CBA NEWS 中華會館通訊

CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION **September 2012**

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牙买加庆祝第50独立

Jamaica 50

On the 50th Anniversary of Jamaica's Independence the Chinese Community was well represented by the members of the Chinese Benevolent Association at the Grand Gala held at the National Stadium.

We are certain that when the first group of indentured labourers landed on the shores of Jamaica on July 30, 1854, they never dreamt that 158 years later their descendants would enjoy full citizenship and be a force to be reckoned with in national life.

So under the banner **CHILDREN OF THE DRAGON,** we performed the Dragon, Lion and Ribbon Dances. In keeping with tradition, the Prime Minister, Mrs. Portia Simpson-Miller was invited to paint the eyes of the Dragon to awaken him from his lethargy and bring his motionless body to life. This being the Year of the Dragon also gave added significance to this ritual and our call to A Nation on a Mission!

Jamaica 50 will be forever etched in our memories. The photographs here are a very small reminder of our role in our country's celebrations and a living testament to our Motto – Out of Many One People!

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Simpson-Miller preparing to paint the dragon eyes assisted by CBA President, Dalton Yap.

Leading them on stage.

Upcoming Events:

China National Day
Sunday, September 30, 2012
@ 6:00 pm
CBA Centre

Jiangsu Puppet Show
Wednesday, October 31, 2012
@ 6:30 pm
CBA Centre

CBA Annual General Meeting
Sunday, November 11, 2012
@ 12 noon
CBA Centre
Dim Sum will be served

From the Editor 编者的话

Jamaica 50! What a memorable period in our Island's history! Our athletes' performances at the Summer Olympics and Special Olympics, all the activities leading up to the Grand Gala and Miss Jamaica placing in the finals of the Miss World Pageant held in China. Just when we thought it couldn't get any better, the Reggae Boyz beat the USA in the FIFA World Cup qualifier! Without question this is our Year!

Our summer activities at the CBA: Suey Mein Night, the fund-raiser event for the Chinese Cemetery, the Summer Programme with instructors from China and the preparations leading up to our performance at the Grand Gala are all captured in this issue.

President Dalton Yap presented a paper on "The Riot of the 2006 Solomon Island and its Implications for Jamaica" at the Toronto Hakka Conference. It was a most enlightening essay and is worth noting as it relates to the current situation here at home.

Honey Bun Limited celebrates its 30th Anniversary this year. We congratulate them on this remarkable milestone and note that they were the first bakery to be listed on the Jamaica Junior Stock Exchange in 2011 with very impressive performances to date.

CBA News congratulates all students who have made the transition to high school, 6th Form and tertiary institutions. You are wished much success as you seek to achieve higher goals and greater rewards. Justin Lowe recounts his GSAT journey which resulted in him being granted a Government Scholarship to Campion College. Well done!

China National Day, celebrating the 63rd Anniversary of Nationhood will take place at CBA Centre on Sunday, September 30, 2012. Tickets are now available from the Office and Board Members.

The Jiangsu Performing Arts Group from China will be visiting Jamaica at the end of October. The Ministry of Youth & Culture in Association with the Chinese Benevolent Association will sponsor a free performance at the CBA Centre on Wednesday, October 31st starting at 6:30 pm. Tickets for the show will be distributed nearer to the date. So watch the press for details.

The Annual General Meeting of the Chinese Benevolent Association will be held on Sunday, November 11, 2012 starting at 12 noon. Dim Sum will be served. Do save this date and come prepared to serve your Association.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Marcia Harford
marciah@cwjamaica.com

Our History and Traditions

THE FIRST CHINESE IN JAMAICA

The first Chinese immigrants arrived in Jamaica on July 30, 1854 as indentured labourers, recruited by the British to work in the sugar plantations following the abolition of slavery.

When they completed their 3 year contracts many opted to remain in Jamaica and opened small grocery shops to serve the communities in which they lived. Thus evolved the well-known – "Chiney Shop"! This has been an important element in economic life and has assisted many a household in balancing the budget till Friday pay day.

Here we come...

Today our descendants have taken their place in every facet of Jamaican life and are playing their part in nation-building.

THE PAINTING OF THE DRAGON'S EYES

Chinese folklore tells us that 1,500 years ago there was a renowned painter whose name was Zhang Sengyou. Monks from the Anle Temple in the southern city of Nanjing invited him to paint dragons on the temple wall.

