

Linden Town Day 2004!

— The annual event for Lindenites to showcase economic diversity.

The Linden Fund Trust, along with dozens of small businesses and organizations, came out in force to celebrate Linden Town Day 2004 last May. Heralded as an opportunity to promote economic revitalization, small businesses had their products on display, along the Avenue of the Republic in Mackenzie. The opening ceremony, held at Town Hall, featured remarks by Orin Gordon, head of the Interim Management Council; Prime Minister Sam Hinds; and a keynote speech by Juliet Holder Allen, Guyana's Chief Magistrate and a Linden native. Yonette Walton, MHS student and LF A'Level scholar made a compelling presentation on the History of Linden, and later joined the Linden Fund at its booth, next to the old Sprostons Building. Visiting LFU Board member and Treasurer Rhonda Hamilton was on hand to staff the LF booth along with LFT Chairman Gladstone Joseph (not shown) and membership.

Linden on the Move!



LINDEN TOWN DAY 2004, the display booth of the Linden Fund is manned by (left to right) Ms. Rhonda Hamilton (visiting LFU Board member and Treasurer), Ms. Yonette Walton, the LFT's Mrs. Jenny George-Parkinson, and Mr. James Hamilton, longtime employee of the Linden bauxite industry and father of Rhonda.

Member Profile



Rudy Carryl

Family: My marital union with Maureen Carryl (nee Morris) produced three children: Dwain (27) who was born at Linden; and Mark (24) and Allison (23), both born in the US. Academically and professionally, our kids have all excelled. Dwain acquired his BS degree from Harvard University in 1999 and an MBA at Yale School of Management in 2004, and has held positions on Wall Street. Mark graduated from Yale University in 2002 and is currently pursuing a Law degree at Notre Dame Law School, and plans to ply his skills on Wall Street. Allison graduated from the U. of Pennsylvania in 2003 with a BA degree. She currently works on Wall Street at investment banker Bear Stearns.

Linden roots: Besides being born at Mackenzie, Linden, I spent most of my schooling and working days in Guyana in the Linden area. I attended St. Aidan's Anglican School, Mackenzie Primary School and Mackenzie High School where I sat for my GCE O' levels. I moved on to Queens College to matriculate for my GCE A' levels and then returned to Mackenzie High School as a General Science, Physics, Chemistry and Biology teacher. After graduating from the University of London in 1975, I returned to Linden as a Geologist in the Mines Department of the Guyana Bauxite Company.

Occupation: I am a Senior Portfolio Manager and Senior Managing Director for a subsidiary of New York Life Investment Management in New York City. I am also co-Head of Growth Equity Management responsible for managing more than

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Message from the Fund

2004, so far, has been a year of change and growth for the Linden Fund. Change has happened in a visual and tangible sense from the redesign and implementation of a new Fund



logo – and the subsequent change in the look of all Fund publications – to the more subtle but critical changes in our overall policy and strategy towards the pressing need for revitalization in Linden. The Fund has looked inward to its own resources in forming an Advisory Council – an advisory body of Linden friends and former residents – that will be able to advise and assist the Fund in their respective areas of expertise. The Fund has also started an outward strategy of collaboration with multiple bilateral aid and other nongovernmental organizations. To name a few: **USAID**, which commissioned a report on US organization remittances to Guyana and invited the Fund to do a presentation in Guyana at the unveiling of that report in January 2004; **WORLD BANK**, which hosted a meeting in April 2004, to develop a strategy for funding Hometown Association projects in the Caribbean and Latin America, and of the hundreds of Hometown Associations in this region, LFC was the only one invited to participate in this meeting; **CESO**, the Canadian Executive Services Organization, an arm of CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) who has agreed to work with the Fund in identifying expert resources in areas like marketing and feasibility plan development; **VSO Guyana**, a unit of Voluntary Service Overseas VSO International, a British commonwealth, nongovernmental organization that provides expert volunteers in several meaningful areas vital to the Fund's interests; **LEAP**, the Linden Economic Advancement Programme, a European Union and Government of Guyana funded entity with the objective of fostering entrepreneurship and enterprise for economic development of the town of Linden.



