



The Drum Newsletter

The Tribune Society, Inc. of the Court in the State of New York
P.O. Box 85 • Canal Street Station • New York, NY 10013

4th Quarter 2005

www.tribunes.org

President's Message

Greetings Sister and Brother Tribunes

Tis the season for greetings, usually associated with the term "Seasons Greetings". We have just finished celebrating Thanksgiving. The calendar year is coming quickly to an end and there is still plenty to do. As Christmas and Kwanza approaches we plan our holiday events with family and friends. We greet co-workers and others with the familiar nod of recognition. This year I'm a bit more reflective, in that this has been quite a year. Membership is up, and I wish to thank the County Delegates for their hard work and support of each other at the County receptions held thus far.

I thank all of our members and friends for your continued support of our successful 37th annual award dinner. In this year's toy drive, we hope to distribute more toys to more children than in the past, and this too can be done only with your support and donations. We especially reach out to those members who were unable to attend our fund raiser in November, and ask you now to come out to participate in any of our other events. Certainly fund raising is an integral part of this organization, but it is only a means to an end. I am reminded by the Executive Board regularly, that we are not a Tribune Society that is here to make money, but here to give money away. Whether we give it away in the form of toys to those less fortunate or give it away by providing services to our members, or even in

support of other fraternal court organizations, we cannot do the work of the Tribune Society without member help. This time of year, we are stretched to the limit. We are trying to fulfill all of our obligations, to the job, to the family, to our own personal needs and still find time to be a part of the celebration of the season of giving. We ask while doing your holiday shopping, please pick up one or two extra items for the children in our area. In these tough times, we are called upon to do more with less, on what seems like a regular basis. We have seen the joy in the faces of children, in the expectation of Christmas. The commercials everywhere suggest you buy this or that product, to share the joy of the holidays. It is the giving that spreads the real joy. Tribunes who have had the opportunity to give out toys at Christmas, know exactly what I mean. We all look forward to making others happy this season. We enjoy putting a smile, on the face of a child. Please give a toy and spread the joy.

I look forward to seeing you at the next general membership meeting, hoping that you will enjoy the food and the fellowship. I especially look forward to the coming year as The Tribune Society continues to maintain the traditions of the past while reaching for new ways and means in the future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLAN TO ATTEND!

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thursday, December 8, 2005 - 6:00 P.M.
Federal Court House
500 Pearl Street, Room 850 • NYC

21st Annual
CHRISTMAS/KWANZAA
TOY DRIVE DISCO

Friday, December 2, 2005
6:00 P.M. - 12:00 P.M.
VFW Post 1790
65 East Merrick Road
Valley Stream, NY 11580

Directions can be viewed on our Website

VISIT THE TRIBUNE WEBSITE
AT
WWW.TRIBUNES.ORG

To view a list of Job Hotline Numbers and Internet Job Site Listings that was provided by member Sandra Martin- Smith

OUR CONDOLENCES & PRAYERS

To County Delegate Coordinator **Leah Richardson** and family, for the loss of her father, Maurice B. Flamingo

SCO Damon Garrison and family, for the loss of his father, Edward Garrison

~ THANKS TO ALL ~

who marched with The Tribunes in the 36th Annual African American Day Parade held on Sunday, September 18, 2005. Your support was greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support for our 37th Annual Awards Dinner, that was held on Thursday, Nov. 3, 2005. A good time was had by all who attended.

Photos of the Parade and the Awards Dinner appear on our Website.

A Missed Opportunity

We wish to apologize to the New York State Court Clerks Association for our failure to acknowledge the presence of their Association President Michael J. Sigault, 1st Vice President Rocco DeSantis and Secretary Pamela Browne at our 37th Anniversary Dinner Dance on November 3rd,

2005. We want everyone to know that your presence and support that night were and is greatly appreciated. We also missed the opportune time to acknowledge that one of our long time Tribune members, Pamela Browne, is the first Afro-American Female to be elected as Secretary to the New

York State Court Clerks Association.



