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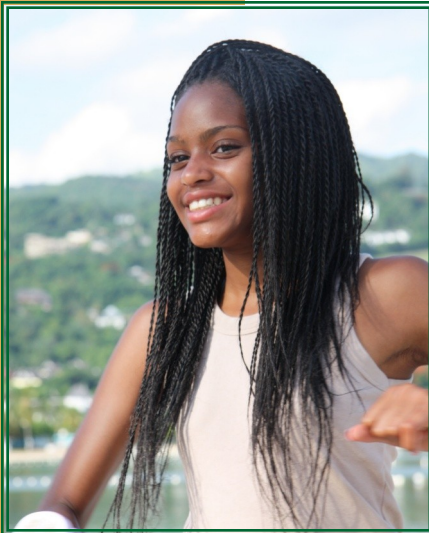
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# Recapping the 2010 Reunion

Getting Stronger” was our family’s third reunion and unquestionably our most ambitious. Our setting was once again the beautiful and child friendly Sunset Jamaica Grande in Ocho Rios. The months leading up to the 2010 celebration however were marked by challenges created by an uncertain worldwide financial climate and a state of emergency in the Kingston area. A recession in America and many parts of the world created job losses and natu-



**The Family Portrait**

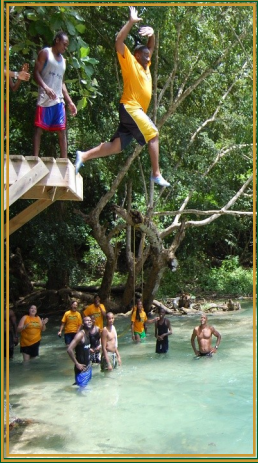


**Martina enjoying her walk on the beach**

rally had an effect on the number of family members able to commit to making the journey back to Jamaica. Additionally, the reunion date was on the heels of the surrendering of a drug lord whose stand-off and civil unrest just a month earlier caused a travel advisory. Despite this, remarkably we still produced a reunion with approximately 200 attendees. This was a gift from above and a true testament to our desire to maintain the integrity of our timeless tradition. In attendance this year were familiar faces. However,

highlighting a new group were several members of Aunt Violet’s family line brought on by Lucila Welch and Ernesto Larrier. Also, we were joined by several members of Aunt May’s line brought on by Marcia and Angela from the Madden side. The itinerary for this year’s celebration was filled with activities for young and old. Each day we began the morning with your choice of a beach walk or aerobics. Also each day, we held dance rehearsals conducted by our friend and fitness instructor, Cynthia Herbert. Here are a few highlights for the major days of activities. Our first big day of activities was Wednesday which held the Beach Olympics organized by Roneith Hibbert, our Couples Retreat organized by

Gregory Hibbert and our Family History Review also organized by Greg. Congratulations go to the “Victory Team” coached by Mylinda Kerr for winning the beach Olympics. Congratulations to Ernesto and Sarah Larrier for winning the couples retreat and showing that they knew the most about each other than other couples. The History review was interesting and it was highlighted by a new revelation; our new ability to trace a generation beyond Solomon and Elizabeth. Also, at the History Review, Kevin unveiled the beginnings of our family quilt with one of the first swatches contributed by Aunt Dee; a soft piece a fabric given to Veronica Neunie by her mom, Gwendolyn Hibbert over 30 years ago.



Kevin jumping off the pier with much style and grace during the River Tubing Excursion. lol



*"I would like to thank my family for supporting me and giving me the opportunity to travel half way around the world"*