Changes to the Fund include new LFC Board members: Irvin Davis of MD and Carlton Benjamin of NY as Directors. The LFC has taken the bold step of registering in the province of Ontario as a charitable organization and has incorporated a Board of 7 members: Wainwright Richmond, Chair; Barbara Wright, Vice-Chair; Paula Williams, Treasurer; Maple Wright, Secretary; Hyacinth Allen, General Officer; and Jane James and Stephen Edwards as Officers. The LFT has been managing a number of Fund projects underway in Linden, like the continuing UG and A'Level Scholarship programs; the newly unveiled Tutoring Program for the underserved, a service provided by the Fund scholars; and a Youth Fair, a vocational competition in woodwork, needlecraft, artwork, construction in August, sponsored by Linden supporter Ted and Louraine Sabat of the UK, which we plan to evolve into an annual project, among others. Our next newsletter will carry photos and details of these projects.

We continue to urge your support by becoming a dues paying member of any of the three entities that form the Linden Fund, and we look forward to your active participation in our events. Linden deserves our best! All the best to you and your families, from the Boards and membership of the Fund.

Mission Statement

The mission of The Linden Fund is to help play a leadership role in the revitalization of the Linden community, with particular focus on education, health and diversification of the community's economic base. The Fund shall form strategic partnerships with other grassroots, bilateral and multi-national development organizations. It shall provide funding for projects and initiatives that help promote and enhance the fundamental and long term social and economic development of the community.

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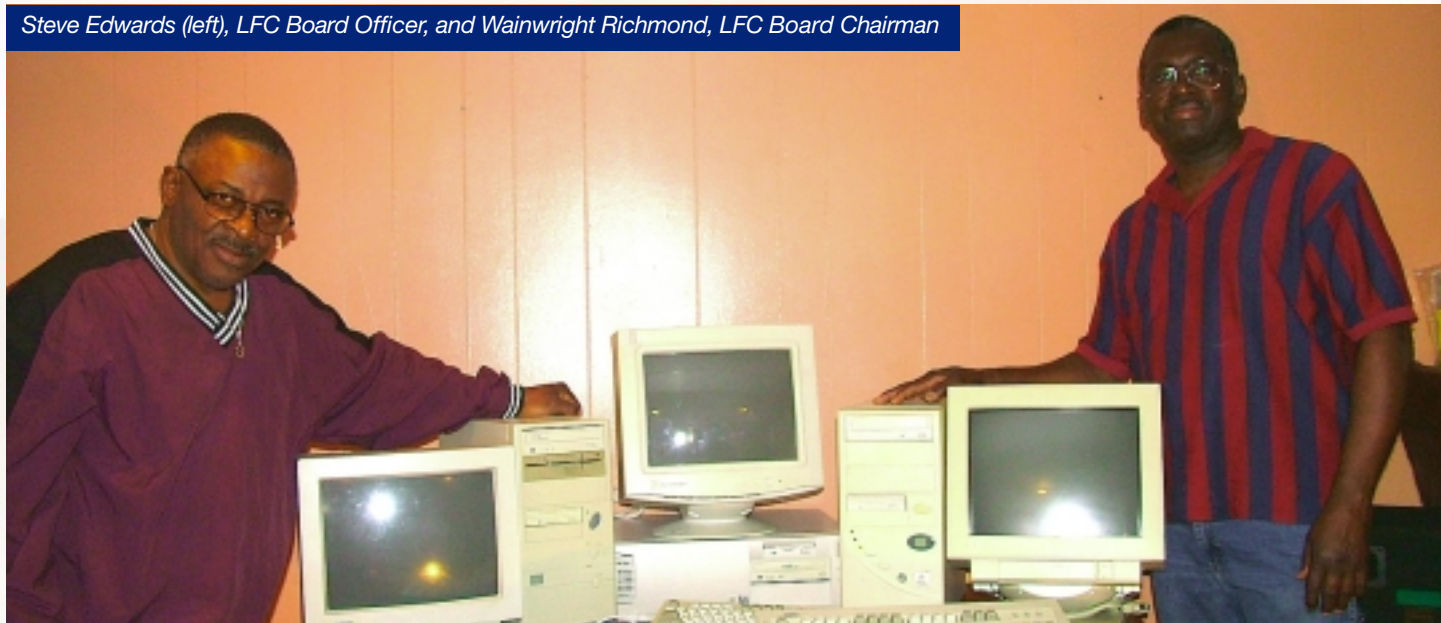


LFT Chair, Gladstone Joseph & Yonette Walton, LF Scholar at LF Booth, Linden Town Day

Linden Fund of Canada Launches Computer Shipment!