A Letter to My Fellow Tribune Members

By Leah Richardson

Dear Tribune Members,

It is with the greatest pleasure that I welcome you to the Tribune Society. My recent nomination as your County Delegate Coordinator has been a rewarding experience. Since I haven't had an opportunity to formally thank everyone for his or her support, I felt this is the perfect time to do so. As the Brooklyn County Delegate I saw changes that needed to be addressed and immediately passed them on to the board. Membership as well as morale was low, if this organization was going to grow then changes had to be made. I had that opportunity in Brooklyn to turned around low membership renewals while increasing new memberships.

As your new County Delegate Coordinator I encourage all County Delegates to do the same. I will continue to reach out to new members and keep our existing members active by supporting each county delegate. I will seek out and assign building representatives in each courthouse to assist the delegates with Tribune activities and communications.

The executive board has plans to personally visit each county and speak with all members personally at our receptions throughout the year. No one should be able to say, "I don't know what's going on with the Tribune Society" or "What is the

Tribune Society?" I would like to hear people saying, "How do I join the Tribune Society?" I believe in communications, and I will continue to promote the organization so that the Tribune Society will be a topic on everyone's minds.

Currently I am employed at the Kings County Supreme Court as a Principal PC analyst. I entered the court system in July of 1996 as a Senior P.C. Analyst, and was promoted to Principal P.C. Analyst in 1999. I have an A+ certification in computers and hold a Bachelors Degree in Communications. I am currently enrolled at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in the Masters of Public Administration degree program (MPA), with a graduation date of June 2007. I have two children, ages 18 and 11 of whom I am very proud. I also plan to attend law school in January 2008. I strongly believe in continuing education as long as the opportunity exists. Everyday you come home you should ask yourself the question, "What have I learned today?" If you have not learned anything that day then you need ask why. I say the following quote everyday when I leave my house. "Your life is marked by dates, one at the beginning, and one at the end, with just a dash in between. A short little dash reflecting who you were, what you accomplished, and the values you held. How important will your dash be?"

As County Delegate Coordinator, I've had the opportunity to meet Chief Justice Judith Kaye, Judges from the various courts and many court personnel. The Tribune Society has changed my life in many ways and has opened up opportunities that I never expected. I am so proud to be a part of this organization and will continue to help the organization grow to the best of my ability. I believe that as a team player and a leader the organization provides an opportunity to share my experiences and skills with anyone who is interested and willing to take the challenge and I hope that means all of you. I have so many ideas in mind, but my only concern is, will the Tribune Society be able to keep up with me? Together as a Society we can continue to benefit from each others thoughts and ideas, which has helped to make us the best fraternal organization around. I expect the Tribune Society to continue to grow and have a greater impact on issues of concern to its membership.

I would like to thank former President, Patricia A. Parker and President Edward Edmead for keeping me grounded and giving me the opportunity to express my interest and concerns in keeping the Tribune Society as the best fraternal organization around.

Continued

A Letter to My Fellow Tribune Members *(Continued)*

I look forward to continuing to work with the Executive Board and all of my County Delegates of whom I hold dear to my heart. I am looking forward to the many challenges we will face in uplifting and supporting the Tribune

Society now and in the future. Remember without membership there is no organization. Let's keep those membership dues current and continue to recruit new members, we can never have too many members.

Fraternally yours,
Leah Richardson,
County Delegate Coordinator

Member Activities Follow-Up

The Event - Tribune Family Day Outing, July 14, 2005.

The Tribune Society sponsored its first annual family day outing in Prospect Park, Brooklyn. The Brooklyn chapter of the Tribune Society gave this event.

Committee Members:

County Delegate Coordinator, Leah Richardson; Brooklyn County Delegate, David McClain. Tribune Members: Pat Brown, Gregory Cox, Grace Crawford, Elizabeth Dandy, June Farrow, Gwendolyn Fuller, Sharen Hudson, Izetta Johnson, Claude Legree, Leroy Spicer, Mabelle Sweeting, Natasia Pinkney,

The Tribune Society sponsored this event as a Kickoff of many events to come. The idea was to set aside a day where Tribune members can bond with their families and have a great time networking, and relaxing. Although it was the hottest day of the year, we persevered. Tribune members still came out to support the event. The children were so excited and had so much fun they didn't even realize how hot it was. We hired a clown from Watodo entertainments who entertained the kids for hours. Children played football, tag and relay races and participated in arts and crafts. Prizes were given out as

well. SCO Wayne Powell provided one of his horses to help out with the activities by giving free rides. This turned out to be a hit. Thank you very much Mr. Powell for your support as usual.

