

# DE CONCH

*Win hunnuh yeddi disya, e da tim fa wi gedduh toggedduh!*

July 2008

Hunnuh mus tek cyare de root fa heal de tree!

## A Nation Honoring God by Honoring Ourselves

Queen's Chronicles

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Gullah/Geechee International Music & Movement Festival™



## South Carolina Senate Honors Queen Quet!!!



Do to the leadership of the Honorable South Carolina Democratic Senator Clementa Pinckney (who is a native Gullah/Geechee), S. 1458 was introduced, voted on, and adopted in the South Carolina Senate in Columbia, SC, USA on June 5, 2008. ([www.scsenate.gov](http://www.scsenate.gov)) This resolution begins "TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARQUETTA L. "QUEEN QUET" GOODWINE, AUTHOR, LECTURER, HISTORIAN, AND CHIEFTESS OF THE GULLAH/GEECHEE NATION.

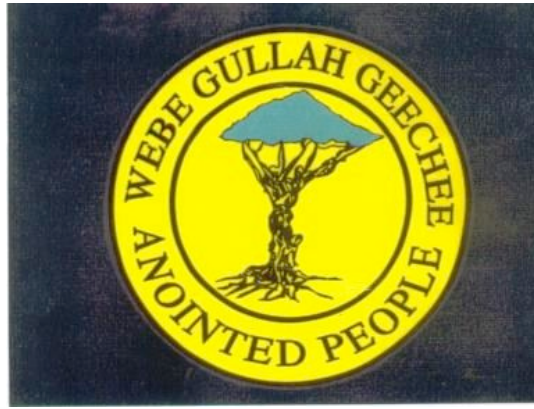
Whereas, Marquetta L. "Queen Quet" Goodwine, acknowledged representative of the Gullah/Geechee Nation, has distinguished herself as a published author, computer scientist, lecturer, mathematician, historian, columnist, and preservationist; and"

From that point it proceeds with personal background and recognition of the driving force behind Queen Quet's work leading even to her position as a US Commissioner in addition to her position as head-of-state. It closes with:

"Whereas, grateful for what she has accomplished, the Senate extends its profound gratitude to Queen Quet for her invaluable labors in preserving and perpetuating a vital, fascinating part of the Palmetto State's cultural heritage, and the members wish her much success in all her future endeavors."

The Gullah/Geechee Nation also stands with the SC Senate in this wish and we commend and congratulate Queen Quet for this honor and for her continued leadership!

**Queen Quet says, "Praise Gawd!!!"**



*July*



### **Memorial Service at Morris Island in the Gullah/Geechee Nation**

54 Massachusetts Regiment Company I

Memorial Service of the Assault on Battery Wagner

Friday, July 18, 2008—3:45 PM

Morris Island, South Carolina

Boat Departs the Charleston Maritime Center,

10 Wharfside Street Charleston, SC @ 3:00 pm.

Price: \$20.00

On Morris Island, hurricanes have leveled the site of the sand fort assaulted by the *54th Massachusetts* on July 18, 1863, but bones of the brave men who fought on both sides that day still rest in the sand hills of the island where they were buried. The beach is nearly identical in appearance to what the men of the 54th would have seen that day and conditions on the Island are identical. Keepers of the Morris Island lighthouse reburied bones found on the eroding barrier island beach in the 1930's. Local relic hunters found such bones following Hurricane Hugo, showing the marks of bone saws from the hospitals. Many soldiers were buried on the now eroded beach, but others were buried in the dunes of the Island. One man died for every yard of the Island taken by the Federal army in 1863. The Star of the West Battery was also located along this section of beach, from which Citadel Cadets fired and what some historians consider to be the first shots of the war against a Federal Supply Ship in January 1861.

Transportation by boat is provided. Limited seats available. Please email or phone Joseph McGill for more information and reservations at 843.722.8552 or joseph\_mcgill@nthp.org.

### **July 2nd-Honoring Our Nation**

July 2nd was the anniversary of the enstoolment of Queen Quet, Chieftess and Head-of-State for the Gullah/Geechee Nation. This was also the birthday of the Gullah/Geechee Nation. Denmark Vesey who was the famous Gullah/Geechee leader that planned to lead his people to take back their freedom was hung in Charleston, SC on July 2 as well. Thus, this is a sacred day for Gullah/Geechees and should be held as such.

