



August 24, 2008

THE BIRTH OF THE MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION
By
Wilbur Walrond

With humble thanks to my stand-in Dr. June James, I bring you greetings from the members of the Martin Family Clan who are resident in BC and other parts of Canada and who, like myself are unable to be with you today on this the 16th Anniversary of the Martin Family Clan's first Reunion.

Please accept my sincere regrets for not being able to attend this auspicious occasion due to a last minute family commitment.

Martin Family Reunion Background

For the benefit of the seniors who may have forgotten as well as for the younger generation - our present and future leaders - who were probably in their pre or early teens when we started this trip on August 30 1992, let me take a few minutes to recap the journey we have taken over the past 16 years.

A Reunion of the Martin Family was first conceived by Cousin Michael Headley and me during various stages of euphoric inebriation while trying to recuperate after several annual carnival indulgences.

In a moment of weakness we decided to walk the talk but in a subsequent brief jolt back to sanity we lasted long enough to add one very important condition - ***that for any family reunion to be worth the effort it must result in some long lasting benefit to the Martin Family at large.***

On that first memorable day on August 30, 1992 at the home of Professor George Maxwell Richards (4th) then Chancellor of the UWI in St Augustine, the Chairman of the first Reunion Committee Clayton Headley, put that *condition* into perspective when he expressed the hope that that first Reunion would see the continuation of many more similar family gatherings and that a Foundation Fund would eventually mature to give assistance to deserving cases in the family such as for example, advanced education and health care, and that the Martin Clan would serve as an inspiration to other family groups to pool their talents and resources toward the improvement of the quality of life for their respective family members.

This is all recorded in the first Martin Family History in 1992 which was prepared in six short months by the late Joy Worrell (4th generation).

From that challenge evolved our Martin Family Motto: ***“Let our Skills and Talents keep us united”.***

The plan of attack now seemed to be a very simple one – or so we thought:

1. Spend the first few years bringing the family together through various social gatherings with the hope of establishing strong ties and lines of communication for the next steps ahead.

2. At the same time try to avail ourselves of any opportunity to demonstrate by example whenever or wherever possible, how members of the family could indeed benefit in some of the areas as suggested by Chairman Clayton at that first reunion.
3. Research and formulate plans for the formation of a **Foundation**.
4. Create the ways and means for ensuring that the **Foundation** can become self sustaining.
5. Structure the Bylaws of the Foundation in such a way that the Foundation will serve as the vehicle whereby the Reunion Committee, while using the combined skills and talents of our membership at large, can effectively achieve the end results of those goals envisioned at that first Family reunion in 1992.

The Road thus travelled

What have we accomplished todate?

1. The first Reunion Committee which consisted of 4th and 5th generation members remained in office for ten years and concentrated on the organization of several anniversary reunions and other social get togethers. As examples of the types of long term benefits that could be achieved through our goals, scholarships / bursaries were awarded to several of our youths to help further their education, emergency funds were raised to provide medical assistance to some family members as well as much needed financial assistance was provided to some families toward the celebration of the life of a dearly departed loved one.
2. The 2nd Reunion Committee, which remained in office for five years, endeavoured to bring to the board some of the younger members particularly from the 5th and 6th generations. Here again the emphasis was on social gatherings in order to continue developing unity through fellowship as well as working toward the realization of our vision for a **Foundation**.
3. The 3rd Reunion Committee was the first Committee to be based on the democratic (railroad maybe?) election process in order to try to achieve active participation from within the general family membership at large. The self imposed mandate on this Committee was to organize at least one major social function a year and to continue to improve upon our lines of communication. For some strange reason we are still struggling in this last area.

4. The current 4th Reunion Committee is continuing on in the footsteps of its predecessor and still trying to fill those communication gaps but they need everyone's concerted assistance. In this high tech world today there is no reason why we cannot forward our immediate family's contact information to members of the Committee. It's as easy as sending SPAM!
5. Finally the **Martin Family Foundation** was duly incorporated on Valentine's Day **February 14, 2008.**

Note: *Pending the legal establishment of the Foundation, funds for many of the above projects mentioned were provided primarily through the generosity of some of the Reunion Committee members who had hoped that by leading by example others would follow their lead. This was easier said than done – for 16 years!*

The Foundation

The Directors/ Incorporators of the **Martin Family Foundation** sincerely believe that the funding and sustaining of the Foundation should be such as to make every family member, regardless of age and socio-economic standing, feel proud to be an integral part of its formation, existence and continuing growth whether or not that participation is individually or collectively - for example through fund raising measures.

In order to accomplish the above, each member of the family is invited to become a full fledged active and participating member of the **Foundation**, by making a financial contribution of his or her choice on behalf of themselves and / or on behalf of any other family member or members of their immediate family regardless of his or her age.

Whether or not you choose to make an **annual** donation of your choice to the **Foundation** in order to maintain your membership therein does not preclude you from the opportunity to make further donations at will to the Foundation should you wish to honor other family members and/or to celebrate special occasions such as births, marriages anniversaries or even to commemorate the celebration of the life of a dearly departed loved one.