## Recapping the 2010 Reunion continued

On Thursday, our Family Excursion was fun as we went to both Dunn's River and then on a River Tubing excursion on the White River. Later that night we had our Memorial Service organized flawlessly by Lorna Hibbert with contributions from several family members. A highlight was the children's "Hibbert Poem" and the family tribute video, made by Daniel Edwards. On Friday we had our Gender Retreat conducted by Wayne and Nicole Neunie and our Amazing Race conducted by Kevin Hibbert. Congratulations to Noah Hibbert and Ajani Kerr

who successfully completed the amazing race questions before the other contestants. The Senior Circle organized by Kevin Hibbert was a great way to get the elders talking about issues in the family and the Family Forum conducted by the Reunion Committee was a great way to talk about our family aspirations. Later that night was the Awards Ceremony, organized by Dawn Hibbert-Wilson where we celebrated our Panamanian roots with Salsa Night! Thanks to the Kingston Salsa Dance Group who dazzled the crowd with their moves. Thanks to Eladio Garth from

the SJG for being a wonderful host. The following family members received certificates: Mylinda Kerr for First to Register, Ernesto and Sara Larrier for Longest Marriage and, Andres Andrade for Most Reunion Spirit. Veronica Neunie was given the Family Matriarch award, Lucilla Welch was given the John Fitzgerald Hibbert Award, Natalie Marie Hibbert was given The Leading By Example Award, Owen Hibbert was given The Elizabeth Hibbert Award, Keyandra Wilson won the Family Scholarship and Barbara James won the Hibbert Heritage Award.

## My Trip to China by Myhana Kerr - 16

Last year, I was given an amazing opportunity to travel half way around the world to China. Having studied Mandarin Chinese since sixth grade, the deal was that I'd be able to stay fourteen days in visiting Shanghai and Beijing, two of the biggest cities in China. While in China, I would stay for a week in Shanghai; attending classes at Shanghai High School, tour the Shanghai museum, see the Bird's Nest and the Cube from the Olympics that were held in Shanghai, and stay at the home of my buddy, An-Si for two days. My time in Shanghai gave me a taste of what traditional China is like before industrialization. I was able to test and improve my Mandarin as I became more accustomed to doing things that I would do in the US like ordering food, buying

clothing, or simply speaking with the locals.

After 7 days in Shanghai, my classmates and I took a night train to Beijing for a whole new experience. Beijing reminded me of New York. In Beijing, there were skyscrapers, taxis, and tons of pedestrians along with bicycles, mopeds, and scooters. In addition to a new environment, there was also a new type of accent that I had to adjusted to but that did not stop me from bargaining. I was able to visit the Great Wall, Tiannamen Square, The Summer Palace, The Ming Imperials Tombs, and a Pearl Market here and there.

I will never forget the constant paparazzi-like attention my classmates and I attracted or how to use chopsticks, and not forgetting how to bargain us-

ing every possible excuse in the book in order to lower a price. My time in China gave me a completely new outlook on the way the world works and how independent I could be. I will definitely be able to use the knowledge I gained in China and apply it to the world I'm living in now. I would like to thank my family for supporting me a giving me the opportunity to travel half way around the world.



Me and my friends in China

# Miracles, blessings and the “H” factor



**Deane Hibbert in Australia**

In September of 2010, the family received the heartbreaking news that our beloved cousin, Deane Hibbert was struck with a life threatening stroke while living in Australia. The initial prognosis was grim and the reports were that our cousin would probably not make it. While in critical condition, doctors performed surgery to relieve pressure on his brain. The first days after the operation were critical but we all were encouraged by Deane’s ability to squeeze his wife Debbie’s

hand! While Deane remained heavily sedated and on a respirator, the family rallied by holding prayer services and posting encouraging words on the family website. But Deane was not out of the woods as he had to contend with massive swelling on his brain, pneumonia and a chest infection; all of which would have killed most patients who had to contend with such trauma. But it became clear that Deane was not the ordinary patient, we were not being assisted by ordinary doctors, nor were we the ordinary family. Today, Deane is doing quite well and has defied medical science. I had a chance to speak with my cousin via Skype and I was truly blown away. Today, Deane does not appear to be someone who dealt with such life threatening issues. The only thing that I could say to my bug cousin was, “you are my inspiration and

clearly the strongest person in our entire family.” Deane’s response was typical as he gave all credit to his wife Debbie, his children, his doctors, and to the larger family for praying for him. Whatever the case may be, Deane is a clear example of how a positive attitude, strength and trust in God can create real life miracles.