I just want to thank some members on the committee for working so hard in organizing this event. Grace Crawford stood out there at 7:00 a.m. in the morning in sweltering heat to save our spot. I thank you. Claude Legree, what can I say about you. You feverishly made those hot dogs, hamburgers, and barbeque chicken and yes we even had grilled salmon yum yum. Claude gets the humanitarian award for standing out there on the hottest day of the year which was over 100 degrees barbequing food for our Tribune members. Greg, if it wasn't for you, we would have been eating sandwiches. Greg supplied us with the grill. David (MAC) kept us jamming, as our DJ for the day. Sharen, as usual hustling up all the supplies, and keeping us on target and was also a great help with organizing the children during the activities. Pat, thank you so much for your patience with organizing the children at the arts and craft table. Izetta, without those flyers no one would have even known about the picnic. Ingrid, don't think I forgot

about those Jamaican vegetable patties, they were excellent. Gwen thanks so much for the cooler you know we needed that and Leroy for delivering the food all the way from Pennsylvania.

On behalf of the Tribune Society we would like to personally thank everyone on the committee for his or her support. Hope to see you next year. This is just one of the many events we will plan throughout the counties as we grow as an organization.

You may also visit our web site at www.tribunes.org, to view some pictures taken at the event by Pat Brown and Ernest Owens.

**To Each and Every member of
Our Tribune Family & Friends**



*May the spirit of this season -
Harmony, love and understanding
Become a way of life. And may the
coming year bring Hope and Peace to
all mankind.*

From the Tribune Society Executive Board

If you're like most people, starting in January you will be looking for ways to save money after your holiday spending spree.

Here are a few money saving suggestions:

- Turn off computers and TVs when not in use and save more than \$100 per year.
- Set your hot-water-heater thermostat at 120 degrees Fahrenheit (or "low"). That's hot enough for most needs.
- Once a year, ask your current long-distance carrier and a couple of competitors whether another calling plan suits your current usage. The Web site www.trac.org can guide you to lower-cost plans.
- Consider switching to basic cable service instead of paying extra for channels you may not watch. Also, ask your cable company whether it offers just one premium channel in your area instead of charging you more for a package.
- If you have children approaching college age look for groups offering scholarship at www.fastweb.com for www.salliemae.com (click the "WiredScholar" icon in lower right-hand corner), and www.collegeboard.com

(click "For Parents" & "Scholarship Search")

- Use search engines such as www.Shopping.com, www.Shopping.yahoo.com, www.BizRate.com, www.MySimon.com, and www.froogle.com when shopping online. Each site nets different retailers, so try them all.
- Aggressively clipping coupons is one way to save significant sums on groceries try www.cutouthunger.org, which posts weekly supermarket deals and coupons by state
- Buy three papers. "Picking up three copies of the Sunday paper is a small price to pay for the savings you'll receive in clipped coupons,"
- See double. Shop only at super-markets that double or triple the value of coupons.
- Consider coupon sites. Sites such as www.bargainboardwalk.com, www.couponmountain.com and www.eCoupons.com offer "coupon codes" for the goods you want to buy. Be aware you may need to provide personal data and may receive spam.
- Print coupons. Visit sites that let you print supermarket coupons for free, such as www.coolsavings.com and www.smartsources.com.

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- Spot the sales. See what foods are on sale at local supermarkets during the coming week. Check newspaper ads, store circulars or the supermarket's Web site.
- Create a menu. Plan a week's worth of meals based on the sale items. Many food magazines have Web sites, such as www.foodandwine.com, that offer free access to recipes arranged by food type or ingredient.
- You can cut the cost of movie tickets purchases by visiting the Web sites of movie-theater companies, many of which offer multiple online ticket sales for about \$5 per flick, as well as other savings promotions.
- To cut the cost of Broadway shows by up to 50 percent, try www.BroadwayBox.com, a Web site that provides show discount codes and lets you order tickets online.

Source:

Consumer Reports - 101 Tips