

# VIOC IN ACTION

Virgin Islands Olympic Committee Newsletter



## Virgin Islands Olympic Committee

## Ranked 34th in the World



Dear Readers:

It is with great pleasure the Virgin Islands Olympic Committee (VIOC) is launching VIOC in Action, our first quarterly newsletter. Through this means, we will inform you of developments in the VIOC and spotlight our athletes. The VIOC's mission is "to develop and protect the Olympic Movement and it's high ideals throughout the Virgin Islands". One of the goals of the Olympic Movement is to "contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practiced in accordance with Olympism and it's values".

The VIOC is committed to the development of our community through the Olympic Value Education Program (OVEP). In the upcoming months we will partner with the Department of Education and begin our program by bringing our Olympians home to interact with our students in school. Plans are to organize a workshop for educators to deliver the OVEP and to conduct Coaching Principle courses. These activities will be coordinated through the VIOC's educational arm, our National Olympic Academy.

Please enjoy our newsletter and send comments to (social media & email).

Sincerely,  
Angel L. Morales  
VIOC President

## Danese Joseph - Taekwondo



On the way to The Taekwondo World Championship in Puebla, Mexico in July 2013, Danese Joseph, the Virgin Islands Taekwondo National Team female heavy weight athlete is making a name for herself, as well as the Virgin Islands. Most recently she fought to defend her Gold from last year's Canadian open, but fell short to get the bronze medal for this year.

Her first fight was against Rebecca Garand of Canada. After the first round, she was down a point but came from behind to win 3-2. She was happy to get her first fight out of the way to mentally prepare herself for my next fight against Mexico's Guadalupe Ruiz Lopez, the number 4 ranked heavyweight in the world. The match started very close until she landed the first point at the end of the first round. Danese turned it around in the following two rounds to get the score to 4-5 with about 10 seconds left. She was forced to rush to make up the one point deficit in

order to tie the match which would send it into a sudden death fourth round. Unfortunately, in her rush Mexico was able to score an additional three points with a head shot ending the match 8-4.

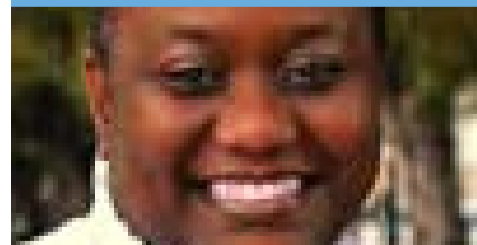
Danese is the reigning AAU National Taekwondo Champion in her weight division, and lost to the number one in the world at that time Gwladys Epangue of France at the US Open in Las Vegas, Nevada in February 2013. As of May 1, 2013 Danese Joseph is ranked number 41 in the world. With her Bronze medal at the Canadian Open, her ranking will go which would put her in an excellent for World Taekwondo Championships in preparation for Rio 2016.

### SPORT FEDERATION News



The Virgin Islands National Swim Team competed in the XXVIII CARIFTA Swimming Championships held at the National Stadium Pool in Kingston, Jamaica.

### OLYMPIC ACADEMY News



Sheelene Gumbs Attends International Olympic Committee Women and Sport Commission Seminar.

### VIOC Executive Body



Elections were held on September 29th 2012. Meet the people who will be leading the VIOC for the next four years.

### Events



## OLYMPIC DAY

Olympic Day Run is an international Olympic Movement activity promoting mass participation of sports held on June 22nd 2013 in the Virgin Islands.



## Sochi 2014 names first Torchbearers for Olympic Torch Relay

07/09/2013

*With the Olympic flame due to arrive in Russia in three months' time, the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee has already approved approximately half of the torchbearers for the Olympic Torch Relay.*

Of the 140,000 candidates – who were submitted to Sochi 2014 for approval – nearly 6,000 torchbearers have now been selected, representing all 83 regions of Russia.

Successful candidates were selected, among other things, for their commitment to a healthy lifestyle,

sport and the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect.

The Sochi 2014 torchbearers chosen so far include athletes, public figures, teachers, doctors, rescue workers and pensioners, among many others.

Those who will have the honour of carrying the Olympic flame during the Torch Relay include the world's first female cosmonaut, Valentina Tereshkova, four-time Olympic gymnastics champion Alexei Nemo, three-time Olympic synchronised swimming champion Maria Kiseleva, Paralympic bronze medallist Aleksey Chuvashov, cardiovascular surgeon Maksim Strakhov and popular blogger Sergey Dolya.

The youngest torchbearer chosen so far is only 14 years old, while the oldest, from the Vologda Region, is aged 93. More than 300 of the Relay participants are people with disabilities.

The selected torchbearers also include 136 overseas representatives, including citizens of the United States, Brazil, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Ukraine, Great Britain and Spain.

Over the next two months, the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee will continue to process and approve the Olympic torchbearer application forms, with the final list of 14,000 people due to be published by the end of September.

Why should the citizens of the Virgin Islands get excited about the Winter Olympics?

The VIOC is very proud to announce that we have two athletes already qualified to compete and another who is currently working on qualifying.