*“Deane is a clear example of how a positive attitude, strength and trust in God can create real life miracles.”*



**Deane and family during the 2007 Reunion “Strength**

## Welcome to the family

We were blessed to receive two new members into our family. Ninoshka and Stephanie became the newest members of the Hibbert Clan when their adoption papers were finalized. On September 17, 2012, Mary and Nathaniel Drysdale adopted “Ni-Ni” and Stephanie and instantly our family got brighter. These two young ladies are great and we can’t wait to see what wonderful achievements that they have in store. So on behalf of the Hibbert Family, we wel-

come you two with open arms. We hope to see you at the next reunion. And we hope that you use your new family for what we have to offer which is a boat load of love. Pictured to the right is Nate standing next to Ni-Ni and holding baby Hannah. Mary is next to Stephanie and James is holding the gavel. Nathaniel, who recently published his first book; *Moving Mountains: Prayers for the Journey*, is the son of Preston Neunie from “Line Huntley”.



**Adoption Day– September 17, 2012—Congratulations to a Beautiful Family!**

# Fundraising BBQ success



Jonah, Josh and Noah enjoying cake at the Atlanta BBQ held at Piedmont Park on August 19, 2012



Matriarch, Aunt Ninny along with her grand and great grand at the Georgia BBQ in August 2012

As you know, the family holds fundraiser BBQ's in "off-reunion" years in order to raise money to support our endeavors. In 2012, we held three very successful fundraisers in Florida, New York and Georgia. As usual, we would like to thank everyone who puts these

together and all of the family and friends who support the fellowship and fundraising. Thank you!



Marcia's Honey!

# Historic Mission - a visit to Cuba

A 25 year military career has taken Kirk Hibbert AKA "Ricky" all over the world. As a naval aviator who specialized in airborne mine countermeasures during operation Iraqi freedom along with a host of other overseas operations, his life long experience and education landed him command of The US Naval Base Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in September of 2010. Ricky was only the second Black person to hold this distinction in the history of the base. Naturally, we are super proud! GTMO is such a beautiful place in the Caribbean and the rich history can be felt it in the air. This base was established in 1898 when the US took control of Cuba from the Spanish following the

Spanish American War. It remains today as a way to monitor threats from the South, assist in humanitarian missions and provide training facilities to all branches of the military including the coast guard. It wasn't until 2002 that the base earned its dubious distinction as a place to house terrorists. However GTMO is about so much more. On this trip in June 2012 my cousin Conrad, my brother Andre, my Aunt Betty, my mom and myself visited my brother Ricky. Later on we were joined by his wife Ernestine and daughter Chai. Gabby, his older daughter was on a European school trip

at the time. The best part was seeing how well respected he was, not only by his men, but by the Jamaican and Philippine contract workers and the Cubans Exiles alike. During this trip we got to see some of the behind the scenes work that our military does to keep us all safe. Some of the highlights were eating at their Jamaican restaurant, my early morning workout with the Navy and mountain bike riding with Rick and Dray.



Kirk taking his brother, Andre on a quick tour of the airplane hanger at GTMO.



Mom posing in front of her sons name



Our cousin, Carina Thubeck-Aberg



Young Carina and her Dad, Barrington Hibbert—1972



Big Sis, Ariana holding her new brother, Ayden Wint born on October 14, 2012 (Long Island NY)

## Family in Sweden

I would like to introduce you to a family member who found her way "home" after her daughter Natalie, stumbled across the family website. Carina Thubeck-Aberg lives in Sweden and is beside herself with joy because after decades of wondering and searching, she has finally connected with her paternal side of her family. Carina's parents are Gun Thubeck and Barrington Washington Hibbert (Uncle Barry) who met in Stockholm in the late 1950's. Carina now has three children: Natalie (29), Johan (18) and Rebecca (17). She works as a financial controller in Stockholm and is married to Sven-Erik Aberg. Her oldest daughter