Zhang painted four lifelike dragons with his magical brush. But the monks quickly discovered that the dragons did not have eyes. They all wondered why. Zhang explained, "The dragons' eyes hold their spirits, without which their bodies are merely physical things. If I paint their eyes, they would fly away."

The monks and local on-lookers shook their heads in disbelief. Zhang breathed out a sigh, and took up his brush. He quickly painted eyes on two of the dragons. Suddenly, the sky darkened, thunder roared, and rain came down hard. The two dragons that had painted eyes broke through the wall and flew swiftly heavenward with a thunderbolt.

Dragons are believed to bring good luck to people, which are reflected in their qualities which include great power, dignity, fertility and wisdom.

We are strong, hear us roar.

THE LION DANCE

The Lion Dance is a form of traditional dance in Chinese culture in which performers mimic a lion's movements in a lion

The Musicians

costume. The lion dance is often mistakenly referred to as dragon dance. An easy way to tell the difference is that a lion is operated by two people, while a dragon need many persons. Since they are inside the lion. In a dragon dance, the performers can be seen as the dragon is held upon poles. Basic lion dance movements can be found in most Chinese martial arts.

The Lion Dance is performed accompanied by the music of the beating of drums, cymbals, and gongs. The instruments are synchronized to the lion dance movements and actions.

The Chinese Southern Lion Dance is more symbolic. It is usually performed as a ceremony to scare away evil spirits and to summon luck and fortune. The Chinese southern lion exhibits a wide variety of colour and has a distinctive head with large eyes (of an eagle), a mirror on the forehead (demons are supposedly scared of their own reflection), and a single horn at center of the head. Lion Dance costumes are considered to be spiritually protective when used as they are traditionally blessed before usage.

Firecrackers were supposed to be used to scare away the mythical being called ***nian*** and has very strong association with Chinese New Year Celebrations.

Firecrackers, however, are used in almost every joyous occasion such as weddings, birthdays, opening of offices or new businesses as well as Chinese festivals and religious celebrations.

RIBBON DANCE

Chinese ribbon dancing is a traditional art form that originates in ancient China. Using sharp, rhythmic movements and long colourful ribbons, dancers are usually female and perform to traditional Chinese music. The ribbons and choreography are precisely synchronized so that the ribbons form patterns and designs in the air that are captivating to all who watch a performance.

Doing our thing.

Lion, dancers and flag bearers.

Thank You

Our participation at the Grand Gala was sponsored by Tastee Limited, Lasco Distributors Limited and Coronation Bakery.
Special thanks to Dragon Palace, Dragon Court & Golden Gate Restaurants for the delicious dinner which fortified us for our splendid performance!

To our teachers from China, Community members, our young people and parents, we couldn't have done it without you!
Thanks to VP Karen Hoo and Eva Young, you worked tirelessly and we reaped the rewards.

We were there.

HONEY BUN – 超出预期

HONEY BUN - Exceeding Expectations

When Herbert Chong and wife Michelle, founders of Honey Bun, purchased a small bakery in Spanish Court, New Kingston in 1982, their vision was opportunity and growth. Twenty-nine (29) years later the vision still holds true and is the foundation which has characterized the company's operation.

This has enabled Honey Bun to develop into an immensely valued, recognized and loved Jamaican brand, known for freshly baked, premium quality products. Having outgrown a number of locations, the Chongs identified a larger manufacturing space on East Street in 1990, redirecting their focus and strategies to serving the mass market.

This effort resulted in the development of a comprehensive line of packaged snacks ranging from donuts and cupcakes to cinnamon rolls, and the brand being recognized as a Jamaican household staple. By 2005, it was clear that Honey Bun had the potential to become one of the leading brands in the market, and the Chongs were again on the move, this time to the company's present location at 26 Retirement Crescent to meet the growing demand.

With a modern factory space, retro-fitted with upgraded bakery equipment and a highly specialized team, the company expanded their portfolio with the introduction of another brand, Buccaneer Jamaica. Product development was also a major focus, with Honey Bun being widely recognized as driving the trend for innovative, value-added products such as cheese bread and cinnamon rolls.