Veronica Gaspar (18) and Jasmine Campbell (22) will be competing for the US Virgin Islands in two alpine skiing events: Giant Slalom and Slalom in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

Stay tuned for more news on our athletes via the newsletter, our social media sites (Facebook and Twitter) and website. ([www.virginislandsolympics.org/](http://www.virginislandsolympics.org/)).

## The International Olympic Committee Women and Sport Commission's Continental Seminar in Mexico City

The Theme of the Conference was I Want to, I Can, I Will. The focus on developing working teams for better communication for Women working in Sports and Sports Administration.

The three days were broken down into Self Presentation, Public Awareness, and Personality Assessments for greatest success in Developmental Progress of an organization.

We were all given an assessment and made aware of how each personality type works together for the greatest success and profit level for Sports Management and engaging others to participate and develop stronger leaders.

We were given certificate and enjoy to be a defining force on each of our NOC's and individual sports. Encouraged to look at the demographics of the girls and women in sports,

the number of females competing and being involved in Sports each g and being involved in Sports Management.

The networking was outstanding, as there was a mixture of for Olympians, Head of Sport Federations, Member of NOC and IF's as well as Legal Counsel and Public Relations Officers. The break out sessions allowed for each person in their specialty area, to not only share

their expertise, but work with other to greater success.

This was a great experience. I am grateful for the opportunity to have attended, and hope to bring all of the information to our organization.

Sheelene Gumbs  
Chair  
USVI WSC

## VI National Swim Team competes in the CARIFTA Swimming

The Virgin Islands National Swim Team travelled on March 28th to April 3rd to compete in the XXVIII CARIFTA Swimming Championships held at the National Stadium Pool in Kingston, Jamaica. The CARIFTA Swimming Championships (Caribbean Free Trade Association) is a high level regional swim meet offered to English Speaking Caribbean Countries. Representing the National Team were 9 swimmers, 2 Coaches, Team Manager, and a Meet Official. Over 300 swimmers from 22 different nations competed in this meet.

The nine swimmers representing the Virgin Islands Swimming Federation (VISF) were: Hannah Clements, Sasha Klein and Portia Norkaitis from St. Thomas and Matthew Mays, Kenny Wilson, Jonathan Thomas, Webster Bozzo, Victor Torres, and Nicholas Dascher from St. Croix. They were led by National Coach John Vasbinder and assisted by Coach Brian Brady, Team Manager Cinthia Sanes, and VISF President and Meet Official Brent Mays.

Overall, the meet was very successful for all VI Swimmers; Matthew Mays placed 2nd in the 200m Butterfly, 4th in the 400m IM, 5th in the 200m Back, 6th in the 200m IM, and 8th in the 100m Back for the 13-14 male category. He also earned his spot to represent the Virgin Islands in the Central American and Caribbean Swimming Championships (CC-CAN) by qualifying in the 400m IM and 200m Butterfly. Victor Torres placed 4th in the 100m back, 5th in the 200m back, and 6th in the 50m back for the 15-17 male category. He broke a VISF Long Course record in the 50m back with a 28.30. He added to the list of events for CCCAN by achieving a qualifying time in the 200m Back. Nicholas Dascher placed 6th in the 1500m Free for the 13-14 male category. Sasha Klein placed 8th in the 50m Fly and Hannah Clements placed 7th in the 50m Breaststroke female 13-14 category. Portia Norkaitis placed 8th in the 50m Breaststroke female 15-17 category. The relay team overall consisted of Matthew, Kenny, Jonathan, Webster and Nicholas. Matthew, Kenny, Jonathan and Webster took 7th in the 400m Free and 400m Medley. Kenny, Jonathan, Nicholas and Matthew took 6th in then 800m Free and 8th in the 200m Free.

The next high level regional swim meet is the CCCAN Swimming Championships and it will occur in Costa Rica June 29th to July 5th. The VISF has eight swimmers who have qualified for this meet and expect to have a few more qualify in the next few months.

For additional information about the swim meet, you can contact National Head Coach John Vasbinder at 244-7657 or stcroixdolphins@gmail.com.



Virgin Islands National Swim Team at XXVIII CARIFTA Swim-



**Who is considered to be the founder of the modern Olympics ?**

Answer: Pierre de Coubertin



## 2013 Olympic Day in St. Croix

The public was invited to participate in the annual Olympic Day Run held on Saturday at the St. Croix Educational Complex High School track in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Runners, joggers and walkers of all ages posted times for their one mile run/walk in support of the Olympic movement. Each participant will had the opportunity complete a mile at their own pace and did it with the group of their choice.

Walkers started at 5pm, that group was led by Kimberly Sylvester, she jogged and walk the mile in 9 minutes 34 seconds; she was followed by Evangeline Gumbs to finished in 11:58 and Johathan Kariah was third in 12:17.

The 15 min per mile group started at 5:30...this group was led by Kimberly Sylvester again in 8:58 followed by Altoglacio Straun 9:51 and Laverne Frederikson 10:01

The 10min per mile group started at 5:45pm...this group was led by Barthelemy Peter of the St. Croix Track Club/Ed. Complex High School in 6:27 followed by Sandro Carpio 6:36 and Mireille Smith in 6:45.