Natalie is in England and graduated from Sussex University with a BA in International Relations in June 2012. I spent some time talking with Carina on Skype and was able to give her a little bit of the family history. What a sweet lady she is! I think she began to tear up during our conversation as we began to notice that we both had the high cheek bone trait. Can you imagine the emotion of connecting with your family after such a long time, and to find a first cousin at that! The internet age and social media can do wonderful things. Carina is very excited and has already committed herself to coming to our next reunion in July

2013. Looks like we will have to "show out" for her! Please give Carina and her family a big warm Jamaican Hibbert Family Welcome. I think Carina now knows why she has a thing for Reggae music. Welcome cuz and we love you already.

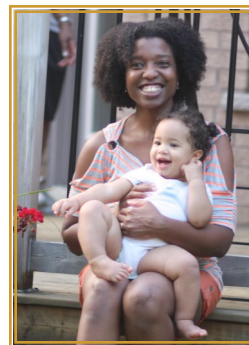


Carina's Daughter, Natalie Eden

## Baby Mania!!!

Well, one thing is for sure...Our family remains fruitful. We want to congratulate several family members of their newborns so lets start from oldest to newest.

- Oliver Hibbert 9/12/10
- Marissa Robertson 3/24/11
- Abilail Kalfic 8/10/11
- Nadeen Young 9/1/11
- Tahan Dayes 9/23/11
- Sahri Lew 10/8/11
- Immanuel Baker 5/22/12
- Emily Hibbert 6/7/12
- Ayden Wint 10/14/12
- Marley Ivy Marie Mitchell 11/26/2012



Andrea Kalfic holding precious Abigail (Canada)



Oliver Hibbert (England)

# God using me in Haiti by Dr. Kevin N. Hibbert



**Kevin Holding one of his cutest patients**

Hello family, to date I have made four trips to Port-au-Prince Haiti to provide medical relief to the orphan children in the town of Archiae, Gonièves, and the island of La Gonave. It has been almost 3 years since an earthquake crushed the capital of Haiti. On my last visit in May, 22 volunteers and I traveled to the recovering island nation and lived and worked there for six days. We treated

children and adults with everything from severe ringworm to balanitis to congestive heart failure and machete lacerations. At the island village called Mapuo we saw a total of 684 children. Many of you helped support the people of Haiti by sending me old shoes, sandals, and flip-flops. I was able to take over 400 pairs of footwear with me. The days starts early and last long. We try to save each child, but are not always successful. The people of Haiti are warm and very grateful. On this last trip I was able to take some friends from medical school. One is a surgeon and the other is a family practitioner. For the first time, many people, children and adults were able to be treated with minor surgical procedures. I will be going back in May of 2013 and would love to take any of you with us. You do not have to be a doctor or have any health related experience to help out. We will teach you everything you need to know and do to be an asset to the team. This year we had 4 high school seniors who did their senior project on the trip to Haiti. We plan

on organizing the trip in February so let me know if you are interested. Best part of the trip is helping people with basic life needs that we take for granted. The worse part is that most days there is not enough hot water to shower; but you get used to the cool showers. This form of giving is one of the best things that I have been involved with and allows me to put all of the moving parts, that we have in our lives, into a better perspective. Let me know if you are interested in joining and allowing God to use you in ways you could never imagine. The trip will change your life, as it has mine.



