



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

3rd Quarter 2006

www.tribunes.org

President's Message

Greetings Sister and Brother Tribunes

As your President, I welcome you all back to a new season. We have another year before us and so much to do. Only with your continued support of the Tribune Society can our programs, projects and events be successful. We anticipate your commitment, but we do not, and cannot take it for granted. There is a very small contingent of members, who are actively involved with every aspect of The Society, they are your Executive Board. There is another contingent of members that actively participates in the preparation of projects and events, these are our committee chairs and committee members, and they are some of the hardest working members for The Tribune Society. These members are the backbone and the muscle of The Tribune Society. The commitment of all members makes up the "body" of The Society. That body, will not accomplish much, without some vitality. No matter how strong, smart or committed that body may be, it is not enough. The vitality comes in the "blood" that feeds all the parts of this organization. That blood is not only your financial support in the form of dues, but your continued personal and financial commitment as well. With all these vital parts working together everything is possible. In making any program work, commitment should be a two way street. The input, needs and feedback of the membership is also critically important.

If you haven't had an opportunity to attend a meeting recently, we encourage you come to our next quarterly meeting on September 21, or December 14, to hear and see first hand about your Tribune Society. We have streamlined our General Membership meetings in order to guarantee a significant period of time for your input and feedback. Membership dues may be mailed directly to us or submitted through your local delegate or paid at the meetings. Membership forms may be obtained online or from delegates. Word of mouth is probably the fastest means of getting the word out, but for more detailed information, flyers, photos, and newsletters, please use our website.

Membership not only has privileges, but advantages. Members have always enjoyed the benefit of having the first opportunity to sign up for all programs and classes. Membership offers the participants discounts in program fees, when applicable. The size of our membership also plays a part in maintaining the attention of management and administration. Clearly, the respect for The Tribune Society has been based on our history and integrity. It continues to command attention in part to our current membership size and unyielding committedness to equal opportunity.

Continued on next page

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLAN TO ATTEND!

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thursday, **September 21, 2006** - 6:00 p.m.
Federal Court House
500 Pearl Street, Room 850 • NYC

Next General Membership Meeting
December 14, 2006

Tentative 2007 Schedule
March 15, 2007
June 21, 2007
September 20, 2007
December 13, 2007

38th Annual Tribune Dinner Dance
November 2nd, 2006
Marina del Rey • 1 Marina Dr. • Bronx
Tickets \$80.00

The New York State Court Officers Lodge 35 is proud to announce the corners of Leonard, Franklin and White Streets will be co-Named in honor of Captain William Harry Thompson, Sgt. Thomas Jurgens and Sgt. Mitchel Wallace.

In honor of all New York State Court Officers, Lafayette Street from White Street to Leonard Street will be co-named Court Officer Memorial Way.

Official Dedication: Saturday, September 30, 2006 - 11:00 A.M. Lafayette and Franklin Streets, NYC

The Cervantes Society cordially invites all to their Eleventh Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Thurs. Sept. 28, 2006 - 6:00 P.M. New York County Supreme Court 60 Centre St, Rotunda, NY, NY

Please remember to visit the Tribune website at www.tribnes.org

President's Message *(Continued)*

It appears that we are approaching an opportunity to make a meaningful change in the overall diversity of the court system. Many of the senior employees in the courts will take advantage of an incentive program, if and when offered. We will lose some of our members in high ranking positions. We must prepare for the opportunity, to fill some high ranking positions, with qualified members. Our concern is, will our members be ready? Someone will have to be promoted, we expect that person to be the most qualified. Additionally, for every promotion from within, another line opens up and someone else must fill that new vacancy. It is our hope and desire, that we and our members will be prepared. Subtly, Tribune membership may identify a candidate for consideration. Consideration is only one small piece of the plan for your professional development. Further details, will follow.

Our most significant upcoming event will be the 38th Annual Awards Dinner to be held on November 2nd, 2006.