Several computers, donated by Guyanese businessman in Canada, Carlton Henry of Vankel Computers, in Ontario Canada, are to be shipped to the Linden School for the Handicapped in Retrieve, Linden. Sponsored by the Linden Fund Canada, recently registered as a charitable, non-for-profit in Canada as the Linden Community and Education Center, the shipment of computers and children's software is bound for the school, run by long-time educator and resident, Olive Semple. In addition, the LFC will ship fifteen boxes of books to the New Silver City Secondary School for distribution among the schools in Linden.

Steve Edwards (left), LFC Board Officer, and Wainwright Richmond, LFC Board Chairman



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Member Profile

\$7 billion in pension assets. Prior to joining New York Life Investment in 1992, I spent 14 years with the famed investment advisory service Value Line as Research Director running a staff of 75 professional investment analysts. I also served as Senior Portfolio Manager.

Educational Background: I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree (with Honors) in Geology from the University of London. I also hold several professional designations in the financial services arena.

Volunteer activities: I sit on the board and am actively involved with the Overseas Medical Assistance Team (OMAT) founded by my brother Dr. Stephen Carryl. For the last 12 years, OMAT has organized numerous humanitarian missions to several Caribbean locales, including Guyana, Haiti and The Dominican Republic.

My wife and I are also committed to furthering the cause of a good education among children in the Linden area. About five years ago, we bankrolled the establishment of the new computer lab at Mackenzie High School.

Important values that shape your life: Growing up in a structured family setting at Linden, like many of my peers, has taught me a number of key lessons which have shaped my life and which I have been fortunate enough to leverage with great success in the US. It really comes down to two things — being the very best at what you do and being a nice, decent, honest human being. To be the very best, one has to be laser-beam focused, highly dedicated and hardworking. And being a good person, in my opinion, is made so much easier when one's life is governed each and every day by christian-like values.

Why I Agreed to be Profiled: I agreed to be profiled with the hope that my life's experiences could possibly be of inspiration to some young person in the Linden area. I really believe that if I could have done it, then anyone else with similar values from Linden can surely fulfill and realize their biggest dreams and ambitions.

Vision for the Fund: My vision for the Fund is to witness its exponential growth over the both the near and long term and to see it fulfill its primary mission of economic revitalization and helping young people in Guyana in general and Linden in particular achieve academic and professional excellence.

LINDEN REVITALIZATION

Known as the **Linden Revitalization Program (LRP)**, the Fund has mounted a robust effort to shift reliance away from bauxite to other essential sectors with a multi-year goal of thousands of permanent, good-paying jobs. The Fund will team with grassroots, multinational, and bilateral development institutions to create locally-owned new businesses with employee share. From the Linden diaspora, our best and brightest entrepreneurs will lead these innovative new businesses backed by diaspora investors, overseas grants,



Adopt-a-Venture

and dedicated financial support, to restore social well-being and positive society.



THE LINDENER

Fund's Toy Drive & Holiday Party in Linden

Approximately 100 children in Linden, ranging in age from 3 to 12, were treated to a wonderful Holiday party, hosted by the Linden Fund Trust last December 28th. These lucky kids received scores of toys from a successful Toy Drive, initiated by the New York Chapter of the LFU. The post-Christmas party was held in Cinderella City, Amelia's Ward, under a tent at "Mr. Harry", who graciously hosted the event in his yard. LFT members Donna Kendall, Lauren Parris, Keane Moseley and Gloria Daniels served up treats and Santa doled out gifts of donated games and toys. Thanks to the NY Chapter for bringing bright smiles to the kids' faces and the LFT for hosting a wonderful event! Previous years' holiday parties have been held in Silver City and Blueberry Hill, Wismar.



Children receiving toys and games.



LFT members (L-R) Lauren Parris, Donna Kendall, Kene Moseley & Gloria Daniels.



Kene serving drinks to children at party.

The Linden Fund, USA Presents The 6th Annual Dinner-Dance



Saturday • September 4, 2004
(Labor Day Weekend)