If you would like to send in prayers, cards, etc. to Queen Quet and the other leaders of the Gullah/Geechee Nation, please send them to [GullahGeecheeNation@officialgullahgeechee.info](mailto:GullahGeecheeNation@officialgullahgeechee.info) or via snail mail to:

**Gullah/Geechee Nation Headquarters  
Post Office Box 1109  
St. Helena island SC 29920**

**Tenk Gawd fa wi anointin' an wi nayshun!!!**

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED HUNTING ISLAND, SC, GULLAH/GEECHEE NATION RESTORATION**

On July 17, *SC Department of Natural Resources* will conduct reef construction which will assist our oysters to continue to thrive. Work will begin about 11:45 am and should be completed by 3:00 pm. Meet us at the Russ Point boat landing (opposite the Nature Center). We will divide into workgroups depending on the number of people available.

Due to the tidal situation, this year's deployment may require some of us to wade so dress accordingly. Please do NOT wear flip flops or sandals. It is very important to have on footwear that adequately protects your feet. DNR will provide gloves, bugspray, gatorade and snacks.

PLEASE CONTACT Nancy Hadley (843) 953-9841, Michael Hodges 953-9241, or Holly Nettles 953-9057 of the SCDNR SCORE Program for more information.

# A NATION HONORING GOD BY HONORING OURSELVES

by Queen Quet



*Wi Nation be bon eight yeas ago  
Win sum de churn ain be tink so.  
Pleny ain unstan wha bin da gwine on den.  
Now, roun de worl e got pleny fren.*

*De chillun da cumin bak fa tru.  
E so much a ting yet fa do.  
Ebun doe sum ain unstan na kno.  
Ting gwine fort fa sho.*

*Tenk Gawd fa de blessin ob all a wi.  
Tenk Gawd fa de one wha free.  
Tenk Gawd fa be wid de chillun ya  
An fa sho wi wha de nayshun bon fa.*

July 2nd is a major day of historical relevance in the Gullah/Geechee Nation. On that date, Denmark Vesey was hung in the streets of Charleston as an example to others. It was an example that was to attempt to keep the Africans of the Sea Islands bound forever in fear of freedom. However, that was man's plan and not that of Almighty God.

God planned the ordaining and enstoolment that was held July 2, 2000. God planned that date to be when the Gullah/Geechee Nation would come into existence. God planned this to happen on Sullivan's Island where many of the ancestors of Gullah/Geechees suffered, bleed, and died.

A plan that is made by God is one that MUST come to pass. It is only a person that may delay this plan, but the person has no power to stop the plan. So, as we enter the new cycle in the growth of the Gullah/Geechee Nation, the leaders of the Gullah/Geechee Nation came together as we have done since 2000 to pray for our people and to send forth energy to heal our land.

We prayed together and paid homage to our ancestors that were able to endure in spite of the brutality that they were faced with and that was used as mechanisms of psychological slavery. Even as they were stripped of their traditional clothing and adornment, they were "clothed in their right

minds." Thus, they continued to hold on to their songs and sing them when their tear ducts had been emptied and they had their last nerve stepped on.

They continued to pray for their children that would come later and they wanted us to have a better life than they had. They never anticipated that what we thought would be better would be to sell off our legacy-our land or our cultural traditions. They never thought that after all that they endured that their would be some that would later volunteer to be in servitude. Those of us that respect what they expected, honor them. We honor those that fought for freedom not just for their personal comfort, but for all of us. We honor our ancestors that unlike Denmark Vesey and Gullah Jack, they never had their names written down for us to recall them and call them out loud. By honoring them, we honor ourselves. We honor God.

So, as I began the date of the anniversary of my enstoolment, it began with me being awake at midnight working and praying. I pray that the Gullah/Geechee Nation will always be filled with prosperity and that the land will be healed. On that land, **may we never forsake honoring our ancestors. Never forsake respecting each other because as we respect one another we honor ourselves and those that came before us. Disya da who wi da!**



## Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition

### Membership Drive 2008

*Ef oona dey frum de lowcountrie an de islandt, lookya,  
e da time fa go bak. Disyah da wey fa cum toggedda  
wid wi people fa hold on ta de tings wa wi peopol lef  
wi.*

If you are concerned about the preservation of the branch of Africa's tree that has grown in America, this is a way for you to assist in nurturing and protecting that branch. Please join our coalition today by filling out the application in this issue and sending in your dues to:

Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition

Post Office Box 1207

St. Helena Island SC 29920

(843)838-1171

[GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com)

<http://users.aol.com/queenmut/GullGeeCo.html>

*Mus tek cyear a de root fuh heal de tree."*

A direct link to the continent of Africa exist in the Gullah/Geechee Nation which includes the Sea Islands that are a part of North and South Carolina, Georgia, and North Florida. Gullah/Geechee culture began during the enslavement of African people in North America. It is the amalgamation of numerous African cultures and traditions. Due to isolation on Sea Islands, the African people there did not have too much contact with people of other races except Native Americans. Thus, they were able to maintain their culture, language, and traditions unlike African people that were living on the "mainland." Gullah/Geechees transformed these into a new and distinct culture.

