

April-June 2019

## The Jean De La Valette Has Arrived



Minister Rohan Sinan on board the JDLV

Minister of Works and Transport, Hon. Rohan Sinanan, attended a media tour for the newly arrived ferry, Jean De La Valette (JDLV), on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. The much anticipated ferry arrived on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June and several officials from the Ministry, NIDCO and Port Authority were also present to enjoy a first-hand view of the impressive ferry.

The ferry has been leased for one year, and its addition to the seabridge will enhance the inter-island travelling experience for Trinidad and Tobago seabridge passengers. The JDLV is 106 meters in length, can carry 800 passengers, with 24

crew members and 150 vehicles. It runs at a speed of 38 knots.



The JDLV berthed at the Port of Port of Spain

The sailing time between islands is approximately two and a half hours and the JDLV will make its first official trip in mid-July according to the Minister.

## Mangers on PPOS Terminal Tour



Ricardo Gonzales CEO PPOS Ag gives expert info on the tour

As part of the Marketing department's "PPOS Awareness Initiative", a guided Terminal Tour was

held for managers and supervisors during the lunch time period on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June. The objective is to give managers/supervisors a view of the terminal in 2019 – and also to keep them updated on PPOS’ operations and business.

The tour was conducted by Ag. CEO PPOS, Ricardo Gonzales, and managers had the opportunity to ask questions as the tour proceeded throughout the terminal. For some, it was a first time visit and for others it was a reacquainting visit after some years.

The group also visited the new Barrel Shop area to witness the more spacious and pleasant accommodation for customers, employees and Customs agents.

The expected benefit of such tours is to bring managers in touch with the operations that take place outside of their offices, and hopefully to engender a team synergy and awareness of the entire delivery and logistic chain that make up the port service. Managers would also see the value of their roles in the service delivery.

There were 20 persons on the terminal tour and they expressed appreciation for such an opportunity. Of course lunch was provided on return to the Administration Building. More sessions will be planned for this PPOS managers awareness initiative.

## **SAM RAMNATH RETIRES (After 42 Years’ Service)**

Sam Ramnath, the driver previously attached to the GM/CEO’s office, left on pre-retirement leave on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Mr. Ramnath spent his entire working life at the Port Authority, having dedicated 42 years to the organization.

Mr. Ramnath began his career in the Port Security department; and thereafter worked in several other departments including Registry as a clerk, and finally as a valued driver attached to the GM/CEO’s Office. On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June, a group of his colleagues held a surprise farewell luncheon in the Board room to honour him and to bid farewell - and moreover to remind him that he will always be a member of the Port Family.



**Sam Ramnath (center) with two of his closest Port friends Anil Ramdial and Anne-Marie Seemungal**

In attendance were: GM/CEO Ag. Trudy Gill-Conlon; his close friends, Anil Ramdial – Manager, Strategic Planning and Anne-Marie Seemungal - Executive Secretary; Chief Internal Auditor - Kiran Dass; Ag. Deputy GM - Marcia Charles-Elbourne; Ag. Port Secretary - Keisha Franco-Daniel; Senior Legal Officer - Daffodil Maxwell; Management Analyst Ag. - Andy Ali; Executive Assistant - Cherisse Pierre; Ag. Head of Marketing/PR Manager - Betty Ann Gibbons and Senior Secretary - Nadine Lallbeharry.

## **TOWNHALL MEETINGS CONTINUE**

### **With Transport Drivers:**

The Townhall meetings, led by the GM’s office, continued with a meeting with PPOS Transport Drivers on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. The Ag. GM/CEO,

Trudy Gill-Conlon gave a presentation to update on the state of PPOS business, so that the drivers could have a clear understanding of the efficiency and productivity levels required to be more service oriented, and ultimately a more profitable business.



Transport Drivers & Managers listen to the GM/CEO'S presentation

The drivers also had the opportunity to express their concerns and any issues so that they could be addressed. Issues mentioned included the need for improvement of their areas, including lockers and toilet facilities, and also equipment.

As is customary, the Ag. CEO PPOS, Ag. CEO Posinco, HSE Manager and several other managers attended the Townhall in order to be informed of the areas that they could assist in fixing or improving for the workers.

#### **With Procurement Staff:**

The next Townhall meeting was held with PPOS Procurement employees on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June. Procurement is a very important function within PPOS, as many other departments, notably Operations and Equipment, depend on these employees to purchase items/equipment and

contract suppliers in a timely manner, sometimes with great urgency – all of which ensure smooth and uninterrupted operations and service to customers.



Trudy Gill-Conlon Ag GM/CEO(R) interacts with Procurement staff

Among the main issues mentioned in the feedback segment were: staffing issues, as some employees had been relocated which resulted in a shortage of staff in the department presently; and also the need to communicate with persons in other departments so that they are fully informed and aware of proper procurement requirements and processes.

The above matters were noted by the Ag. GM/CEO; Ag. CEO PPOS as well as the relevant managers who were present – and they will be addressed in the shortest possible time.

#### **OFFICIAL FAREWELL TO RETIREES 2016**

On Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>, the Public Relations department held a Farewell Dinner for its 2016 Retirees, and it was described as one of the Port Authority's most sophisticated events. The purpose was to honour these 65 retirees for their years of dedicated service to the Port Authority and also to

wish them an official farewell as they get ready for their “New Adventures Ahead,” which was the theme for the evening.



