

## **Ufok ayi-e-e-e; ayi!**

**What can we say? A simple “thank you” cannot adequately express our sincere gratitude to you for allowing us to serve you! Each and every one of you took ownership of this convention, because it was yours. Wherever there were slakes and gaps (and there were many), you quickly jumped in to fill the void. To the untrained eyes, the flow seemed seamless. Thank you for making us (CPC, Nka Ima Obio) look so good.**

**About a year ago when Reno was announced as the next convention city, I realized that unless I reached out to other organizations, bodies and institutions, successfully putting together a convention such as befits The Efik National Association USA Inc would be an uphill task and an elusive one. Although Nka Ima Obio is limited in its membership due to its young age (only 1 year), it is very resourceful. What Nka does not have in number, it makes up for in talent and skill! We will like to acknowledge the following people and groups:**

- ENA-USA Exco under the leadership of Chief (Prince) Paul Orok Basse-Duke (& Nne Afi by extension) for their focus and help in ensuring that the convention was a success – Ete Inyang, Nne Umo (& Dr. Udo, by extension).**
- The CPC and members of Nka Ima Obio especially the children of Nka for appreciating that volunteerism entails sacrifice and sharing the me-time with others.**
- Our honorable BOT members (Dr. Rosy Rowan, Chief Adolphus Eyo-Ita, Mrs. Obo Effanga Akinbola, Dr. Anne Edet Wagner) for sharing their wisdom in Efik Culture and for their generosity .**
- How can we thank the ENA-USA membership (enough) for believing that it will be a fun-filled family vacation in the Wild West and supporting their convention with their presence and donation.**
- Our kids – our treasure – you make us proud everyday! You have re-kindled the fire in many African parents – (they came, they saw). In informal conversations, these parents are wowed by the level of your understanding of our culture as well as participation. Please keep it up! You are the light and the future! THE EFIK NATION IS STRONG – THANKS TO YOU! Kudos to the out-going President, Mr. Stephen Trimnell and welcome to the newly elected President and Ms EfikUSA, Ms Stephanie Trimnell.**

- Our special thanks to our own, who came from Canaan City (Calabar, Cross River State); Chief (Engineer) Ita & Mrs. Etta Ita; Mrs. Aniyom & kids, Dr. Queeneth Kalu.
- Did I forget members of our “Big Sister” organization, Nka Ikem Esit, Washington – of course not! How can one forget the capable, practical, talented and generous leaders of Nka – Mrs. Liz Trimnell, Mrs. Margaret Edet Nnorom, Mrs. Rita Nyambi-Clemmons (& mom, Chief Mrs. Nyambi), Dr. Felicia Basse-Akamune (*MC for life*), Mr. Efiok & Dr. (Mrs.) Grace Inyang & the Inyang girls.
- We had a very distinguished, giving and deep-pocketed High Table, Dr. Rosy Rowan, Hon (Amb.) Nkoyo Toyo, Ms. Deanne Eyo-Ita, Dr. & Mrs. John Esin, Dr. Elizabeth Henshaw, Chief Frank Inyang, Chief & Mrs. Adolphus Eyo-Ita, Deacon & Mrs. Eyo Ephraim (to mention a few). Thanks!
- Ete Tony (Mr. Tony Henshaw) – our articulate and dynamic MC and loyal Houstonians – Dr. Veronica Archibong (& friends), Ms. Grace Matthews – up “Efik Professionals of Houston”! *Gratias!*
- Our Cameroonian brothers and sisters who are truly “Friends of Nka” in their acts and deeds.
- We sing Kudos and applaud our Nka Ima Obio Chief Launchers, Mr. Bukky & Mrs. Obo Akinbola (and supporter, Ms Deanne Eyo-Ita) for helping us to find a firm financial grip. May you be rewarded abundantly by the Good Lord.
- To our Nigerian, African and University communities we thank you for your kindness and support
- Although the last, yet not the least, our gratitude extends to the capable and dedicated new President, - *the Father and Custodian of Efik Culture in the USA*, Chief (Dr.) Chris B. Effiong for all he does in keeping the Efik banner flying high.
- May the Lord bless you abundantly and I hope to see you soon.

**Prof (Chief) Rosemary I. Effiong**

Chair, 2014 Convention Planning Committee/Fundraising Committee/Secretary,  
Nka Ima Obio, Reno/Lake Tahoe

**The Efik National Association USA, Inc. (ENA-USA)**

**A 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Organization**

[www.efikusa.org](http://www.efikusa.org)