Queen Quet Marquette L. Goodwine launched the "Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition" on Saturday, December 21, 1996.

This organization:

- promotes and participates in the preservation of Gullah/Geechee history, heritage, culture, and language.
- works toward Sea Island land re-acquisition and maintenance.
- celebrates Gullah/Geechee culture through artistic and educational means electronically and via "grassroots scholarship."

A membership form is on page 13. Make your membership count by having it be a part of the T.W.E.L.V.E. Tribute as outlined on page 8. EVERY member counts in the work to keep this culture alive and to educate the world about it in an accurate manner.

## Gullah/Geechee Gwine On Podcast

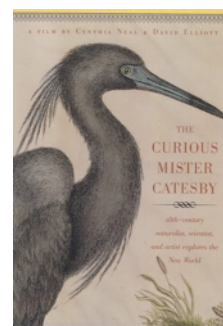
*Queen Quet, Chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation is now the host of "Gullah/Geechee Gwine On." This is the first podcast in the world to focus on the Gullah/Geechee Nation and its history, heritage, and culture. This FREE podcast is produced by All Mobile and Afrikan Movement Productions ([www.ampturnitup.com](http://www.ampturnitup.com)). In order to obtain episodes, listeners can download the enhanced podcast (It contains images and website links.) by going to the Gullah/Geechee Nation's website at [www.officialgullahgeechee.info](http://www.officialgullahgeechee.info) and clicking the link at the bottom of the home page or they can subscribe via iTunes.*



*For those who have been awaiting a video, Queen Quet and Afrikan Movement Productions has also released a FREE broadcast of "Gullah/Geechee: Mind fa Freedom." Check for the new film that will also be released at the Gullah/Geechee Nation's website*

[www.officialgullahgeechee.info](http://www.officialgullahgeechee.info). Click the link at the bottom of the page. You will then see a series of links at the top of the next page which will take you to the podcast, the films, a blog, and updated information on the Gullah/Geechee Nation International African Music & Movement Festival™. Film clips are also on YouTube.com.

### Queen Quet in "The Curious Mister Catesby"



*Queen Quet, Chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation is briefly shown in the new documentary, "The Curious Mister Catesby" which recently showed at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC and will air on select PBS stations.*

## **T. W. E. L. V. E. Tribute**

**True  
Will &  
Endurance  
Living  
Victory  
Embodiment**

Many groups, companies and relationships do not last twelve years nowadays. Thus, it speaks to the will of a group of people to be able to endure numerous hinderances, criticisms, and obstacles in order to be the embodiment of a living victory. The members of the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition have stood fast in the face of adversities and stepped up to face situations that others avoided due to potential controversy. They have faith in the Gullah/Geechee Nation and its living traditions that are maintained through the people. The very existence of Gullah/Geechee culture is a living testimony of what a group can do when they simply have what the movie called, "The Will to Survive!"

**In order to now build on the foundation of success that has already been poured, the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition needs your continued support. If you are one (1) person that can join (+) us as one (1) organization. With two (1+1=) 2 pulling together, six major aspects of the tribute can be achieved.**

We need for you take part in this T.W.E.L.V.E. Tribute by contributing at least one of the following:

- 1) \$12 to the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition by December 21, 2008 which is the Coalition's anniversary.
- 2) \$120 by the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition's anniversary to be divided between the Daufuskie Fund, the Amelia Island Fund, and the Coalition. (Read about these funds on page 8.)
- 3) \$1200 toward lifetime membership and an anniversary donation toward the current archival upgrade fundraiser. (This can be paid in \$100 increments on the 12th of each month.)
- 4) \$12,000 donation toward the archival upgrade.
- 5) Twelve (12) hours of community service to assist with projects of the Gullah/Geechee Nation. (This can even be done where you are if you cannot come to the Nation.)
- 6) Becoming a dues paying member of the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition and bringing eleven more members in over next twelve months.

You can use the form on the last page of this e-zine to send in your membership dues and financial contributions. E-mail [GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com) or [GullGeeCo@officialgullahgeechee.info](mailto:GullGeeCo@officialgullahgeechee.info) if you would like to present opportunities for you to participate in fundraisers or community service.

The four (4) states of the Gullah/Geechee Nation can only be blessed with the two (2) of us working with God (the Ultimate 1) to bring about this T.W.E.L.V.E. Tribute.