What had been a small retail bakery with a handful of staff has evolved into a vibrant 24-hour, 7-days a week wholesale bakery, employing over 200 Jamaicans delivering the brand daily, practicing world class standards throughout its operation.

Honey Bun's commitment does not end on its production floor but extends to its strong socially responsible initiatives which include investments in education through its annual School Dayz Program, athletic sponsorships and consistent support of the indigent and less fortunate in our society.

Today the brand is still synonymous with superior quality, superior convenience and superior value. It is widely regarded as Jamaica's number one for taste in baked snack products, as is evidenced by the company being chosen for the National Quality Awards in both 2007 and 2008.

With distribution spanning key supermarket chains, gas stations and small retail outlets locally, and select outlets in the Caribbean, North America and Europe, the company is destined for international growth having been awarded the Jamaica Exporters' Association coveted Chairman's Award for Growing Exporter in 2008. Honey Bun is ultimately known in the baked goods market as "a little love in every bite" and recognized locally and internationally as an example of a strong, world class brand of Jamaica.

In June 2011, Honey Bun made history by being the first Bakery to list on the Jamaica Junior Stock Exchange after an overwhelming over subscription. In 2011, Honey Bun also achieved three (3) exceptionally notable awards; the Jamaica Exporters' Association MSME Award as well as the Jamaica Manufacturers' Award for Competitiveness and the Buy Jamaican Build Jamaica Award. Over the last 29 years, Honey Bun has been challenged, and in every situation has risen to the occasion through tremendous growth.

Goldie Launch 8 *- The Chong family, of Honey Bun Limited with the Minister of Industry Investment and Commerce Hon. Anthony Hylton at the company's launch of their new product - The Goldie, named to commemorate Jamaica's Golden Jubilee and our year of Gold for our Athletes.* ***(L-R)*** *Daniel Chong, Chief Operations Officer, Krystal Chong, Chief Marketing Officer, Minister Hylton, Michelle Chong, CEO and co-founder, Herbert Chong, Chairman and co-founder.*

(Left) *Marlene Street Forrest, GM of the Jamaica Stock Exchange views Honey Bun's new* ***"Perfect Buns"*** *at the products launch as Krystal, Michelle and Herbert Chong, CEO and Chairman of the company look on. Honey Bun rang the bell, for the first time at the Jamaica Stock Exchange to begin trading, in honour of this new product a few minutes earlier.*

Listing Service (L-R) *Krystal Chong, Michelle Chong, Father Charles of Missionaries of the Poor and Herbert Chong, after a special mass held at Corpus Christie Church to celebrate Honey Bun's listing on the Junior Stock Exchange last June 2011.*

多伦多客家会议
TORONTO HAKKA CONFERENCE

Our President Dalton Yap and his wife Pauline attended the Hakka Conference in Toronto, Canada which was held from June 29 to July 1, 2012 at York Universitry. The quadrennial conference was held under the theme "Many Places, One People, Chee-Gah Ngin" and fittingly many of our Hakka friends from all over the word came together as Chee Gah Ngin during the three days of feasting on Hakka culture, history and tradition. The President made a presentation titled "The Riot of the 2006 Solomon Island and its implications for Jamaica."

On 18 April 2006, violence erupted in Honiara following the election of Snyder Rini as Prime Minister, whom some believed had bought votes with help from Taiwan and from members of the local Chinese community. Over the next two days, hundreds of rioters took to the streets of the Chinese district, setting fires and looting shops. With smoke billowing over Chinatown in Honiara, some 90% of Honiara's Chinatown was destroyed. While some ethnic Chinese people were injured in the violence, there were no reported fatalities. By 25 April 2006, the Chinese government had airlifted 325 of its citizens to China.

President Yap describes the community as being divided between the "Old" Chinese who are largely of Hakka descent and some Cantonese post 1980," and the "New" Chinese, who arrived in the late 1980's and 1990's, and who are less integrated into the local society. He suggested that most Jamaicans differentiate between the "Old" Chinese, who are accepted as part of Jamaican society, and the "New" Chinese, who are not.

He compared and contrasted the business practices and behavior of the "New" Chinese in both countries and found many uncomfortable similarities such as complaints of low wages and poor working conditions, as well as allegations of unethical business practices.

He warned that unless the situation is dealt with, the over 150 years of goodwill that the Chinese had built will be frittered away replaced with animosity and ill feeling.

