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Subject: National President's 2013 State of the Association Report!

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From: Paul Duke (orokduke@att.net)

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To: ;

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Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2013 5:43 PM

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Dear ENA-USA members & Efik community at-large,

I am proud to affirm to all of you that “**the State of the Efik National Association USA Inc. is alive and strong**”. The great success of our last National Convention in Stamford , Connecticut is a testament of the Beauty, Peace and Joy in celebrating the Efik Pride in the US Diaspora. Once again, we thank the Planning Chair for the 2013 Convention, Mma Afi Duke and her team. Also, we thank Ete Sam Okon Eniang, Nka Nsongho Nda Chapter President, and his members for being an outstanding co-host.

This current fiscal year (2013-14) will be my last year in office as your National President. Please, walk with me as we look forward to ENA-USA's future agenda and also a look back to all the accomplishments of the past three years together;

### **2nd Medical Mission to Cross River State, October 21-25, 2013**

In 2011, 1,500 patients were given free medical screening and examined during our first Medical Mission to Cross River State . We also donated Dental Equipment and Furniture worth \$20,000.00 to CRUTECH, in partnership with Nka Ikem Esit Chapter.

We are excited to announce that our 2013 Medical Mission will begin in 3 weeks. The Planning Committee led by Dr. Felicia Bassegy Akamune and her very dedicated team has done an excellent job in signing-up more volunteers and healthcare providers for this mission trip. The mission team hopes to exceed 1,500 patients screened and examined. We wish them journey mercies to Cross River State and their safe return home.

### **2014 National Convention; Reno, Nevada**

#### **Convention Theme: The Efik Family Values and Community Empowerment**

On the heels of three very successful National Conventions in Houston, DC and Connecticut, the Efik National Association USA Inc. is proud to announce that under the auspices of our new Convention Planning Chair, Chief (Prof.) Rosemary Effiong and her dedicated team, we have signed a contract with **PEPPERMILL RESORT, SPA & CASINO** for the hosting of our 17<sup>th</sup> Efik National Convention from July 24-27, 2014, in Reno, Nevada.

The Resort Hotel has created a reservation page and it's now linked with our Convention webpage for members to begin making their Hotel Reservations. Mma Liz's e-blast will follow shortly with all the room rates and details.

Let's make this convention reunion a “ONE WEEK FAMILY VACATION”, because Reno/Lake Tahoe, has

been proclaimed the new Efik London (Obio Mbakara)

### **The ENA-USA Non-Profit Exempt Status & Corporate Matters**

The ENA-USA is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit Organization, with an Effective Date of Exemption: April 17, 2012 .

### **2013 Convention Financial Report**

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We had our first Executive Meeting in September for the new fiscal year, and the National Treasurer, Ete Inyang presented his preliminary 2013 Convention Financial Report. The final Report will be ready in November when we expect to redeem some pledges. Each Active Chapter President will receive a final copy of the Financial Report to present to their members.

### **2012 and 2013 College Scholarship Awards**

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We have awarded College Scholarships to (17) Seventeen Efik and Minority Youths in our community; two years in a row. This past August, all award recipients received their checks in the mail, in the amounts of \$1,000.00 each and we congratulate and wish them a successful 2013-14 academic year.

### **The ENA-USA Website & Updates**

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In 2011, we created a state of the art website to introduce “three generations” of the Efik Community in the United States to American and the rest of the world. Make time and visit the website at [www.efikusa.org](http://www.efikusa.org) and see our recent updates that include the 2013 Stamford Convention Photos, Current ENA-USA Leadership Team, Active Chapters and our Newest Chapter; Nka Ima Obio, Reno/Lake Tahoe. We congratulate Nka Ima Obio Chapter President; Chief (Dr.) Chris Effiong and his members and wish them great success as co-host for the 2014 National Convention.

Also, we congratulate Nka Ikem Esit Chapter for their recent choice of Mma Liz Trinnell as their elected President and her Executive members. In addition, I would like to thank Ete Esessien, for his presidential leadership of this great chapter for the past two years. We all wish him well, kudos, my brother!

