

Rock River Foundation

Issue 7 – March 2018



We believe every child deserves the right to live a healthy and productive life. Our goal is to enhance the lives of all children in Clarendon, Jamaica by supporting education and the local economy

www.rockriverjamaica.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT - PAUL MCLEOD M.D.

Let me extend heartfelt greetings, on behalf of the members of the Board of the RRF, to all well-wishers and supporters of the rural community of Rock River Clarendon. I hope that the New Year has instilled in you a renewed positive spirit for the future.

We closed 2017 with our first annual Christmas Festival. Overall, it was highly successful. As one initially doubtful observer said, "Rock River Foundation bring back 'Gran Market' to Rock River".

We were most gratified by the glee on the faces of the many children who received a Christmas Gift from Santa. Many thanks to the members of the Rock River Foundation who participated and to the generous donors without whom this would never have happened.

We continue to support both the pupils and the hardworking teachers of Rock River All Age School as together we strive to improve educational outcomes. We do this with our ongoing projects such as the breakfast programme, extra classes, the two-week summer school, and some new ones such as providing learning toys for selected pupils.

We are exploring the possibility of educating young mothers and their toddlers by working with the RUFAMSO (Rural Family Support Organisation) headed by Mrs Utealia Burrell. We are eagerly awaiting the availability of Broadband Internet Service before the end of the summer, as promised by the Universal Service Fund CEO, Ms Suzette Buchanan.

This summer we will undertake several fundraising events - a major one being a day by the riverside with the legendary Fab Five band providing the music. Please support us in any way as we mobilise the community and well-wishers to improve the Rock River community.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

The New Year produced changes at the Rock River All Age School with the appointment of a new principal Mrs Nadine Raymond Sharpe. Mrs Sharpe hails from Osbourne Store in Clarendon, has twenty-seven years teaching and learning experience, and recently completed her Masters in Education Administration at U.W.I.

On behalf of the Rock River Foundation we extend hearty congratulations and welcome to Mrs. Sharpe. The RRF embraces her philosophy that "every child has the capacity to learn when channeled in the right direction by educators". We look forward to a long-lasting period of collaboration with Mrs Sharpe and her dedicated and hardworking staff as we all seek continual improvement in education outcomes at the school.

We also must take time out to thank the recently retired teachers for their long standing and excellent service to the school and community. They are Ms. Beverly Douglas, Ms. Greta Mae Douglas, Acting Principal Ms. Sandra Pusey and Principal Mrs. Marcia Ankle.

We wish them all the very best and hope that they will keep in touch.



Principal Mrs Nadine Raymond Sharpe

OUR WALL OF THANKS

Many people support the Foundation through gifts of money - either as personal donations or from fundraising events. Here, in no particular order, are the people who have contributed since our last newsletter in October 2017. We have also received donations from generous people who wish to remain anonymous. We thank them all.

However, we have two special mentions the younger generation. First Hannah (5 years old), David (8), and Gavrie (9) each donated US\$20 from their annual fund for charity. Their parents Nadine and Laren Peterkin must be rightly proud.

Second, Mrs Cherona Dawes and Mrs Althea Aschenbrenner, daughters of Mrs Daphne 'Norma' D'Aguilar Brown were ably assisted by chef Mr Newt Davies as they hosted a Florida Fish Fry for numerous friends and family. By the end of a great fun-filled party they had raised over US \$1,250.

Hannah Peterkin	Janet Halstead	Tiye McLeod
David Peterkin	Kay Grant	Trevor Sewell
Gavrie Peterkin	Keith Ferguson	Winston Broadwell
Al McLeod	Hensley 'Keith' Munn	Percy Ricketts
Althea Aschenbrenner	Kim Duncan	Peter Walter
Beatrice Richards	Leisa Glispy	Renee Vitullo
Beverley Taylor-Glaza	Leisa Ogarro	Shirley Henry
Carlton Samuels	Mark Walker	Susan Turci
Cherona Dawes	Maxine Hylton	Tajan Braithwaite-Renderos
Cheryl McHahon-Harley	Natty Walters	Deborah Smith-Carlton
Cordell Officer	Paul Mcleod	Drew Mcleod
Eglon Morgan	Everal Miller	Ian Glispy
Elma Dixon	Franklyn Con Taylor	

These and previous donations are making a huge difference as we strive to support the hard-working teachers and staff at the Rock River All Age School
Donate at www.rockriverjamaica.org or download our free Fundraising Pack for ideas and advice on your own Fun and Fundraising Event

MEET THE TEACHERS

As we have said many times before, this Foundation is dedicated to supporting all the hardworking teachers, staff and pupils at the Rock River All Age School.

Here is our photo tribute to some of them as they celebrate Jamaica Day.

Since this piece is about our educators, here is a short quiz about Jamaica Day.

1. True or False? Jamaica day is a public holiday.
2. What was the theme for Jamaica Day 2018?
3. What did the teachers do with the pots and pans?
4. The bandana cloth used in the costume is not a Jamaican original. In which country did people first wear the bandana?
5. How many Jamaica Days have there been, including the one in 2018?

You will find the answers on Page 8.



Ms Walters, Ms Harris, Mrs Bird Henry, Mr Henry, Mrs Bernard, Mrs Bailey, Mrs Ennis and Mrs Francis making the rhythm

Mrs Roberts dressed in a National Costume



Mrs Francis and her display of Heroes, Nation Builders and old Jamaican money

DECEMBER 2017 - ROCK RIVER CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

15th	Lighting of Christmas Tree in Rock River Square
23rd	'Gran Market' & Street Dance
24th	Candlelight Ceremony at Bethlehem Baptist Church
25th	Christmas Morning Walk and Caroling Feeding of indigent and shut-in families
26th	Football: 6-a-side Tournament & Oldsters v Youngsters





**4TH
WALKATHON**

**CANDLELIGHT
CAROL SERVICE**



CHRISTMAS DAY DINNERS



Paul McLeod presents Damion 'Check' Taylor with the Most Valuable Player of the Event.



Most Valuable Player Leon Messam of the match receives his trophy from Paul McLeod

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT FOR THE OLDSTERS, CURRENT AND UPCOMING BALLERS

SAVE THE DATES - ROCK RIVER SUMMER 2018 FESTIVAL

July 16th to 27th	Summer School
Sunday July 29th - morning	5th Walkathon
Sunday July 29th - afternoon	Children's Fun Day and Football Tournament
Wednesday August 1st	Emancipation Day Party at Oaks with Fab Five

RRF SPONSORED GSAT EXAMINATION EXTRA CLASSES



CONTACT US AND JOIN THE TEAM

When you would like to know more about the Foundation or any of our activities
find us on Facebook, visit www.rockriverjamaica.org or contact us by email:

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Answers to the Jamaica Day Quiz – Page 2

1. False 2. Celebrating Jamaica: Nurturing our Culture and Natural Heritage
3. Making Rhythm 4. India 5. 16