L-R: *President Dalton Yap, Judge Gail Chang Bohr, Fay Chang Allen & Paul Tie Ten Quee.*

Dalton & Pauline Yap.

DINNER TO WELCOME TEACHERS 晚会迎接暑期班教师

L-R: *President Dalton Yap, Ambassador Zheng Qingdian, Leader of delegation Mr. Lu Haibin. and Vice President Karen Hoo.*

Ambassador Qingdian hosted the teachers and CBA officers to a welcome dinner.

暑期课程和盛大的庆祝活动

SUMMER PROGRAMME & GRAND GALA

Last year; the Chinese Benevolent Association (CBA) commenced its annual Cultural Summer Programme in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy and the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office. For the first time in many years, three experts, direct from our ancestral land, China, came to teach traditional handicraft – paper cuts and Chinese knots, drum dance and fan dance, and the reintroduction of both the lion and dragon dance. The closing ceremony showcased the beautiful work of the craft class and lively and impressive performances by the students of traditional dance and dragon and lion dances.

This year's programme had an even greater turn out with even greater expectations, as, for our grand finale we would be performing in front of a national audience! We were again fortunate to have the services of three professional instructors from China to infuse us with more advanced lessons in-handicraft, lion dance, dragon dance and Kung Fu.

Ms. Zhu Qianxin, an expert in traditional craft, returned for the second year. She taught new students, both young and not as young the art of Chinese knots and paper cuts. In addition, she introduced other beautiful forms of paper craft such as colour dying techniques. For traditional group dance, Ms. Liu Hui was selected to develop and choreograph this aspect.

Master Lin Bin, Kung Fu expert and an Olympian at the Beijing Games, was chosen to advance both the lion and dragon dance techniques learnt the previous year. He also choreographed these areas and conducted classes in Kung-Fu which gave members a better sense of self and strength.

Our first week entailed introductions and getting used to the areas of interest. Some shifted between lessons, while other knew exactly what they were comfortable with. A brewing of ideas was coming together.

The second week had plenty of action! As new techniques were learnt, old ones were improved. By this time, more persons joined the program and we had a full ensemble and more! The only thing that could supersede our excitement and calm our anxiety levels was the arrival of the brand new equipment. A new drum set, a new twin lion set, and a golden dragon. All these were swiftly sent, via air cargo, direct from China in recognition of the significance of this once in a lifetime event.

The third and final week had even more in store. Finally! Rehearsals at the National Stadium began. A bit alarming at first as this stage was much bigger than the one at the CBA Centre. The stadium field itself was our center stage and the world was our audience! Unexpected windy and damp conditions became major concerns. These residual effects were caused by Tropical Storm Ernesto. It passed south of the island leading up to the day of the presentation.

Many times we tripped, fell or lost our grip including a few times being laughed at. However, we picked up our courage, dusted off our pride and practised our routine to perfection for the upcoming performance.

New uniforms were issued to the group's performers and supporting officials. Cladding us in bright red and yellow; representing the colours of our heritage nation.

We trained and adjusted for which may be the greatest live performance of our lives – the Grand Gala at the National Stadium on August 6th , to celebrate Jamaica's 50th year of Independence. Our performance would also be viewed live via television and to the rest of the world!!! This would be a fitting stage for our generation to showcase our re-infused culture in this, 2012 - the Year of The Dragon.

The organizing committee for the Grand Gala expected a "SPECTACULAR" performance. We represented the Chinese in a three part piece entitled "Out of Many". During the three weeks leading up to the event, we practised each day come rain or shine. It was a time of extreme anxiety for our senior members, the performing groups and of course parents.

The day of the performance, August 6th 2012, was greeted by fairly turbulent winds and a long stand-by wait. We used the opportunity to bond with each other, reflecting on the previous weeks and snack on Tastee patties. By 5:00pm final checks and modifications were being made under our tent and an early dinner came in the form of chow mein, fried rice, chow choy, roasted chicken, and sweet and sour chicken. Some of us decided to burn off the extra calories and release tension by playing with the little ones and taking a quick stroll through the Golden Jubilee Village that was set up next to the stadium.