***"Hunnuh mus tek cyare de root fa heal de tree."***

***Tenk hunnuh fa be one de twelve.***

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### **South Carolina Property Tax Installment Payments**

The Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition worked with the Concerned Citizens of the St. Helena Island and several other local organizations to have Beaufort County implement a quarterly tax payment plan. Although the Beaufort County Council voted unanimously to have this done, it has never been implemented. Senator Clementa Pinckney (who recently won the nomination for this coming November's elections) and other delegates of the SC General Assembly took this a step further by passing the South Carolina Property Tax Installment Law that now requires all counties of the state to put systems in place for prepayment of annual property taxes. People paying installment taxes in 2009 will have to pay the 2008 taxes as usual, as well as the installments due in 2009. Also, property owners must apply for the installment payment option. Otherwise, they must pay all of the taxes at once as they do currently. We feel that the installment plan will help decrease land lost in the Gullah/Geechee Nation because it is easier for some people to pay a bill each month than it is to pay one large bill all at one time.

Applications for the installment plan will only be accepted from December 1, 2008 to January 15, 2009 for the 2009 tax year. Property covered will include land, houses, mobile homes, and business property only. Boats and escrow are not included.

The five installment payments must be made ON TIME on the 15th of February, April, June, August, and October. Any remaining balance must be paid no later than January 15. Taxpayers will be due interest on overpayments.

You must submit a written request for 2009 property tax installments in person at your county treasurer's office between December 1, 2008 and January 15, 2009. You can find the full details on this law at [www.scstatehouse.net](http://www.scstatehouse.net). Click on S. C. Code of Law and scroll down to Title 12, Section 45-75.

**Also, contact the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition for educational materials and forums on this matter at 843-838-1171 or [GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com).**

**A Gullah/Geechee Legend-James Jamerson of  
"The Funk Brothers"-  
The Baseline Behind the Motown Sound**



The world over people have heard "The Motown Sound." However, there are few that have heard of the men that brought about that sound-"The Funk Brothers." Amidst the members of these musical virtuosos is James Jamerson, a native of Edisto Island in the Gullah/Geechee Nation.



The late James Jamerson was a legendary bassist that is only now being spoken of in books and DVDs about the men that were behind the numerous number one hits of Motown. Yet, the South Carolina Hall of Fame has yet to realize that this native South Carolinian deserves a place on their list. His family continues to push for this and the Gullah/Geechee Nation is calling on everyone to support them in this effort.



James Jamerson was described by Motown founder Berry Gordy as ***"a genius on the bass...and incredible improviser in the studio and somebody I always wanted on my sessions."***

Take time out to go and view the following website and make sure to register your support for this historic musician at

<http://www.petitiononline.com/jjsch334/>

The ***Gullah/Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival™ 2008*** will be honoring the Jameson Family and rhythm and blues legend, James Jamerson on Saturday, August 22, 2008. The Gullah/Geechee Nation honors James Jamerson for what he has contributed to world music. We will continue to not only play his music, but to speak his name. "As long a man's name is spoken, a man never dies."



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For James Jamerson's background at home and once he reached Detroit to become the history maker that he did, please go to [www.myspace.com/jamesjamerson578](http://www.myspace.com/jamesjamerson578). Also, "Standing in the Shadows of Motown" is a film that will provide you with more information on this legendary artist and "The Funk Brothers." Go out and rent or purchase a copy.



## *The Gullah/Geechee Nation Salutes the Robert Smalls Family*

The United States Army has paid tribute to the legacy of the Gullah Statesman Robert Smalls by naming a vessel in their operational fleet after this great Civil War hero and SC state representative. Robert Smalls was born in Beaufort, SC, his mother Lydia had been born on Lady's Island, SC in the Gullah/Geechee Nation.

Robert Smalls is recognized in Beaufort and in Charleston due to the fact that he was rented out to be enslaved at the docks of Charleston. From that port, he commandeered a Confederate vessel called "The Planter." He took it to Union waters and "the rest is history."



With the arrival of USAV MG Robert Smalls into the Charleston Harbor came the spirit of Dolly Nash, great granddaughter of Robert Smalls and the rest of the Smalls' Family. Aboard were all those whose names were not written down in the books, but without whom, Robert Smalls would not have been such a noted leader in history. Thus, with them present at the libation ceremony, this became "we storee!" As the blessings fell over all present for the ceremony and for all the crew of the ship that was on board and those to come, that same power extended out to the streets of Charleston and spirit of Robert Smalls walked the leaders of the Gullah/Geechee Nation back to Ansonborough and sat on the piazza. May his soul rest peacefully and may his name never be forgotten! Tenk Gawd fa disya Gullah/Geechee!



**GULLAH/GEECHEE IS ONE NATION!!!**

The Gullah/Geechee Nation has always honored both the Africans and the indigenous Americans of the Gullah/Geechee Nation. Many Gullah/Geechees have indigenous American ancestry due to the fact that their people intermarried on the islands as a means to learn to fight against their shared oppressor. Thus, as the indigenous peoples came together to become ONE NATION, the Gullah/Geechee Nation was asked to also sign the treaty with peoples from around the world.