Get down at the spectacular **Crystal Manor**

1460 Flatbush Ave • Brooklyn, NY
10 PM to 3 AM

\$70 per Person • OPEN BAR • DINNER

Music by DJ Sugarcane International

Dance to the Sounds of I.N.K.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS

email: secretary@lindenfund.org



THE LINDENER

Linden Fund Meets Region 10 Reps in Toronto

Members of the Linden Fund Canada and the Linden Fund USA met in Toronto on June 16-18, with the Region 10 Chairman Morty Mingo, part of a delegation including members of the Linden Economic Advancement Programme (LEAP) team at the L'Amoreaux Community Centre, at the annual Guyana Day Festival. An added component to the annual festival was the first Guyana Trade Show in Canada, in which an impressive list of large, medium, small and micro-businesses in Guyana displayed and sold their local products. Out of Region 10, and Linden in particular, were two local businesses: *Stanley's Masterpiece Crafts* of tanned vegetable leather products (Proprietor: Stanly Haynes, located in Christianburg) and *Irene's Creative Handicraft*, known for its art form, Pyrography, art burnt into wood (Proprietor: Irene Bacchus-Holder of Richmond Hill). The LFC held a meeting with Region 10 Chairman Mingo to discuss investment opportunities in Region 10, and Linden in particular, and had the opportunity to learn about LEAP, a European Commission and Government of Guyana funded entity, aiming to develop and attract local and foreign investments to Region 10 and Linden. The LEAP delegation included International Program Manager, Kathleen Whalen; Inward Investment Officer, Kene Moseley; and Ricardo McKlimon, Communications Consultant.



At LEAP booth DEMERARA 10: Left: Paula Stephenson Williams, LFC Treasurer; Bert Bacchus, LFC member; Wainwright Richmond, LFC Chairman; Morty Mingo, Region 10 Chairman; and Sam Mingo, brother to Mingo and Ontario resident.

Upcoming Events for New York Chapter



Family Fun Day - August

BBQ - September 5th (after Dinner/Dance on 4th)

Book Drive - to November 15th

Toy Drive - to November 15th

Party - Woodbine Hall - October

Town Hall Meeting - October



New Jersey Chapter 5th Annual Family Day

(Fun, Food, Games & Prizes)

Sunday • July 18, 2004

Adults \$10—Children \$7

(Includes meal & soft drink)



Cedar Brook Park

Park Ave., Plainfield, NJ

Time: 11 AM until Dark



THE LINDENER

Linden History Series

by Clarence E. London

Assisted by Edme Hamilton, NY

RH Carr

When last you saw me, in 1941, as an invisible passenger aboard the majestic SS RH Carr, I had finished my tour of the bow and had just left our 1st stop at Soesdyke, on the trip from Georgetown to Mackenzie. Part 2

Continuing my tour, unseen, I am on the lower deck, just underneath first class. Here, there is a narrow passageway along the two sides of the steel bar railings that separate the engine room from the rest of the ship. One can see the operators, the telephone, the engines, and hear the steam as it enters and exhausts the machinery. One boiler room operator, dirty from ash, and with perspiration all over his lean, shirtless body is sitting on the steps of the engine compartment, undoubtedly taking some 'fresh air' into his lungs before returning to the



RH Carr arriving Mackenzie-Wismar/Christianburg on the Demerara River.



1960s' view of Mackenzie Stelling area and Wismar/Christianburg (right) on the Demerara.

uncomfortable, heated boiler room. The boiler and engine room, and wood fuel storage area, definitely occupy more than half of the available habitable area for this deck.

I am now around mid-ship. The heat is almost unbearable but soon I will get some slight relief from the heat, as I journey along the crowded second-class deck. This must be the post office; yes, a government officer is busy affixing stamps to mail he just received at the previous stop, and preparing for the next stop. Right next-door are more quarters for the ship's crew, and the kitchen. They are Spartan, little spaces that are barely adequate for their intended use. There are also two public toilets, one male and one female.

Further back is the main second-class passenger compartment. It is dark and fitted with benches, minus back supports. The mixture of passengers include hucksters, workers, plus family members returning to the mining town. Some pass the time playing card games, such as the famous bishkah, tripchall, and dominoes and draughts. The noise of the propellers and occasional sound of rushing steam is perceptible, as well as some vibration, but by and large, it is at a tolerant level. The conversations are varied, and some folks are, of course, eating their midday meal.

My earlier guess that this week will be the monthly court for Christianburg is confirmed. At the back of the ship, and seated in the stern, I see someone in the customary "flour bag" prison uniform; he is handcuffed and shackled to the steel bollard on this deck. He is in the company of a prison warder and most likely en route for his preliminary court trial for some indictable offense he allegedly committed while he lived in the Mackenzie region. Located on a two meter long flag staff that extends beyond the stern, and at an angle, is the fluttering flag of the company and owner of the vessel.