Night fell, and the long awaited hour came. It was now time for the performance! We assembled in the Eastern tunnel of the stadium patiently and orderly. A distinct calm transpired inside the stadium. The audience was silenced by the beating of the drum, signaling our entrance. At that point, all nervousness disappeared. With smiles on our faces, the Lions, ribbon dancers, and flag bearers fanned out upon the stadium as the dragon made its way across the field. The wind blew the glitter dust out of the dragon's path invoking a magical and powerful entry. Spectators filled the air with the sounds of horns and cheer. Our performers took their places; we were ready…!

The Prime Minister with the assistance of CBA President, Dalton Yap, and Vice-President, Karen Hoo, invoked the traditional gesture of "Painting the Dragon's Eyes". With this complete, two massive strings of firecrackers ignited the beginning of the performance. The dragon flew and twirled in glides, dives, waves, and spirals. The drum beat with forcefulness in harmony with the lions' steps, jumps, and rolls. The ribbon dancers fluttered upon the field beautifully. All elements were bound together to become the most memorable and spectacular performance of our lives.

Our performers came back on stage for a final appearance on the south side of the field. The lions and dragon laid low in the dark for their next cue. Suddenly an unexpected visitor appeared above the dragon. It was one of Jamaica's indigenous humming birds, hovering around just long enough to get a fleeting look and then it flew away. An unusual and surprising memory as it completed the story on our bright red shirts. The Grand Gala came to a close with all featured performers gathered on stage for the grand finale.

A wonderful and magnificent achievement by us – the Children of the Dragon!

Roger P. F. Chang

预演 – 等待
PRE-SHOW – THE WAIT

Waiting to enter ...

We are so ready...

Master Bin Lin (right) with members.

Teachers Zhu & Liu.

Cheerleader Karen leading the group.

Prezi Yap (standing) leading the cheering.

Loving the show.

Dr. Foo, on the job.

Enjoying each other's company.

Dinner.

VP Karen Hoo taking a break.

Feeding us.

Tarp was my bed.

优秀学生

JUSTIN LOWE – ON PASSING HIS GSAT AND BEING AWARDED A GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP

When I found out that it was the day of GSAT results (June 2012), I was shaking with nervousness. Then my teacher and school principal handed me the sheet with the results and my face immediately lit up with relief. My grades were 100% in Mathematics, 97% in Science, 99% in Social Studies, 99% in Language Arts and 100% in Communication Task.

I wasn't really surprised because I knew that I had worked really hard to achieve my goal and that my teachers had thoroughly explained topics to me and simplified them for easy comprehension.

I would like to thank my parents and relatives for encouraging me and pushing me to my limits. Most of all, I would like to thank my mother for the wonderful encouragement and love she expressed to me during the preparation of GSAT. I love my mother, not only for her support, but also because of her awesome perseverance and her love for pushing me to do my best. She managed to persuade me to be enrolled in the GSAT centre curriculum and it helped me tremendously.

The encouragement from GSAT Centre is very exquisite because when you do well in the weekly test, they award you either 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. I would very often place in one of these categories and so be encouraged that I have been doing well. After the day that I realized that my hard work had awarded me a Government Scholarship I had been very elated and jolly. And it was my plan since Grade 4 to achieve a scholarship and so I worked to my goal. My teachers, Miss Pringle, Miss Rampashad and Miss Tomlinson are very hard-working and help you in all areas.

A couple of days after receiving the information of my scholarship, my father told me, " You said you would do it, and you did. I'm proud of you son." At that moment I literally began to cry tears of joy inside. I enjoyed the ups and downs of preparation for GSAT and I wish the best of Luck to those students sitting the exams in the future years.

Justin Lowe

访问训练舰 – 郑和号

VISIT TO THE TRAINING SHIP – ZHENGHE

Welcome to Jamaica.

Recently, the Chinese naval training ship Zhenghe (hull #81) docked at the Port of Kingston. She had set sail from Dalian on April 16, 2012 carrying out the **Harmonious Mission – Global Voyage of Zhenghe.**

The ship was under the command of Rear Admiral Liao Shining, Deputy Chief of Staff, PLA Navy. The theme of this global voyage is **Explore Ocean, Promote Friendship.** Jamaica was one of 11 ports of call, crossing three oceans, nine straits and two canals with the travelling range spanning over 33,000 nautical miles.