The ONE NATION Treaty signing began in April 2008 (see page 13 for more information). Numerous indigenous people conducted their own ceremonies during "The Longest Walk" (which was first conducted in 1978 and changed history for native people). Leaders of the Gullah/Geechee Nation joined the end of "The Longest Walk" on July 9, 2008 in Maryland and conducted their own ceremony and signed the treaty to show unity with this movement to "protect sacred sites and defend human rights."



Stanley & Eulalaine Perry (Navajos) placed the Gullah/Geechee flag on a traditional bamboo poll, wrapped it and tied it in a ribbon that held all the colors of the rainbow. The ribbon symbolized the unity of this event.





**\*\*\*UPDATES\*\*\*****MacDonald House in Florida Back in the Hands of the Family**

The MacDonald and Mobley Family of Fernandina Beach has obtained ownership of the house that we wrote about in previous issues. However, the family is now in the process of fighting to obtain a permit to move the house one lot over and to then begin restoration of this historic Gullah/Geechee home. We ask for your positive prayers and any and all legal and financial support that can be directed to them. If you would like more details on this particular historic preservation and retention issue, please e-mail [GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com).

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**The Gullah/Geechee Nation Seeks Volunteers**

The Gullah/Geechee Nation is seeking volunteers from the membership of the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition. If you would like to assist with the ***Gullah/Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival™*** and you are a member of the Coalition, please send e-mail to [GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com) or [AMPTurnItUp@aol.com](mailto:AMPTurnItUp@aol.com). Tenk hunnuh fa all de hep!

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**Sweetgrass Sculpture Erected in the Town of Mount Pleasant, SC in the Gullah/Geechee Nation**

Numerous Gullah/Geechee families gathered together to unveil the first sweetgrass basket sculpture to be erected in the “home of the sweetgrass baskets, the Town of Mount Pleasant in Charleston County, SC in the Gullah/Geechee Nation. On hand for the dedication was United States Majority Whip, Congressman James E. Clyburn, town council members, and other guests.

As people go through the Town of Mount Pleasant, may they not see only the hands, but may they then go to and look into the eyes of those that continue to keep the sweetgrass tradition alive. May they listen to the words that they have to share and tune into the hearts of the people. May their hearts begin to beat in unison as one rhythm of freedom and continued existence for all Gullah/Geechees!!!

**NOTE:** Authors, Nicole Sietz and Mary Alice Monroe have both written novels that are excellent summer reading. These books entitled “The Spirit of Sweetgrass” and “Sweetgrass” respectively will both be available at the ***Gullah/Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival™*** in historic Charleston August 22-24, 2008.

The film, “***Binya: There’s No Place Like Home***” (which is available through the ***Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition-GullGeeCo@aol.com***) features a number of the sweetgrass basket families speaking of the issues of encroachment and displacement which not only threaten the existence of their craft, but of their communities.

## Gullah/Geechee Sacred Ceremony Held at the Gibbes Museum of Art

In conjunction with their current exhibit, the Gibbes Museum of Art focused “Community Day” on educating the Charleston public about the Gullah/Geechee Nation. Thus, they requested that a special libation ceremony open the day and that Queen Quet, Chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation conduct a special walk through of the exhibition to close out the “Community Day” segment. The energy of this institution was forever changed as the drums played, the Yoruba chant went forth, the Gullah/Geechee prayer was heard and a libation was poured for those whose blood, sweat, and tears lie beneath every stone that make up the Charleston streets.



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## *Gullah/Geechee Nation Leaders Climbed Capitol Hill*

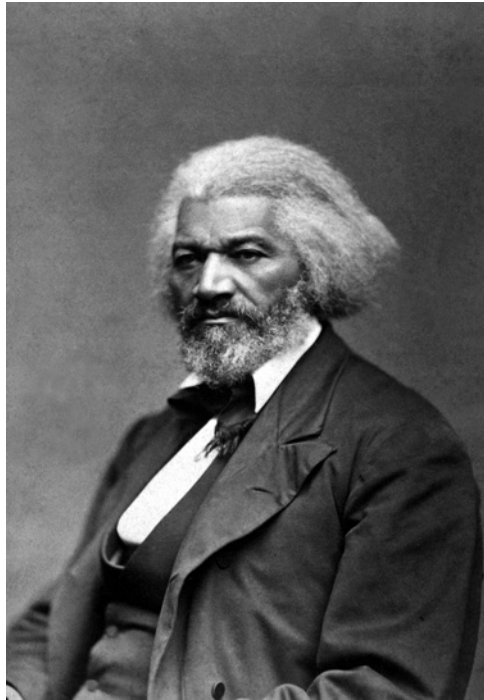
While in Maryland for the ONE NATION Treaty signing, Queen Quet, Chieftess and Head-of-State for the Gullah/Geechee Nation was joined by Minister of Information, Elder Carlie Towne and Assembly of Representatives members, Glenda Simmons-Jenkins and Anita Collins on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Numerous international connections and reconnections were made on this trip. They had the opportunity to take in some opportunities of fellowship after having a meeting and reception at the Barbados Embassy.