As a further incentive, and to commemorate the launching of this milestone in the history of the Martin Family Reunions, all financial subscribers to the Foundation on or before **October 3, 2008**, the new date for the Launch, will be suitably recognized as **JOHN 'CHOW' MARTIN CHARTER FOUNDATION MEMBERS.**

Subsequent subscribers to the Foundation will be recognized as **JOHN 'CHOW' MARTIN FOUNDATION MEMBERS.**

The PROPOSED Structure of the FOUNDATION & Role of the REUNION COMMITTEE

A. The Reunion Committee

The Martin Family Reunion Committee has been and should always be the organizing and Operating Body of the Martin Family Clan and to that end:

1. Members of its Board of Directors shall be elected annually by and from within the ranks of all subscribing members of the **Martin Family Foundation**.
2. This Committee shall be responsible for the organizing of all fund raising functions, inter alia, for the welfare and general well being of the **Martin Family** and the **Foundation**.

B. The Foundation

The Board of Directors of the Foundation shall be elected annually and be represented by member(s) from within the following categories:

1. Past and current Presidents (Chairpersons) of the Martin Family Reunion Committee and who have subscribed financially to the Foundation.
2. Member(s) at large who have served on previous and current Reunion Committees and who have subscribed financially to the Foundation.
3. All members who have subscribed financially to the Foundation.

Note: The Reunion Committee and the Foundation are not to be viewed as separate entities per se, but rather the Foundation is the means whereby the Reunion Committee can achieve the aims and objectives as laid out in the Foundation's Constitution.

Election of the 1st Board of Directors

The current interim Board of Directors is comprised of the '**Incorporating Directors**' and some of the members of the 1st Reunion Committee.

Following the Launching of the Foundation now slated for **October 3, 2008**, the election of the first Board of Directors will be held at a general meeting consisting of all financial subscribers to the Foundation regardless of the amount of their donation.

APPENDIX A – INCORPORATING THE FOUNDATION

Form 3

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Computer ID No. 1331491 Company No. M 3559(95)

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1995

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

Name of Company MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION

I hereby certify that the above-mentioned Company, the Articles of Incorporation of which are attached, was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1995 of Trinidad and Tobago.

Dep. Registrar of Companies



Date of Incorporation 14th February, 2008

G.P., Tr./To.---

APPENDIX A – INCORPORATING THE FOUNDATION

Form 2

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE COMPANIES ACT, (CHAP. 81:01)

(Sections 9 and 309)

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

NON-PROFIT COMPANY

SCHEDULE 'A' – ITEM 4

1. MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION (Name of Company) 2. (Company No)

3. Restrictions on the undertaking that the Company may carry on:

REGISTERED

The Company is established for the purpose of carrying out the following undertakings only:

- (1) To carry out research into and preserve the history of the Martin Family and more specifically the lineal descendants and antecedents of John "Chow" Martin and his wife Margaret (nee Augustus) and to promote fellowship and co-operation between members of the Martin Family.
- (2) To assist in the relief of poverty, suffering and distress and the provision of financial and other assistance for disadvantaged Martin Family members and their dependents in Trinidad and Tobago and members of the public of Trinidad and Tobago.
- (3) To promote the advancement of education for Martin Family members in Trinidad and Tobago in particular as well as members of the public of Trinidad and Tobago including, but without limitation to the generality of the foregoing, the establishment and/or maintenance of schools, colleges, scholarships or prizes; the provision of school teachers and the promotion of education in the arts, sciences and languages.
- (4) To promote the benefit of Martin Family members and/or to provide facilities in the interest of social welfare including facilities for leisure time occupations with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said Martin Family members and other members of the public of Trinidad and Tobago.

[Handwritten signature]
Date: *[Handwritten date]*

DIRECTOR/INCORPORATOR *[Handwritten signature]*

APPENDIX A – INCORPORATING THE FOUNDATION

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THE COMPANIES ACT, (CHAP. 81:01)
(Sections 9 and 309)



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
NON-PROFIT COMPANY
SCHEDULE 'B' – ITEM 7

1. MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION
(Name of Company)
2.
(Company No.)
7. Other provisions if any,
(1) The members of the Company may at any time wind-up the Company whereupon the assets of the Company, after payment of all debts and liabilities of the Company, shall be distributed in accordance with Section 316(2) of the COMPANIES ACT, (CHAP. 81:01)

Names and Occupations	Addresses	Signatures
Clarion Marie Hoedlex, Businessman	64 Victoria Gardens, Dere, Martin	REGISTERED
Selwyn Carlyle Lee-Young, Civil ENGINEER	14-16 Dere Street, Port-of-Spain	
John Bannerman Christopher Martin, Chartered Accountant	11 Idlewild Road, Knightsbridge, Cascade	
Wilbur Alexander Walrond, Civil ENGINEER	23 Palm Drive, Champs Fleur	

Date: 14 FEB 2008

DIRECTOR/ INCORPORATOR
Wilbur Alexander Walrond