This was the first time that Chinese and foreign midshipmen were onboard and the second time that the PLA Navy has launched a global voyage since 2002. The objective was to enhance the mutual understanding, mutual trust and friendship among various countries and navies while demonstrating China's resolution in promoting the concept of **Harmonious World, Harmonious Ocean.**

Ambassador Zheng raising a toast to the Officers.

Ian Chen exercising his Chinese Jamaican charms.

Representing the CBA.

Marcia Harford was the lucky one having lunch after the tour.

Ready to roll.

Let's stay together.

Is that so.

Well protected.

水面夜
SUEY MEIN NIGHT

Dinner.

Elaine to David - Are you going to eat that one too?

Lucille Jones & Paula Lee - cakes galore.

Cho, every year I end up in the kitchen.

Family Affair - the Hughs.

Yummy for my tummy.

Doreen Chin assisted by Sandy Chung.

Hello, it's good to be here.

President Dalton Yap.

Robert Lee - Chief Organiser & bartender.

Keith Lyn tuning up.

Man shall not live by bread alone - Suey Mein helps

告别暑期班教师
TEACHERS' FAREWELL

Teachers with Marcia Harford, Ray Chen Karen & Damian Hoo

Teachers & Tiana & Nicholas Yip.

Teachers Zhu & Liu.

So delish - Christine & Skye.

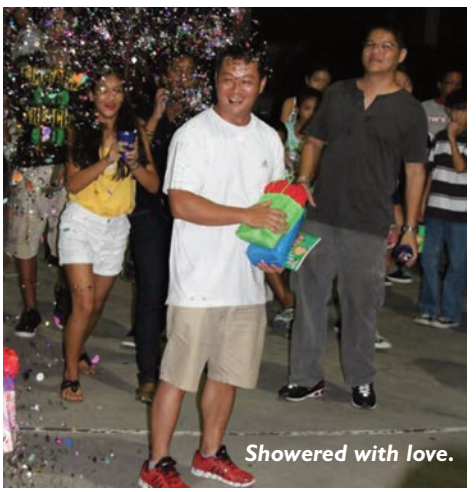
Master Lin Bin with Eva Young.

Hi Emily.

Dinner.

Ray Chen signing his book.

OMG Nicholas!



CBA NEWS

CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

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中 華 會 館

2012年度會員大會通告

中華會館定於2012年11月11日(星期日) 正午12時在會館中心176號Old Hope Road舉行年度會員大會，屆時將聽取應屆執監委員會行政報告和討論提交大會議案，並選舉2013度執監委員.

會议期間將提供點心和飲品
歡迎所有華人社團人士參加

CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSN. IMPORTANT NOTICE OF A.G.M

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the CHINESE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION will be held at the C.B.A. Centre, 176 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6, on Sunday, November 11, 2012, at 12 noon for the following purposes:

1. To receive the report of the President.
2. To receive the Audited Financial Statement for the year 2011.
3. To Appoint Auditors for year 2013.
4. To transact other businesses of an Annual General Meeting.
5. To elect the Committee of Management and Supervisory Board for the ensuing year 2013.

Dim Sum and Refreshments will be served.

DATED September 11, 2012
By order of the
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Marcia Harford
Secretary

讣告
TRANSITIONS

The CBA regrets the passing of:

LIM CHONG, Edna (nee Lyn) December 30, 1912 – June 6, 2012 (99 years old). Late of 16 Wellington Drive, Kingston 6 and 25 Willowdale Drive, Ensom City, Spanish Town. She is predeceased by husband, Willie, 2 daughters, Sue Kuen and Oi Len (Surinam). She leaves son, How Jai (China), daughter, Donna Chin Fatt, son-in-law, Christopher (Canada), brother, Vincent Lyn and numerous grandchildren.

CHUNG, Manquee 'Monty', passed away on Friday, June 29, 2012. He leaves son Brian (Ribbie), stepson, William; daughters Deana Siemon and Thalia; 7 grandchildren and brothers Harold and Vernon.

May their souls rest in peace.

PUPPET SHOW AT CBA CENTRE

The Jiangsu Performing Arts Group from China will be visiting Jamaica at the end of October. The Ministry of Youth & Culture in Association with the Chinese Benevolent Association will sponsor a free performance at the CBA Centre on Wednesday, October 31st starting at 6:30 pm. Tickets for the show will be distributed nearer to the date. Please watch the press for details.