 he founded Troop No. 12 Wesley, with the home base of the Methodist Church. Where he presented the re-organization of the Panama National Scout Association with the Law No. 80 and the formation of his group as a Group Master.

1963 He attended a Troop Preliminary Course in La Chorrera.

1964 Be Prepared Operation – 9th. of January Deed, 1st. Central America and Panama Camporee at Tocumen.

1965 appointed District "A" Commissioner covering Sta. Ana, San Felipe and Chorrillo; Preliminary Wood Badge Course for Cub Scouts at the Chorrera School Camp. He was also appointed Assistant Local Commissioner for the Province of Panama.

1967 Participated in the 1st. Scout-O-Rama at Via España.

1974 Chief Delegate to the Caribbean Jamboree in Surinam with 83 delegates (first time the female Cub Scout leaders participated) They presented our folklore and devils dances in conjunction with the International Boy Scout Association from the Canal Zone and the 801 Council of the B.S.A.

1976 Executive Commissioner for the Province of Colon; also director of the Wood Badge Boy Scout Course in (Quito) Ecuador.

1977 Cub Scout Wood Badge Course, Costa Rica.

1978 Conference in Guatemala – National Executive.

1981 Training Seminar in Costa Rica

1984 National Patrols Camp – Divisa

1985 January 23 turned over Troop No. 12 Wesley to Victor Wynter. Since that time he has been an advisor to Troop No. 12 Wesley. He also organized and participated in the 50 year anniversary of that Troop with a Parade and service.

1999 The National boy Scout Association in Panama celebrated a yearly recognition supper where they honored a Pioneer, Lt. Calton Francis.

In 1968 he founded and was the first President of the Sydney A. Young National and International Association of Veteran Scouts and Guides.

His advice to the youngsters coming up is to keep close to God and promote friendship between all fellowmen.

September 2013

Mueller's Building: *(The image on the cover is of a reproduction of a painting bought from a peddler outside ATLAPA. Our impression is that they photocopy the image then color it, but it is a good likeness of the building.) It is also mentioned at this site: <http://epiac1216.wordpress.com/2011/06/01/la-casa-miller-the-mullah-building/>*

Pin, Pin cayo Berlin, Pon, Pon cayo el balcon. *The words of this song were changed to the tune of <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IxE1oAw-nQ> after the Carnival in Panama when one side of the balcony of Mueller's building collapsed, hurting several people.*

Mueller's Building

(excerpted from The Panama American's *HISTORIC MUELLER'S BUILDING BEING DEMOLISHED AFTER 65 YEARS A LANDMARK*)

On Three lots rented from the Panama Railroad Co. later bought in 1934, Carlos W. Mueller built a ship-shaped 4-story edifice which would become a landmark in Panama, even to this day. Both residents and visitors to Panama have either heard about it, seen it or miss it.

“Carlos was the son of Luis Mueller, a German Immigrant, who had stopped over in Panama en route to the California Gold Rush.

While in Panama, Luis met Caroline, a Panamanian beauty, close to where the German Colony used to meet in the pharmacy on 9th Street West, across from the La Merced Church.

On his return from San Francisco to Panama, Luis married Caroline, and from that marriage, Carlos was begotten.. ...Nearby was the Calidonia Bridge, under which the train rattled.”

He got the necessary permission from the Municipal government to build an edifice to span the Three lots. Among the construction problems was, what to do with the roof? It was solved by the design a Cholo copied from the interior houses: a thatch-shaped zinc roof.



The ground floor was occupied by businesses, but started out, in part as a women's jail and Fire Station. Gaspar Omphoy opened the first commercial establishment under Mueller's building, selling bicycles and accessories.

Ines caught the bus there to and from music lessons upstairs Happy Land building. Her first slate and pencil were bought in Stone's Book Store, so were her Royal Readers. Cafe Ilsa made the cheapest and most delicious hamburgers (the meatballs were kept simmering in a sauce on the back of the stove). No hamburger rolls, only pullman bread, but, sooo good!!! Boyd Drug Store, where you could get a cotton ball soaked in alcohol for free if you got a scratch in an accident.

The ample balconies served some tenants to add a kitchen outside the one-room. It also covered the collection of lottery ticket vendors downstairs and passengers trying to board a chiva or bus. But, those same balconies attracted many persons to view the parades on Carnival and Panama Independence days.

On this occasion, for Carnival 1946, there was an excess of persons on the balconies, although the owners had policemen watching the stairs, the people got upstairs by claiming relative-residents. **Pon, pon cayo el balcon** on the 24th street side. Many were hurt.