I begin to climb the stairs and go to the more comfortable upper deck. My entry is made from the rear steps; the gentle, cooler breeze is refreshing. The tarpaulins that are used to keep out the rain are rolled up and tied from the top of the deck, affording one a panoramic vision of the riverain area and river traffic. Several passengers are seated on the benches and a few lucky ones are sitting on the much sought-after canvas easy chairs. Some are reading, others



are in intense conversation, while yet others are eating or drinking anything that is available to quench the thirst.

A floating thatched Amerindian house drifts at the speed of the falling tide. There are hammocks, dogs, parrots, and cooking in progress as evidenced from the coal pot on board. This is a lumber-jack taking his lumber to the mills in Georgetown; he has tied together several logs, and using the Archimedes principle of buoyancy, he is able to maintain the cargo below the surface and in effect, his is a crude ship. There is no rush; the entire family is with him. His trip might take three or four days, but the end result is that he earns an honest livelihood for his efforts.

The river is now narrower, and one can now see activity on both banks, simultaneously. The color of the water has changed from muddy brown to dark and almost black. The scenario repeats itself throughout, as first there is nothing but impenetrable jungle, mangrove trees, a creek flowing into the river; then a small community with perhaps a dozen homes mostly wooden, on stilts, some with thatched roofs, and a boat landing, a sort of mini wharf to which is moored dugouts and a few larger wooden boats. Boats are the only means of transportation; for these folks, the river is their highway.



RH Carr passengers in open 2nd Class accommodations, traveling the Demerara.

There is an exchange of ships horns as we observe a loaded ocean going vessel pass on the starboard side. There is also an exchange of familiar waving among the RH Carr passengers and the crew of the unknown ship. The ship has taken advantage of the change in tide and is heading for Georgetown in time for the next high tide, to safely negotiate the bar in the port harbor entry to (Br. Guiana.) Guyana. We see speed boats with powerful out-board engines out run the RH Carr in both directions. Then there are the Amerindians with their dugouts, and twin oars that are masterly, and majestically sailing along, undoubtedly moving from one village to the other on errands or even taking their children to one of the nearby schools which could be 10 miles from their homes. The swells from the propellers of RH Carr make the small crafts bob up and down as the passengers ride the waves in comfort, and without any apparent fear. It is a mutual understanding among river users, and the larger vessels are legally obligated to respect the safety of these individuals by maintaining a velocity that would not cause excessively high waves. The RH Carr's top speed ensures this accommodation!

We're about to make our second stop: Sand Hills. This is the anchorage point where the bauxite-loaded ships await the change of tide in order to cross the sand banks of the channel. The local merchants and residents are busy selling fresh fruits and vegetables to the crew. There are shouts of prices and requests for items, as a rope is lowered with cash to the little boats and, in turn, the merchandise is loaded into a basket or any available container, and rapidly hoisted to the purchaser. This is a customary stop for the RH Carr, and the routine of mail exchange and reengaging the engines are soon over, and once again we are on our way!

The vegetation is dense. Along the jagged foreshores, mangroves are scattered all along the bank and with some luck, one can see the odd crocodile or alligator basking in the sunshine. We have been traveling for almost six hours now; tell tale signs of boredom are creeping into those passengers who are experiencing the trip for the first time, and undoubtedly are wondering when they will reach Mackenzie. The waiters, dressed in white tunics and dark trousers, are busy serving drinks and food to the first class compartment on the upper deck. This is reserved for the expatriates of the bauxite company. Today, there are only six such passengers,



RH Carr at Sprostons' Dry Dock for repairs and possibly conversion to diesel power plant.

Photo credits: For the historic RH Carr photos in this article, The Lindener thanks the Evan Wong family and Messrs. John Rosenthal and John Watt, all formerly of Demba. The RH Carr shot at dry dock was provided by GNEC from Sprostons archives. For the 1975 photo of Mr. C. E. London with the late Hon. Julius Nyerere, President of Tanzania, we are grateful to Mr. James Hamilton (the then official photographer of the Guyana Bauxite Company). Some photos were digitally corrected and/or colorized by The Lindener.

and they are quite comfortable. There is no mixing of the passengers in 1st or 2nd class. Captain Benjie, by this time, is in high spirits as he does his thing and is concerned only with the ship's safe arrival at its eventual destination.