Retirees and their guests enjoy the elegant ambience

The event started with an opening prayer by HR’s Candice Jacob, followed by a warm welcome from the Ag. GM/ CEO Trudy Gill–Conlon who expressed her joy for having worked closely with a number of the retirees when she began at the port. Ag HR Manager Khadine Wright–Prescod spoke about the love and unity that existed in the ‘Good Ole Days,’ and mentioned how some of the retirees inspired her to work hard. In his feature remarks, Chairman (Ret. Colonel) Lyle Alexander thanked retirees for their resilience and mentioned that among them was a combined total of 2489 years’ service which could not have gone unnoticed.



Commissioner Rabindra Jaggernaut and Ag GM/CEO Trudy Gill-Conlon at the event



Chairman (Ret’d Colonel) Lyle Alexander presents the token to Retiree Anthony Monsegue

At the Port we are a Family and a truly talented one at that! Most of the services for the event were sourced in-house. The MC for the evening was the lovely Patricia Pierrepoint; décor was done by Anastasia Auguste which set an elegant tone for the event; DJ, Kyle Reid, Manager engineering, did a phenomenal job at providing music to set the mood; and gifted singer Shallun Sammy (of HR) serenaded the attendees.



Divisional Manager HR Ag. Khadine Wright-Prescod (L) gives her speech, while members of the Head Table listen

As a form of appreciation, the retirees were each presented with personalized keepsake plaques. They were then treated to a scrumptious buffet style dinner and bar. A highlight of the event was a

photo booth on site in which the retirees and their guests posed for professional photos - which they received in a Port Authority branded photo folder as a memento of the event.

**\*\* To view more pics of the Retirement event, visit the Port's Instagram page: @portauthoritytt - You do not need an Instagram account to access the page.**

## **SPORTS, COOKOUT & FAMILY DAY 2019**

### **\* The Kingdoms of PATT \***



**Team Tully – winners of Overall Sports, Cookout and Dance-Off**

The Port Authority Sports, Cookout and Family Day took place at the Trinity College Grounds, Moka on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. There were minor weather concerns in the days leading up to the event. On the day, however, we were greeted with bright skies and just the occasional small showers which only added to the fun and excitement of the day's events.

The day officially began with the national anthem and opening prayer, following which the GM/CEO Ag. Trudy Gill-Conlon welcomed everyone. The Deputy Chairman, Adrian Beharry, thanked all for attending, wished them a successful day, and ended with the resounding call, "Let the Games Begin!"



**The day began with the March Past of teams**

The theme for the day's event was "Game of Thrones, Kingdoms of PATT" – with each team representing a House from the popular Game of Thrones TV series and novels. The two MC's were the popular local entertainer/media personality Rome, and PATT's very own versatile and talented Patricia Pierrepoint. Their running commentary contributed to keeping the proceedings fun for everyone.

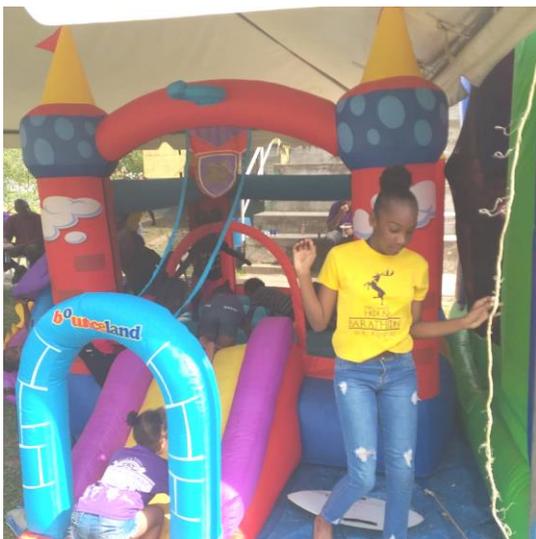


**Participants in the hotly contested Tug-of-War event**



The Chairman and his elegant wife arrive at the games

There was a large contingent of our Port Family from the Port of Scarborough, along with hundreds of their colleagues from the various departments in Trinidad. All were ready and enthusiastic to compete and showcase their talent and competitive team spirit. Sports for the day included – novelty races, traditional track races, and kids’ races. There was a Cookout competition among teams, featuring a Yard Food theme. There was also a “best decorated tent” competition. Of course, there were several food stalls and drinks.



Having fun in the kids’ zone

At the special kids’ zone, the young ones were fully entertained with bouncy castles, snacks and races. The adults competed in novelty races which included: the Family Race, Make-up race, Scotchman’s Strut, Tug-of-War, Island Hop, and the entertaining musical chairs. Finally, there was a dance-off - Party Me Love - in which the teams showcased their dancing ability with performances of Salsa, Electric Slide, Spanish dance and an African dance to everyone’s delight.



MC Patricia Pierrepoint (R) poses with a cooking team

At the end of the day, House Tully (comprising Labor Office, Human Resources, Port Secretary and Legal Departments) were the overall champions as well as Cookout and Dance-Off Champions. House Greyjoy (Mechanical Garage) won for the best decorated tent. House Bolton (TTIT POS) was the March Past Winner, closely followed by House Tyrell (Administration). House Baratheon (Port Police) emerged as Football Champions, and the House of Targaryen (TTIT Tobago) were the Tug-of-war Champions.

In all, it was a fun and enjoyable day spent with colleagues, family and friends.

**\*\* Check the Port’s Instagram page for lots more pics of the event: @portauthoritytt (no account needed to access).**