**One of the children wearing Kevin's Hat**

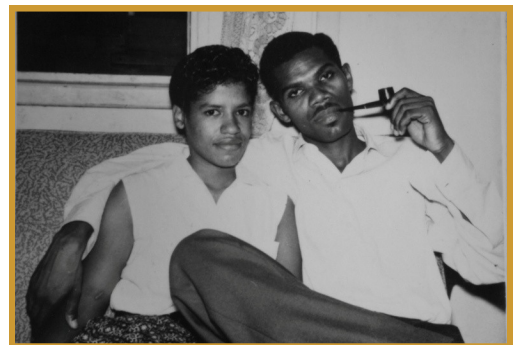
## Happy 50th Anniversary



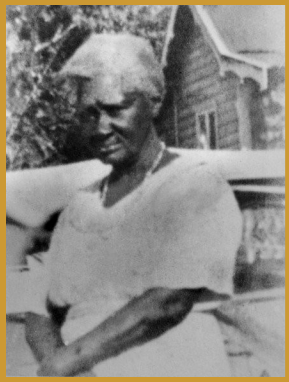
A beautiful celebration took place at the Pembroke Falls Club House which was decorated in cream and gold colors as 2012 Marked 50 years of marriage between Resie Marks and Dudley Hibbert. Affec-

tionately called Aunt Cherry and Uncle Mikey, these two have been a fixture in the family and an example of what successful marriages are made of. During the reception, family and friends spoke eloquently about the profound impact the super couple has had on their lives and in a short ceremony, Father Horace Ward assisted them in renewing their vows. Joining in the occasion was their niece Audrey Marks, Jamaica's ambassador to the United States. Also among the attendees was legendary Jamaican Artist, Pluto

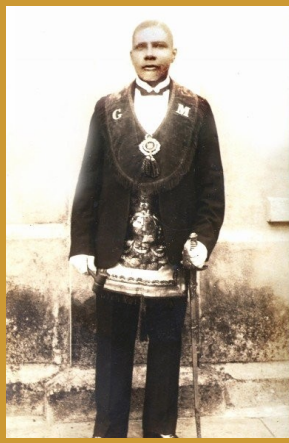
Shervington of "Ram Goat Liver" fame. In a speech, Uncle Mikey stated that his love is evident by the production of his three wonderful children, Charlene, Conrad and Karen. Congratulations Aunty and Uncle, you are an inspiration to us all.



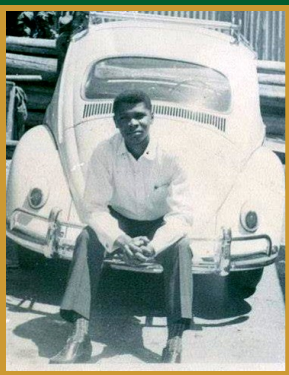
# Pieces of our puzzle



*Elizabeth Hibbert (Nana)*



*Herman Hibbert*



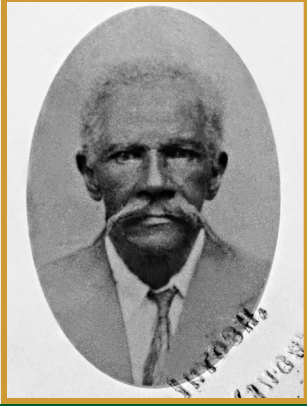
*Ruel Hibbert (Chubby)*

**We are getting closer to our goal of finding our African ancestry.** Using the following sources; Jamaican Family Search.com, Pilot Family Search. Org (Church of Jesus Christ and LDS), Ancestry.com (world subscription), Jamaica's Registrar General Office & Jamaica Gleaner Archive subscription, we were able to either substantiate or uncover the following information since the last reunion:

We have found several articles about Solomon in the Gleaner dating from 1920 - 1924. We have obtained a birth registration for 8 known children of Solomon and Elizabeth all born in Kingston. We substantiated that another child was born to Solomon and Elizabeth named Rudolph George Hibbert who died as a baby. We were able to substantiate the death of Uncle Herman (Robert Herman) who was hit by a car and died four days later. We found from reading birth records that Nana was a dressmaker in her early years. We found Solomon and Elizabeth's marriage certificate explaining why Solomon was not on many of the birth records. They were married in 1941; several years after all of their children were born. We captured the name of Solomon's father from the Marriage Certificate. His name was Robert Hibbert. We also captured Elizabeth's real full name which is actually Theodora Elizabeth.

