

# "DIASPORA DIGEST"

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Sponsored by  
THE ST. KITTS-NEVIS PERMANENT MISSION TO  
THE UNITED NATIONS

*The Ambassador's New  
Year Message*

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*His Excellency Sam Terrence Condor  
Ambassador to the United Nations*

## ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS

**World War II** ended in 1945 and the quest to maintain peace and national security began. The United Nations was the international body that was founded with a view to achieve this goal but required participation from the global community.

Over the passage of time, dozens of countries worldwide have become member states of the United Nations.

**St. Kitts and Nevis** joined the United Nations on September 23, 1983 to address issues affecting developing island states and to champion the cause for world peace. Although partnerships with various states have reaped success in cultural, economic and humanitarian issues, the United Nations continues to expand its development goals with a view to create one sovereign global community. While striving to eradicate hunger and poverty and attain world peace.

Many delegates of the federation of St. Kitts and Nevis have journeyed to New York City, the home of the United Nations, to voice their position on various island state issues. **United Nations** membership helps to facilitate systems where partnerships, collective responsibility and respect for each other are allowed to flourish. It is a medium through which member states realize that national policies in a global economy have international consequences. Today, the UN boasts 100% participation of all 193 member states.

The staff of the St. Kitts and Nevis Permanent Mission to the United Nations serves as an advocate for its people, mindful that we are world citizens who must also respect our brothers and sisters in other countries who make up our global community.

We look to the United Nations as the torchbearer for globalization, seeking to level the playing field for member states, thereby providing equal opportunities for all nations.

While a new year offers hope and new beginnings for all of us, we look to our past to gain pearls of wisdom that can help to define our journey ahead. Let us not take for granted the gains of our people who walked life's path before us and who were committed to building a brighter, bolder future for us.

My goal is to pass the baton of hope and goodwill to others by diligently seeking to transform the lives of the citizens of St. Kitts and Nevis in my capacity as Permanent Representative to the United Nations. My sincere wish is that peace, love and prosperity abound in the hearts and homes of all our people across the globe.

May our differences enlighten us rather than tear us apart and may those things we have in common strengthen our bond and love for nation building. Join me in sharing this goodwill message in 2016 and beyond.

Happy New Year!



*"Diaspora Digest" is a Quarterly  
Newsletter produced by the Per-  
manent Mission of St. Kitts and  
Nevis to the United Nations.*

# DIASPORA DIGEST

## Organizations In The Diaspora

- Connecting old friends, creating new alliances and building bold futures.

## A WORLD COMMUNITY

The number of citizens of St. Kitts and Nevis who resides abroad has grown in leaps and bounds over the years. They are spread across Europe, Canada, and the United States, but many have made their homes in faraway places including Asia and Africa, although in fewer numbers. In part, the opportunity for a better way of life has been the attraction for many citizens to explore life away from the pristine shores of St. Kitts and Nevis.

As in other cultures, Kittitian and Nevisians have found a way to maintain their sense of identity through various activities ranging from church, cultural and social life to sports, academia and business.

The challenges are endless but many citizens residing abroad remain passionate in their cause of nation building; even from a distance. Some citizens choose to be altruistic

on an individual basis while others enjoy the collaborations and camaraderie of working with organizations.

In the North Eastern United States alone, more than a dozen organizations engage in various community building initiatives that touch the lives of citizens residing both in the United States and the federation of St. Kitts and Nevis.

*Cont'd on page 3*

***Peace, Prosperity and Goodwill to all for 2016 and beyond!***

## MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES

The United States established diplomatic relations with Saint Kitts and Nevis in 1983 following its independence from the United Kingdom. Relations between the United States and St Kitts and Nevis have historically been friendly.

The United States seeks to assist St. Kitts and Nevis both to develop economically and to strengthen democracy in its parliamentary form of government.

Part of the new Ambassador's mandate

is to articulate the position of the St. Kitts and Nevis government on various United Nations issues.

As one of the 193 member states of the United Nations, St. Kitts and Nevis has "reaffirmed its commitment to the sustainable development of small island developing states.

# DIASPORA DIGEST



*“Charity begins at home. We can’t solve the world’s problems, if we can’t solve the problems of our great nation.”*  
Ambassador Condor

## A WORLD COMMUNITY cont’d

Throughout the years, members of these organizations serve as Ambassadors in their own right by sharing with the world how their organization promotes the twin island independent nation.

Last year, the newly appointed Permanent Representative to the United Nations, His excellency Sam Terrence Condor hosted a lively dialogue with over a dozen nationals of the federation currently volunteering their time, and resources to engage in various initiatives that

benefit citizens all over the world, particularly in St. Kitts and Nevis,

Condor reminded guests that his work at the Permanent Mission is about making a difference. “Charity begins at home.” Ambassador stated. “ We can’t solve the world’s problems if we can’t solve the problems of our great nation.”