Next stop: Yaruni, yet another little riverain village, famous for its "Z" shaped bend in the river. The dredge is working here today keeping the channel clear of deposits of sand that are constantly being washed down from the higher regions of the river. The stop hardly makes a ripple among the passengers, who, on this upper, second class deck, are mostly reading, or sleeping. Unlike the lower second class, which for technical and practical reasons is also part of the steel hull that keeps the water out and maintains buoyancy, sight-seeing is easy here. The upper deck has steel rails along both the port, and starboard sides, allowing for adequate ventilation and light. At the rear of this deck and towards the top, are four lifeboats. The canvas curtains all along the side are keeping the afternoon sun from the passengers, and there are routine arguments among the males seated or standing at the snack bar, where all kinds of alcoholic drinks as well as soft drinks are being sold. The bartender is busy and undoubtedly proud of today's sales revenues.

This new stop has got to be Dalgin. Yes, the little wooden church sits serenely on the hill top, and the entire population is out to greet the returning parson and school master. With a puff of condensed steam from the stack, and Captain Benjie's usual telephone communication, dutifully acknowledged by the engine room, all engines are again at full speed ahead. The sun casts the shadow of the RH Carr on the now black waters of the winding river as she lurches toward her final destination. The shore line moves past and the varied activities of the river dwellers form part of the scenery; some are fishing, others are busy washing clothes in the all purpose river, while others are having their baths, or traveling in their dugouts. There are the odd speed boats with outboard engines whizzing past us in both directions, and alternate river transport provided by Oxley and others in their diesel powered and overloaded launches.

Earlier happily faces are now exhibiting deep boredom; yawning and signs of frustration abound on travel weary passengers, confined more than 8 hours on a relatively small craft, with minimum facilities and no form of diverting activities. The old hands know there are but two more stops, and begin to ready themselves for the landing at Wismar. The purser is making his final check of passengers ensuring that each has a ticket. He does not check the section with the expatriates.

It is Gold Hill, at last, the stop before Wismar. The routine, now rehearsed to the minute, takes place smoothly and we are homeward bound!

Skipper Benjie changes from his casual wear used for the long trip, to the smart, white captain's uniform with shining brass buttons gleaming in the setting sunlight. He is very much in control of the RH Carr. Today's was a long trip, even I can feel it as an invisible passen-

ger, in terms of time elapsed and the unfavorable tide she experienced. Now, ten hours after departing Georgetown, the heat on the second class deck is stifling and breathing is not easy. As is customary when the vessel rounds the final of several almost unending and innumerable bends of the Demerara River, Captain Benjie sounds the horn to alert passengers and residents alike, that within forty-five minutes, the good ship SS RH Carr will be moored at the Wismar stelling. That sounded horn, is a 20th century version of the famed mariners' shouts of "Land Ahoy." She is now nearer to the western bank and is moving at basically the same speed as when she left Georgetown.

All hopeful residents of both East and West banks of the Demerara River, and with varying degrees of interests, begin to converge at convenient viewing stations, each with his own singular objective in mind. Simultaneously, from the two crowded decks of the still chugging RH Carr, amid the varying calypso colors of the passengers garments, there is frantic waving, interspersed with unfathomable shouts from passengers to supposedly distinguishable land-based individuals along the final leg of the voyage. The police will be on the guard for known criminals, and to collect the one who is returning from Georgetown to face the magistrate; the post office employees await the mail; and the various commercial traders await in the hope that the merchandise they ordered is in the hold, or maybe the decks. And yes, waiting too is the bauxite worker in a rush to greet his returning family, whom he expects will bring the latest news of relatives in the countryside. It is easy to visualize, even as an invisible passenger, that the list of hopefuls and expectants is long and diverse.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Unfortunately there was no forward planning for the "retirement" of the venerable MV RH Carr. Unlike the Queen Mary which was graciously retired as a tourist attraction at an ocean-front Museum somewhere on the coast of California, sadly, no one knows where the remains of this truly historic vessel may be found. Our guess is that it probably ended up as scrap iron & steel in an electric furnace of some melt shop. RIP!*



About the Author

The author of this historical profile of the RH Carr, Mr. Clarence E. London (in bard hat), was the Production Coordinator and an officer of Guyana Bauxite Company, the firm which took over from Demba in 1971. Of the roughly 6,000 Guybau employees, half were under his stewardship in the areas of mining and mineral processing. Raised in Mackenzie, but originally from WCB, Mr. London also held top positions in the bauxite/aluminum sectors of both Jamaica and Venezuela. He acquired a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Howard University. Author's email is: cnlondon@sol.racsa.co.cr



In 1975, Mr. London discusses operations at Guybau's East Montgomery Mine with the visiting President of Tanzania, the late Hon. Julius Nyerere (left).