Also we captured Elizabeth's father's name as Albert Augustus Marques, Augustus also being Solomon's middle name. We found a marriage certificate for Francis Hibbert and Elizabeth Burtom dated 3/30/1881. The groom's father was listed as Moses Hibbert. This is significant because we have reason to believe that Francis is Robert's brother which would make Moses, Solomon's grandfather. We found the birth registrations for both Violet and Icilda, Nana's two daughters prior to Solomon. We found the marriage registration for Zechariah and Eliza Taylor. We believe this to be Solomon's brother (if not, a relative) because his address was Old Harbour road and Feather Bed Lane. Also, Zechariah's father was listed on his marriage certificate as Robert Hibbert, just like on Solomon Marriage Certificate. We found several children born to Zechariah Hibbert and Eliza Taylor. We believe these children to be Solomon's nieces and nephews. We found several births for Hezekiah Hibbert and Edith Crossgill. We have confirmed Hezekiah and Edith to be the parents of Selvyn Hibbert who lives in Georgia so these children are his older siblings. Selvyn has stated that he believes Hezekiah and Solomon to be cousins. Hezekiah's residence was listed as Featherbed Lane.

We found a birth for a Zoe Anna Hibbert born to Mabel Hibbert. We believe Mabel is Solomon's sister. She lived on Old Harbour Road. We found a baptism record for Nathan Horatio Hibbert - 1867 in St. Catherine. This may be Solomon's brother. We found several baptismal records for Solomon's grandchildren all at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church confirming one of our religious affiliations for our family to be Roman Catholic. We found a baptismal record for an Anthony Lushington Hibbert. The parents are Huntley and Gwen Monfries. We believe this to be a child that passed away. Many Jamaican children died from Typhoid fever during these years. We found a baptismal record for Anna Hibbert (Aunt Queenie) for a Patrick Alphonso Stewart. This is a child that was not listed on the tree who passed away at a young age. We found several birth records for a Jestina Marques. We believe this is Elizabeth's sister. We found an Ellis Island passenger list showing that Elizabeth's brother, Albert Marques Jr. came to New York. These documents verified his DOB and wife. We did not find records of any children. In search of St. Catherine and Kingston Death Register there were no listings for Solomon but we found several others named Solomon.



*Solomon Hibbert (Pappy)*



*Kandace and Anne Marie (mom)*



## Pieces of our puzzle, continued

Oddly we have yet to find Solomon's birth record. However during our search we found a birth record for 'a' Solomon Augustus Hibbert born in St. Thomas Parish in 1884. We have placed this aside for now to see if there may be some connection. In our research we found many duplicate names and Augustus was prevalent. We searched Slaves of neighboring parish's from where we were known to have originated.

In a Clarendon search, we found - Owner Miss GW Hibbert and two slaved listed as Moses or Hamlet - negro - 24 Creole Tabel or Robert - negro - 32 African We have good reason to believe that our family were slaves in Clarendon, then were freed and began migrating East to Kingston. This is an excellent lead and we will follow up on this. This information will be added to the summary of

our lineage search and will be published on our website under genealogy. If you have any questions, we would love to answer. As usual, we are searching together so if you have ANY information that can assist, please do share.



## Dr. Kandace Bonner Heron

Kandace Bonner Heron, descendant order; Anne Marie Bonner, Nee Reid, Pearline Reid, Nee Lawrence, Lucille Hibbert, Solomon Hibbert

- pictured here with mom after graduating from Imperial College in London in May 2012. Kandace is now Dr. Kandace

Phd in Pharmacology. Our family is amazing! Congrats to Kandace on her hard work and good luck.

## Family Cookbook

My mother always told me, "Son, you better learn how to cook just in case you marry someone who can't. At least you know that you won't starve." lol Well, thankfully, I married a wonderful cook but I did take my mother's advice anyway. So today, I have pretty much learned how to duplicate (with my own twist) every traditional Jamaican recipe that I grew up on. For me, cooking is a way to relax, show my creativity and care for the ones that I love

so much. So, Kevin was looking at all of my cooking pictures on my facebook page and decided that it would be a great idea to put together a family cookbook (Hibbert Family Style). What an awesome idea! Please send us your favorite recipes for your best West Indian dishes and We will put it in a book and title the recipe after you. Once we are done, we will not only have a great tool to pass along our recipe's,

but it would be a great fundraiser item as well. Yes, these pictures are actual meals that I prepared with my own hands (that was for all you non believers...lol) Please send recipes to hibbertg@bellsouth.net or email them through the contact us page at hibbertfamily.com