The collaboration with the Permanent Mission and the various organizations in the North East provides a forum for information sharing, resource identification, networking and solution finding.

It also provides an opportunity to rebrand and outfit the Permanent Mission with the necessary tools to be in tandem with the policy of the St. Kitts and Nevis Government, thereby ensuring that nationals at home and abroad realize their full potential.

The time has come for nationals to make the federation of St. Kitts and Nevis the best small island developing state in the world. This is the world community of which our citizens are a part. This is the world community Ambassador Condor is ready to lead.

## MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES cont’d

This can only be achieved with a broad alliance of people, governments, civil society and the private sector all working together to achieve the future we want for present and future generations.” Membership under the umbrella of the United Nations opens an area of opportunity for St. Kitts and Nevis to assert its voice as a

stakeholder in the fight to remain relevant among such a large host of member nations. By so doing, ensuring that citizens of the nation and the region are active players in decision making and that they reap their just reward.

UN membership opens the world of opportunity for the sovereign nation of St. Kitts and Nevis.

**FACT:** St. Kitts and Nevis chaired the CARICOM Caucus of Permanent Representatives in November & December of 2015

**FACT: St. Kitts and Nevis** chaired GRULAC (Group of Latin American & Caribbean Countries) in October of 2015



## TEN UNITED NATIONS FACTS

- The UN was founded in 1945 by 51 countries.
- The UN’s mission is to maintain peace, security, develop friendly relations with other nations, promote social growth and advocate for human rights.
- The UN’s headquarters is located in New York City.
- Three UN offices are housed in Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna
- The UN was initially established to prevent a repeat of World War II.
- There are, currently, 193 member nations in the UN.
- Over 120,000 peacekeepers from the UN maintain civility on 4 continents.
- The UN is comprised of six main organs: The General Assembly, The Security Council, The Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Council, the Secretariat and the United Nations Trustee Council.
- The current Secretary General is Ban Ki-Moon of the Republic of Korea
- The UN motto is: “It’s your world.”

# DIASPORA DIGEST

Volume I, Issue I

## National Pride

The federation of St. Kitts and Nevis attained independence from Great Britain on September 19, 1983.

One of our nation's treasures is the brain child behind the national flag of St. Kitts and Nevis. Mrs. Edris Lewis-Viechweg designed the national flag and is credited for devising distinct meanings for each aspect of the flag.

Green represents the fertile land. Yellow represents the sunshine.



Black symbolizes our people's African heritage and Red represents our struggle for liberty. The Stars represent the two islands of St. Kitts and Nevis.

The national flag is a symbol of pride that all Kittitians and Nevisians feel no matter where in the world they travel. Say thanks to Ms. Lewis Viechweg when next you encounter her.

The photograph on the left captures Mrs. Lewis-Viechweg with students to whom she donated school supplies: an exercise she conducts annually.



National flag of St. Kitts and Nevis: Designed by Edris Lewis Viechweg



The National Coat of Arms of St. Kitts & Nevis



National Bird: The Brown Pelican



Kenrick Georges Composer of the National Anthem

**The National Flower** of St. Kitts and Nevis is the Poinciana or Flamboyant, named after Monsieur de Poincy, the first French Governor of St. Kitts, who is said to have introduced it to the region. Its scientific name is *Delonix Regia*, and is said to have originated in Madagascar.



**The National Coat of Arms** of St. Kitts and Nevis was adopted in 1983. The Coat of Arms bears the Motto, "Country Above Self."

**The National Bird** of St. Kitts and Nevis is the Brown Pelican, which lives mostly on a diet of fish and prefers a salt-water habitat. The wingspan of the Brown Pelican reaches

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

*Oh Land of Beauty,  
Our Country where peace abounds  
Thy children stand free,  
On the strength of will and love.  
With God in all our struggles  
St. Kitts and Nevis be,  
A nation bound together  
With a common destiny*

*As stalwarts we stand,  
For justice and liberty  
With wisdom and truth,  
We will serve and honor thee  
No sword nor spear can conquer  
For God will sure defend,  
His blessings shall forever,  
To posterity extend."*

By: Kenrick Georges

### **National Dish**



### **National Dress**



The musical genius of Kenrick Georges cannot be denied. His authentic musical talent landed him lifetime notoriety when he penned the words of the national anthem and arranged the music that still jerks at the heart and soul of every Kittitian and Nevisian whenever the anthem is played.

A product of the Newtown area, Georges continues to spread his love for music and even has a son who is walking the musical path as well. Georges is one of the federation's most renowned composer, trumpeter and arranger. Say thanks to Kenrick Georges for being an admirable patriot the next time you meet him.