### **2012 Disaster Relief and 2013 Community Support Efforts**

In late 2012, about 49,000 people were displaced by devastating flood as a result of the release of water from the Lagdo Dam in Cameroun . The communities that most affected were Biase, Ikom, Ogoja and Odukpani local government areas. Many homes were washed away because of erosion. All these led to the displacement of families and loss of many lives. ENA-USA through our Health and Wellness Committee mobilized our community across the country and began the “Clothing and shoes Drive”. These items were shipped in January, 2013 to the Obong’s Palace to coordinate and distribute to the affected areas. ENA-USA donated \$500.00 to the America Red Cross on behalf of the victims of Super Storm Sandy in the New York Tri-State Areas and donated \$1,000.00 to Nka Ikem Esit Chapter to support their 2013 Community Outreach Effort.

### **Relationship with the Palace of the Obong of Calabar**

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I was very humbled when His Eminence, Edidem Ekpo Okon Abasi Otu-V, the Obong of Calabar, invited me in my capacity as the National President to attend the Signing Ceremony of the New Efik Constitution. My attendance during the signing ceremony in December, 2010, opened the doors of opportunity and forged new relationships that resulted in the appointment of Chief (Dr.) Chris Effiong, as the ENA-USA representative in The Obong's Executive Forum.

In 2012, we invited His Eminence, the Obong of Calabar, His Excellency, The Governor of Cross River State, State and Federal Legislators to attend our National Convention in DC.

The Palace of the Obong of Calabar will once again host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Medical Mission's kick-off event on Monday, October 21, 2013 . ENA-USA continues to be very appreciative to the Obong's Palace and the Government of Cross River State for their involvement and goodwill during our Medical Mission(s).

### ENA-USA Youth Wing

The Youth Wing of the ENA-USA is the future of our organization. I am proud to say that our Youths raised the bar at the 2013 National Convention in Stamford , Connecticut and showcased their commitment for the advancement and celebration of the Efik Culture, Language, Art and History throughout their youth night and programs. We welcome this coming of age and will continue to encourage their thirst and hunger for embracing the Efik Tradition and Culture.

### Contribution of Women in ENA-USA Leadership Roles

As we celebrate Nigeria's 53rd Independent Anniversary today, let's take a closer look at the immense contributions of ENA-USA women in leadership positions since I was elected the National President 3 years ago: the following honorees below are our wives, mothers and professionals that make a difference each day in our beloved community:

1. **Chief (Dr.) Anne Edet Wagner:** National Vice President (2010-12); She worked closely with me to achieve a lot of my strategic vision objectives; She is currently a member of the Board of Trustees.
2. **Ms. Grace Matthews:** The Convention Planning Chair responsible for the very successful 2011 National Convention in Houston .
3. **Dr. Felicia Basse Akamune:** National Financial Secretary; Chair, Health & Wellness Committee. Planned the First successful Medical Mission with her team to CRS and she is preparing with her team for the Second Medical Mission in the next three weeks.
4. **Mrs. Liz Trimmell:** National PRO; Chair, Web Support Committee; President, Nka Ikem Esit Chapter. Manages the ENA-USA website and is credited with the site's makeover, and reintroduced the Efik Community in Diaspora to the world. The Convention Planning Chair responsible for the successful 2012 National Convention in DC now called "the Convention for the Ages".
5. **Dr. Rosy Rowan, Esq.:** Chair, ENA-USA Board of Trustees. She brings her passion for the Efik Community, intellectual depth and a sense of fairness to her Board.

6. **Dr. Veronica Okon Archibong:** National Asst. Treasurer, A leader who wears many caps, but prefers to work behind the scene with others to get things accomplished without any fanfare.

7. **Chief (Prof.) Rosemary Effiong:** Chair, Fundraising Committee; The current Convention Planning Chair for the 2014 National Convention in Reno, Nevada; A leader whose immense contributions to the Efik Community dates back to its formative years.

8. **Mrs. Afi Duke:** The First Lady of ENA-USA; My biggest supporter and adviser; The Convention Planning Chair responsible for the successful 2013 National Convention in Stamford, Connecticut in which “Colors” redefined the convention experience into a Carnival atmosphere!

Let’s all join hands and wish our beloved Country-Nigeria; A Happy 53<sup>rd</sup> Independent Anniversary and the continued progress to the top by every Nigerian woman at home or abroad.

Long Live Efik Eburutu!

Long Live the Republic of Nigeria !!

Long Live the United State of America !!!

Chief Paul Orok Bassey-Duke  
National President  
ENA-USA