The “family reunion” with Mr. Bulbulia and the staff and friends of the Barbados Embassy proved to be a major historical opportunity to relink Gullah/Geechees with their kinspeople on the island of Barbados. In accordance with the African tradition from whence they stem and diplomatic protocol, gifts were presented to Queen Quet as she also left gifts from the Gullah/Geechee Nation for the consuls and staff of the Embassy.





## FRUM DE ARCHIVE: Excerpt From: Frederick Douglass' Independence Day Address July 5, 1852



"Fellow-citizens, pardon me, allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here today? What have those or I I represent, to do with your national independence? Are the great principles of political freedom and of natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence extended to us? And am I, therefore, called upon to bring our humble offering to the national altar, and to confess the benefits and express devout gratitude for the blessings resulting from your independence to us?

Would to God, both for your sakes and ours, that an affirmative answer could be truthfully returned to these questions. Then would my task be light and my burden easy and delightful. For who is there so cold, that a nation's sympathy could not warm him? Who so obdurate and dead to the claims of gratitude, that would not thankfully acknowledge such priceless benefits? Who so stolid and selfish, that would not give his voice to swell the hallelujahs of a nation's jubilee, when the chains of servitude had been torn from his limbs. I am not that man. In a case like that, the dumb might eloquently speak, and the "lame man leap as an hart."

But such is not the state of the case. I say it with a sad sense of the disparity between us. I am not included within the pale of this glorious anniversary! Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice are not enjoyed in common. You share the rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity and independence, bequeathed by your fathers, not by me. The sunlight that brought light and healing to you has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn. To drag a man in fetters into the grand illuminated temple of liberty, and call upon him to join you in joyous anthems, were inhumane mockery and sacrilegious irony.

Do you mean, citizens, to mock me, by asking me to speak today? If so, there is a parallel in your conduct. And let me warn you that it is a dangerous to copy the example of a nation whose crimes, towering up to heaven, were thrown down by the breath of the Almighty, burying that nation in irrevocable ruin! I can today take up the plaintive lament of a peeled and woe-smitten people!

Would you have me argue that man is entitled to liberty? That he is the rightful owner of his own body? You have already declared it. Must I argue the wrongfulness of slavery? Is that a question for Republicans? Is it to be settled by the rules of logic and argumentation, as a matter beset with difficulty, involving a doubtful application of the principle of justice, hard to be understood? How should I look to-day, in the presence of Americans, dividing and subdividing a discourse, to show that men have a natural right to freedom? speaking of it relatively and positively, negatively and affirmatively. To do so, would be to make myself ridiculous, and to offer an insult to your understanding. - There is not a man beneath the canopy of heaven who does not know that slavery is wrong for him.

What, am I to argue that it is wrong to make men brutes, to rob them of their liberty, to work them without wages, to keep them ignorant of their relations to their fellow men, to beat them with sticks, to flay their flesh with the lash, to load their limbs with irons, to hunt them with dogs, to sell them at auction, to sunder their families, to knock out their teeth, to burn their flesh, to starve them into obedience and submission to their masters? Must I argue that a system thus marked with blood, stained with pollution, is wrong? No! I will not. I have better employment for my time and strength than such arguments would imply.

What then remains to be argued? Is it that slavery is not divine; that God did not establish it; that our doctors of divinity are mistaken? There is blasphemy in the thought. That which is inhuman, cannot be divine! Who can reason on such a proposition? They that can, may; I cannot. The time for such argument is past.

At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. O! had I the ability, and could I reach the nation's ear, I would to-day, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke. For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. The feeling of the nation must be quickened; the conscience of the nation must be roused; the propriety of the nation must be startled; the hypocrisy of the nation must be exposed; and its crimes against God and man must be proclaimed and denounced.

What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days of the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim.

To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity, your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are, to him mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy - a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of the United States, at this very hour.

Go where you may, search where you will, roam through all the monarchies and despotisms of the Old World, travel through South America, search out every abuse, and when you have found the last, lay your facts by the side of the every-day practices of this nation, and you will say with me, that, for revolting barbarity and shameless hypocrisy, America reigns without rival...

America is false to the past, false to the present, and solemnly binds herself to be false to the future. The great sin and shame of America!