**Coming July 1 to 3, 2016**

**ANSAR:** The Anguilla Nevis & St. Kitts Returning Nationals Association event in Montreal, Canada.

Contact a KABA Executive for details on an exciting BUS CHARACTER to Canada:

**Mrs. Byron-Baker:** 718-481-8752

**Pat Wyatt:** 917-703-1153

**Chris Margetson:** 516-481-0286

OR contact **Holiday Inn:** 877-660-8550 (code ANSAR)

[www.montreal.ansar2016.com](http://www.montreal.ansar2016.com)

**Email:** info@ansar2016.com or call: 514-773-6267

### TRUE OR FALSE

1. St. Kitts and Nevis joined the UN in 1985. (T or F)
2. Ban Ki-Moon is the current Secretary General of the UN. (T or F).
3. The Poinciana is the national flower of St. Kitts and Nevis (T or F).
4. Mrs. Edris Lewis-Viechweg wrote the national anthem of St. Kitts and Nevis. (T or F)
5. The Motto of St. Kitts and Nevis is "Country Above Self." (T or F)

Answers: 1: F, 2: T, 3: T, 4: F, 5: T.

Permanent Mission  
Of St. Kitts and Nevis  
414 East 75th Street  
New York NY 10012

Phone: 212-535-1234  
Fax: 212-535-6854  
E-mail: sknmission@aol.com

## HEARTS AND HANDS FOR NEVIS LUNCHEON HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2016

The Hearts and Hands for Nevis organization hosted its 17th annual luncheon at the LaGuardia Marriott Hotel in Queens, New York on Sunday January 17, 2016.

The well attended event was organized to bestow honors on four exceptional citizens, namely His Excellency, **Dr. Everson A. Hull**, Ambassador to the OAS, **Dr. Leslie Wade**, United Nations Economic and Social Affairs Director, **Dr. Violet Jeffers**, Education Psychologist and lifelong social activist, and **Sir Hugh Rawlins**, current ILO International (Appellate) Administrative Tribunal Judge in Geneva, Switzerland. (Dr. Jeffers was unable to attend the event).

The Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis Dr. the Honorable Timothy S. Harris delivered the keynote address, lauding the honorees for their pursuit of excellence.

Ms. Vicki Anslyn Pemberton offered welcome remarks while Father Mastine Nisbett invoked God's. The national anthems of St. Kitts and Nevis and the USA were lustily rendered by Ms. Abena Amory-Powell.

President of the Hearts and Hands for Nevis Ms. Alistene Sutton shared her vision for the organization with guests. She reminded all that Pride Determination and Resilience are the tenets by which we should strive to live. The Honorable Vance W. Amory, Premier of Nevis, extended brief remarks, praising the work of the Hearts and Hands for Nevis. Ambassador to the United States of America, Dr. Thelma Phillip-Browne, in introducing the key note speaker, stated that long before there was Unity, there was Hearts and Hands for Nevis and the sense of working together instead of working apart.

Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Harris praised the honorees whose dedication and service is a mark of honor for the nation.

He also lauded the work of the Hearts and Hands For Nevis and thanked them for inviting him to share in the auspicious event.

Each honoree humbly expressed their deep appreciation for the honor bestowed upon them and vowed to continue their lifelong commitment to teaching, serving and selflessly continuing their advocacy in their specific fields.

Entertainment was provided by Hearts and Hands Masquerades while the federation's Calypso Monarch, King Astro delivered a few of his acclaimed tunes. Hearts and Hands executive member Father P. Rawlins sang "Lady in Red" and the Jupiter band provided musical entertainment. J. Erlene Williams-King extended thanks to all who attended and contributed to organizing the event.

**Hearts and Hands for Nevis values; Integrity; Family; Education; Clear Communication; and Time.**

### SAVE THE DATES

**FEBRUARY 21:** ANGUILLA PROGRESSIVE SOCIETY BLACK HISTORY CONCERT

**FEBRUARY 28:** KABA: BLACK HISTORY EVENT

**MARCH 5:** ST. PETER'S ALUMNI & FRIENDS BREAKFAST

**MARCH 13:** SONS & DAUGHTERS CHURCH SERVICE

**MARCH 26:** SANDY POINT BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

**MARCH 27:** KABA WOMEN'S HISTORY EVENT

**APRIL 22:** ST. KITTS AND NEVIS SOCCER GRADUATES CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET

**APRIL 23:** SANDY POINTERS AND FRIENDS CASINO BUS RIDE

**APRIL 30:** GREEN VALLEY GLOBAL WALKATHON & HEALTH FAIR

**APRIL 30:** ASTHMATIC ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON