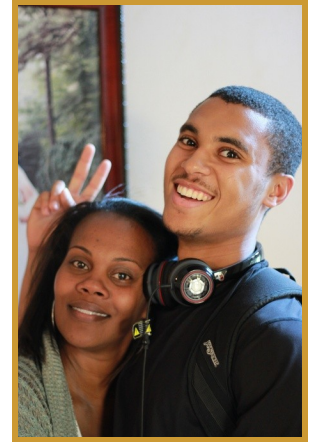
*Amari showcasing his point guard talents*

## Family Spotlight - Amari Bryant

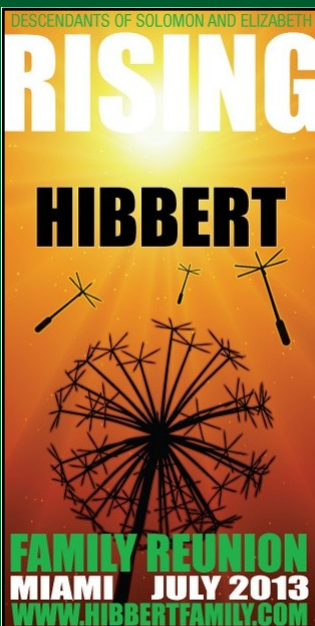
I remember meeting Amari for the first time. It was right before the first Reunion, I think he must have been around 10 years old. I remember a smart-mouthed but witty, no-it- all kid that seemed to enjoy defying authority. Well, the next time I saw Amari was during the last reunion and boy did he mature into a wonderful young man! I'm glad and so very proud of the work he has done. Today, Amari is a talented and caring young man who can...I hate to say this, but yes... he can beat me in basketball. Some of the achievements that Amari holds dear to his heart are; being nominated for the Silver Night Award which is only given to South Florida's highest achieving teenagers, having the opportunity to travel to China as a People to People International Ambassador and being one of ten students to be named ambassa-

dor to his school out of a population of 2000. Amari's passion is basketball and he has been playing it since he was old enough to dribble a ball. Currently he is at Believe Prep Academy and his skill level has afforded him the ability to attend a Division 1 University on an athletic scholarship. While in school, Amari plans on majoring in international business. I recently asked Amari what his inspirations are, what he likes to do in his spare time and what are his future goals and he answered by saying: "My inspirations are my Mom, family and the ever present naysayers." "I like writing, hanging with friends, traveling and helping others less fortunate in my spare time." And, "When I graduate, I would like to be an entrepreneur and a basketball coach." Well, if Amari is a repre-

sentation of our family in the future, I would like to proclaim that we will be a family of high integrity and high standards. I am so proud of the man that Amari has become.



*Amari with his inspiration and Mom, Claudienne Hibbert*



## Save The Date - Rising is Coming!

Dear Family, Are you ready for the 4th triennial Descendants of Solomon and Elizabeth Family Reunion? Yes? Well, great because we can't wait to celebrate family, love, love and achievement with everyone once again! This year's reunion is named "Rising" because that is exactly what we are doing. We all work very hard and we fully expect that our next generation will be at the mantle leadership in society...Rising! I love it! Well,

We are preparing to mail information about our exciting family reunion shortly. In the meantime, we ask that you do a couple of things: One, please update your contact information with us by emailing Gregory at [hibbertg@bellsouth.net](mailto:hibbertg@bellsouth.net) or you can call him at 404 625-5919. and Two, please clear your schedule for the last week in July 2013. This year's reunion will be Stateside in South Florida and we are negotiating now with a nice but affor-

able beachside hotel. The committee cannot wait and we believe this will be our largest celebration to date. See you soon!