Here is your opportunity to meet, greet and network in a social atmosphere with some of the most important supervisors, managers and administrators. Tickets will be available at the General Membership meeting and from Delegates and Dinner Committee members. The experience is well worth the price. Your continuing to support our biggest fund-raising event, our Awards Dinner, is greatly appreciated. Board members have routinely spent their personal time and money for the needs of The Society. We go uncompensated for the improvement of The Tribune Society. We now have Tribunes in virtually every court throughout the downstate area, and we are expanding as far north as Albany. The upcoming county receptions will also help inform and recruit new members and reach out to former members. Potential Tribunes still need to know what we stand for, who we are and where we are. Our County delegates will get to know some of you, but you need to also get to know them. Please check the website for details on the next

reception in your county.

We continue to appreciate the members who attend all the general membership meetings and especially those that tell others in their courts what they may have missed. We continue to seek your support and willingness to participate in membership drives, programs and events. The Executive Board and organization hopes to become stronger and more dedicated with each new challenge.

This year, with the experience of the past, we are full of enthusiasm for what awaits us. We expect to make changes to meet the needs of the future. We remain assured that the next change in direction, will keep us still on course.

Greetings from the Bronx Interim Delegate

By Karen Blanchette

To all my Tribune brothers and sisters in the courts,

I would like to send my greetings as the interim county delegate for the Tribune Society, Inc.. I also would like to send my prayers and best wishes to our elected County delegate, Serena Jones, and wish her and her family the best of health for years to come. Unfortunately, for us here in the Bronx, Serena has had to relinquish her duties for the Tribune Society for personal reasons and we will miss her dedication and experience in that capacity. I have offered to step in and hopefully will be able to fulfill her duties until the next election is held for

Tribune Executive Board members. Please bear with me as I learn how to attempt to fill her shoes.

If you haven't been to the Bronx courthouses lately be forewarned there is a great deal of construction occurring. The new Criminal Division Courthouse is near completion and is in the network testing phase. The new building is located at 217 E. 161st Street and will house the newly merged Supreme Court Criminal parts as well as the lower Criminal Court and various agencies.

There is also major construction on 161st Street in front of the Supreme

Courthouse building on the Grand Concourse Boulevard. The city has planned a walking mall on 161st Street between the Grand Concourse and Grant Avenue. Vehicular traffic will be prohibited from this location and the metered parking which has existed in this area has been removed and will not return. The local community and court personnel will have permanent Farmer's Market produce and street vendors to shop from much like what is in place in Kings County once the mall is completed. I'm sure we all look forward to the completion of construction in this neighborhood.

Continued on the next page

Bronx Greetings *(continued)*

To my Tribune brothers and sisters in the Bronx, please take some time to renew your membership if you haven't done so already. I would also like to ask that you take some time out of your daily schedule to speak to a new employee (or even one who isn't so new) who is currently not a Tribune member and inform them of the existence and advocacy of the Tribune Society. I'm sure we all know at least

one person who can benefit from or bring something positive to the Tribunes. We have a large population of potential members here in the Bronx and I would like for each one to reach one. I also look forward to seeing many of you at the general meetings given on a quarterly basis each year.

I'm thanking each of you in advance for the assistance I have no doubt you

will offer to increase our membership within the courts since we all know that there is power in numbers.

Thank you,

Karen Blanchette
Interim County Delegate
Tribune Society, Inc.

Kings County Summer BBQ

submitted by David McClain

Hello Fellow Tribunes

David McClain - Kings County Delegate here to inform you about the summer activities we had in Brooklyn. On August 12, 2006 the Tribune Society had our 2nd Annual Kings County BBQ! All who attended had a FANTASTIC time!!! We had members from 320 Jay street both Criminal & Family courts, 120 Schermerhorn St., 141 Livingston S.t and 100 Centre St.