"I will not equivocate; I will not excuse"; I will use the severest language I can command, everything that serves to perpetuate "White Supremacy - Racism"; and yet not one word shall escape that any man, whose judgment is not blinded by prejudice, or who is not at heart a Racist, shall not confess to be right and just.

presented in Rochester, New York. from Carter G. Woodson (ed.) Negro Orators and Their Orations (Washington, 1925)



## INTERNATIONAL CONCEPT OF “THE ONE NATION” IN THE OFFING from May 8, 2008 Edition of “Wulustuk Times”

Hundreds of Indigenous Sovereign Nations who live and prosper in the traditional ways within the current borders of Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and the Caribbean have agreed to sign The Declaration of Sovereignty of The One Nation (being a Nation consisting of all Sovereign Indigenous Nations of the World), by which these Indigenous Sovereign Nations unite as ONE to re-assert their inherent sovereignty as ONE, inviting all other Indigenous Sovereign Nations from all around the world to join. This “happening” was foretold in the Prophecies thousands of years ago. On April 20, 2008, The Algonquin Nation from Northern Quebec held a sacred ceremony, at which time the traditional Elders signed the Declaration, thereby giving birth to The One Nation. The signing was done by the Algonquin to “light the torch” to be passed along to other Indigenous Sovereign



Nations. The Cree followed soon thereafter. The Mi'kmaq Nation is to follow up in June of 2008 with its own signing ceremony. Two (2) Choctaw Bands have also signed. Other Nations are welcome to hold their own ceremony in their own way in their own time to effectuate their own signing.

Otherwise, the next major gathering for the purpose of signing is currently scheduled to take place on July 8-9, 2008, at Greenbelt Park (campground) (301-344-3944) (174 campsites available), Maryland, 12 miles North of Washington, D.C., 2 days prior to the conclusion of The Longest Walk, when many Elders and Nations from around the world will be present. It is hoped that the Dalai Lama will also be present for this sacred event. The Australian and New Zealand Sovereign Indigenous Nations have now begin to effectuate their own signing across their sacred lands at their sacred “Dreamtime” sites. The torch will be passed across The Australian and New Zealand Continent at this time. This

signing may take a couple of months to be accomplished, but it will be accomplished.

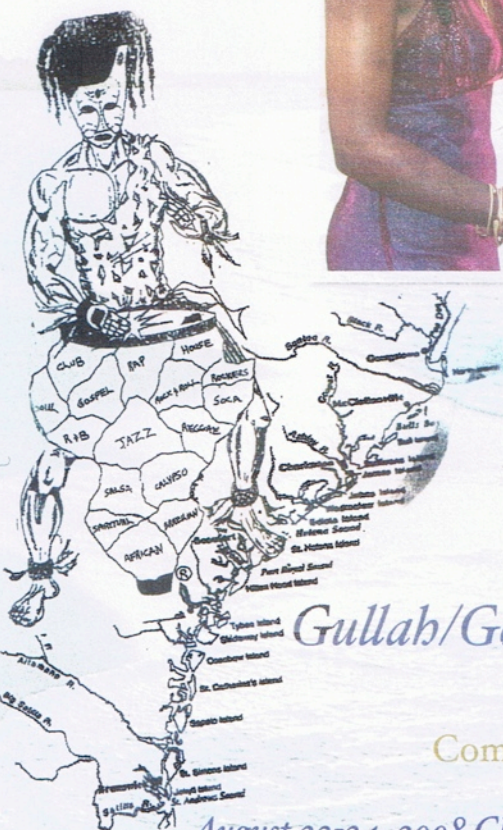
As most of you know, on September 13, 2007, the United Nations' General Assembly approved the much touted United Nations' Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the “UN Declaration”). Although this UN Declaration, importantly, recognizes the right of our Nations to seek self-determination, it does not, in and of itself, take the next step to advance the cause of Indigenous Sovereign Nations around the world. The One Nation IS that next step, the necessary next step to lead us forward.

Again, those who know will understand that the traditional governing systems and the traditional cultures of these Indigenous Sovereign Nations were and continue to be decimated by laws enacted by their “host” countries, including Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, the Caribbean and numerous others, which laws, among other things, impose false (proxy) (foreign) governments and laws on our peoples, and force our Nations to bow before the colonizing courts to resolve inter-nation disputes with them. This Declaration of true Sovereignty has the blessing of the Creator, the one true Law.

The creation of The One Nation “immediately” frees the Indigenous Sovereign Nations to re-assert their sovereignty, an inherent sovereignty granted by the Creator to each human at birth, which was never surrendered and never could have been surrendered. It has taken the Indigenous Sovereign Nations over 200 years to regroup and arrive at this crucial point in history to re-commence performing their sacred duties to care for Mother Earth, all Her creatures, great and small (and, hence, all humans too). It is no accident and no coincidence that the Creator has chosen this time to arrange for the re-assertion of these ancient Nations. The air, the water, the land and all living things are in danger now as never before. The One Nation is born from all things positive, not from anger for past oppression and atrocities undeniably committed. These things are forgiven. When the colonizers arrived, as predicted in the Prophecies, our ancestors welcomed them and cared for them, as the Creator instructed, when they could not care for themselves. They were like children sitting at our feet in need of sustenance, which many of our ancestors gladly provided. The children grew up steadily over the course of several hundred years, only to rebel against their caregivers, reacting with greed and forgetfulness of all that was done for them and all that we tried to teach them, harming our Mother the Earth in the process. For this they must also be forgiven. The time has come, however, when these now young adults must realize and admit the error of their youthful and frivolous ways and turn once again to the wisdom and care of those who raised them. Unwittingly, they developed along the way the technological and linguistic means for all Indigenous Sovereign Nations to now join together with one good mind and one pure heart for the good of all humans. To keep in mind a message from Hereditary Chief Gary Metallic, Mi'kmaq; “This Declaration must be signed by not only representing Chiefs but also by the elders, women, men, children who will validate the legitimacy of our new nationhood.”

In conclusion, The One Nation extends an open invitation to all Indigenous Sovereign Nations to join on this historic and epic peaceful path into the future and also to convey this all-important message to all colonizing states: “The One Nation extends, once again, its open hand in friendship and in good faith as our gesture of our desire to continue to coexist for the benefit and respect of all living creatures and our one true Mother, the Earth herself.”





## Commemorating Abolition and Celebrating Freedom!

August 22-24, 2008 Charleston Maritime Center Charleston, SC, Gullah/  
Geechee Nation.

*Friday-Ancestral Tribute, Gullah/Geechee Tours and Workshops*

*Saturday-Gullah/Geechee Reunion Day-Boat rides, musical and craft artists, libation ceremonies, Gullah/Geechee cuisine, health screenings, workshops, drumming circles, tings fa de chillun, an mo!*

*Sunday-E time fa Shout! Day-Choirs, spiritual ceremonies, workshops and interactive discussions*

*Living market ebeedey-Cum fa tek de tru ting wid hunnub!*

**Fa'waga wina on:** 843-838-1171 [AMPTurnItUp@aol.com](mailto:AMPTurnItUp@aol.com)

[www.officialgullabgeechee.info](http://www.officialgullabgeechee.info)

*Cum fa a time wid wi Gullah/Geechee!*





# Gullah / Geechee Sea Island Coalition 2008 Membership Drive and T.W.E.L.V.E. Tribute Update

*Every member counts!!!*

**The next items on the wish list are:**

• **\$10,500 to complete the archival upgrade by the Coalition's anniversary (This includes archival boxes and other materials as well as digitizing devices.)**

• **1200 new and renewed members by the Coalition's anniversary- December 21st. So, if you have not yet sent in your dues for 2008, please use the form below.**

**You can also purchase a membership as a gift to someone else, for your organization, business, etc. and/or donate specific archival supplies.**

If you will help obtain members, please e-mail us at [GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com).

You can also write us at:

**Gullah/Geechee Sea Island  
Coalition**

**Post Office Box 1207**

**St. Helena Island SC 29920.**

We are still well under our goal. Please stop and make a contribution to the drive today.

**Members, do not forget that you get discounts at the Gullah/ Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival™. Members that register for workshops and buy their admission tickets in advance will have special passes for the event.**

**Tenk hunnuh!!!!**

## Gullah / Geechee Sea Island Coalition Membership

### Supporter Information

I am enclosing my check for

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 for the year of membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$300-999 supporter (Pledge amount can be sent in monthly installments)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1200 for lifetime membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the T.W.E.L.V.E. Tribute

My check is written to the Gullah/Geechee Sea Island Coalition. I know that I will receive a newsletter, event announcements, and will be a subscriber to the Gullah/ Geechee Sea Island Roots List on the Internet and will also receive discounts on Gullah/Geechee products. I will mail this to the address above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Day)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Eve or Cell)

What island are you closely connected to?  
\_\_\_\_\_

How?(Circle one)      Family      Business

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you receive this?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to see done by this organization?

# Cumin

- *Queen Quet Day Celebration in Brunswick, GA-August 9th*
- *Commemorating Abolition and Celebrating Freedom*
- *Gullah/Geechee International Music & Movement Festival™ August 22-24*
- *Do not forget to plan now for the 2008 Gullah/Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival™. Make sure that you read the two special editions of "De Conch" for complete details. Sponsors, craft artisans, merchants, and advertisers can be a part of the celebration if registered before the end of July. So, see page 10 and contact the Gullah/Geechee Nation headquarters to show your support.*

**Fa reach de nayshun:**

[www.officialgullahgeechee.info](http://www.officialgullahgeechee.info)

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**De Conch**

**July 2008**

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