The children played Volleyball, Soccer and ran races. We had our Afrocentric clown

Ha, Ha, B. Klown entertain the kids to their delight! We had a wider variety of food this time around, besides the usual burgers and hot dogs. We added salmon burgers, turkey burgers and vegetarian burgers. The salmon and veggie burgers were bigger hits than we realized. Our 50/50 raffle went over well with a lucky winner from the Kings County Clerk's office. Over \$600.00 reasons to smile that day!!! We were lucky to have equipment donated to us by Modell's and food from Court Order on Court Street in Brooklyn so thanks to them again!!! The whole day was blessed with good

weather and good people and I am thankful for the people that GOD sent me to help put all of this together!!! I have to say a special THANK YOU to our organizers: Leah Richardson, Joyce Hopkins, Jacqueline Robinson, Patricia Gregg, Harolyn Baker, Claude Legree, June Farrow, Grace Crawford, Pat Brown, Elizabeth "Ingrid" Dandy and Natasia Pinksey!!! I absolutely couldn't have done it without you!!!! Well I hope that everyone who came enjoyed themselves and I hope to see you all again next year!!!!

Leadership Skills

By, Leah Richardson, County Delegate Coordinator

I would like to start a series of 10 articles relating to leadership skills in you. Ten steps to developing leadership skill in you.

1. Humility
2. SWOT Yourself
3. Follow Your Bliss
4. Dream Bit
5. Vision
6. Perseverance
7. Honor Your Word
8. Get a Mentor
9. Be Yourself
10. Give

It is important that we as leaders can identify and demonstrate concern and compassion, as well as authenticity to others. Leaders who are to be followed must understand the human condition, especially their own. We must build a people centric organization. Humility is an approach to life that says "I don't have all of the answers and I want your contribution." It is ok to accept your limitations - I cannot do it alone, I will seek the help of others. As a leader we must be able to communicate, Invite feedback, encourage dissent, turn failures into lessons. It is better to admit a shortcoming, or a limitation,

than to lead blindly onto the unknown. A person with true humility will exhibit the quality of character that acknowledges areas of weakness in his/her own abilities.

Awaken the Leader Within You

Humility. Leadership starts with humility. To be a highly successful leader, you must first humble yourself like a little child and be willing to serve others. Nobody wants to follow someone who is arrogant. Be humble as a child, always curious, always hungry and thirsty for knowledge. For what is excellence but knowledge plus knowledge plus knowledge - always wanting to better yourself, always improving, always growing.

When you are humble, you become genuinely interested in people because you want to learn from them. And because you

want to learn and grow, you will be a far more effective listener, which is the #1 leadership communication tool. When people sense you are genuinely interested in them, and listening to them, they will naturally be interested in you and listen to what you have to say.

Source: Awaken the Leader Within You
By Sharif Khan
Reviewed by Leah Richardson, County Delegate Coordinator

The Humility Test

You help another person save a child from a

burning building and then learn the next day, the press is calling YOU the "hero". Would you set the record straight

Yes or No

Do you have framed pictures of yourself - alone, with no one else in the photo displayed in your house?

Yes or No

Would you hire someone smarter than you?

Yes or No

Do you ask what your county can do for you rather than what you can do for your country?

Yes or No

A Few Photos from Tribune Society Events from Summer 2006

Over 200 Court employees, families and friends had a wonderful time in the sun at the Kings County 2nd Annual Tribune Family BBQ in Prospect Park on Saturday, August 12, 2006.



We bowled the night out at the Cozy Bowl in Ozone Park Queens at the Queens county Bowling Night Out on Saturday, August 26, 2006.



The Tribune Society marched and was front and center at the 37th annual African-American Day Parade held in Harlem on Sunday, September 17, 2006.



Edward Edmead, *President*
Roderick Randall, *Vice President*
Harold Snipe, *Financial Sec'y*
Joseph Parris, *Treasurer*
Muhammad Small, *Sergeant At Arms*
Ernest Owens, *Recording Sec'y*
Leah Richardson, *County Delegate Coordinator*

John W. Stubbs III, *Queens County Delegate*
Currently Vacant, *Westchester County Delegate*
Karen Blanchette, *Bronx County Delegate*
Kevin Browne, *New York County Delegate*
David McClain, *Kings County Delegate*
Regina Greene, *Nassau County Delegate*
Tonia Wharton, *Suffolk County Delegate*

Editor: Roderick Randall, Copy Editor: Ernest Owens & Audrey Callahan. Please e-mail any material for inclusion in the newsletter to rrandall@courts.state.ny.us, or owens@courts.state.ny.us