The 7 min per mile group started at 6pm...Tim Wion in 5:42, he was followed by his son Tanner Dellett-Wion in 5:51 and Erik Von Kaenel in 6:38...there were 16 participants in this group...Tim Wion is a former

resident of St. Croix who worked at Queen Louise Home in Frederiksted. He was a top local runner and a top finisher in the Olympic Day Run many times over twenty years ago. He happened to be visiting the island with his family and put the run on the top of his list of things to do.

The 6 min per mile group ran at 6:15pm and top high school distance runner in the V.I. Malique Smith of the St. Croix Track Club/Ed. Complex High School led the group with a 5:04 mile; Aaron Hamrick of Cincinnati, Ohio caught Rodney Griffin SCTC/SCHS with 150 meters to go to take second in 5:17 and Griffin was third in 5:21.

Virgin Islands Olympic Committee President, Angel Morales participated as the official starter and runner; Ronald Russell, President of the Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation participated also as official starter and runner.

Olympians present were: Keith Smith 1992 Barcelona, Olympics 4 x 100m relay, Ana Gutierrez, 1992 Barcelona Olympics Marathon, Ronald Russell Montreal Olympics 100m and Wallace Williams, Seoul 1988 Olympics Marathon.

Results available at <http://virginislandspace.org>.

## Athlete Report: Laverne Jones

Training was going really well in the May. Unfortunately I was battling a nagging Achilles injury. I was doing intense rehab and it was getting better. I still was not able to sprint in my spikes but was doing 100m strides in my sneakers without any major discomfort. On May 9th I was scheduled to compete in the Cayman invitational but had to withdraw due to the fact I was not ready to sprint. I was continuing rehab and was feeling better. The next scheduled race was set for May 21st in Beijing, China. My team and I decide to compete there to test out the leg. I arrived in China feeling confident that I would be fine, as I was not feeling any significant pain. This is the first time in my track career I suffered an injury so I took it for granted. Warming up was fine, did not feel any discomfort or pain, so I thought I would be O.k. I went out on the track to run the 200m, not realizing running on the curve would aggravate the injury and cause it to strain again! I was unable to complete the race. Just by me rushing back to racing caused me to go back to from square one. My coaching team decided to let me rest for three weeks, because it was strained badly; about a grade 3 strain. As of June 17th I started back rehab. I'm walking without limping. There's still a little discomfort but I am able to do certain exercises to get the area strong again.



At the 46th Annual General Assembly of the Virgin Islands Olympic Committee (VIOC), held Saturday, September 29, 2012, elections were held for the five executive officers to hold office for the next four years.

**Results were as follows:**

**President Angel L. Morales**  
**Secretary General Lyn Reid**  
**Treasurer Joseph B. Boschulte**  
**Vice President – STT Ansen Sligar**  
**Vice President – STX John Abramson, Jr.**  
**Honorary Life President Edgar M. Iles**  
**Honorary Life Treasurer Leonard W. Bonelli, Sr.**

**President - Angel L. Morales** started his athletic career as a Physical Education teacher in 1974. While teaching, he played on the V.I. National Volleyball Team from 1977- 1980. In 1983 he became Assistant Professor of Physical Education at the University of the Virgin Islands. Mr. Morales first served as the Sports Administrator for the VIOC from 1986-1988 and attended the '88 Seoul Games in that capacity. He was Asst. Chef de Mission at the '92 Barcelona Games and Chef de Mission at the '96 Atlanta Olympics. He was a founding member of the St. Croix Basketball Referee Association and the Caribbean University Sports Association (CUSA) where he served as Treasurer from 1992-2000. In 1988 he was elected on the VIOC Executive Committee as Vice President for St. Croix and in 1996 became Secretary General.

**Secretary General - Lyn Reid**, a native of Detroit, Michigan, has been a resident of the Virgin Islands for over 35 years. She came to the Virgin Islands to teach at Antilles School where her enthusiasm for sports led her to become the Girl's Volleyball, Basketball and Softball Varsity Coach. She served as Head of Lower School at Antilles for 5 years before moving on to the public school system where she has worked with visually impaired students ever since. 1966 CAC medal winner Rudy Thompson, reintroduced Ms. Reid to Sailing and that became her passion. She has been involved in Sailing Regattas all over the Caribbean as a competitor and organizer.

## The results of the 46th Annual General Assembly: Meet the VIOC Executive Body



She represented the Virgin Islands in the first two Rolex J-24 Women's World Championships and has twice served as Commodore of the St. Thomas Yacht Club. She has been instrumental in bringing major Sailing events to the Virgin Islands such as the Nations Cup Match Racing. Ms. Reid began her time with the VIOC as the Team Leader for Sailing at the '83 Caracas Pan Am Games. She was part of the Sailing delegation attending the '84 Los Angeles Olympics and in 1988 in Seoul, Korea she was the Sailing Team Leader when Peter Holmberg won a Silver Medal for the Virgin Islands in the Laser competition. She was also the Sailing Delegate for the '92 Barcelona and '96 Atlanta Olympics and was Chef de Mission in London in 2012. She has been on the VIOC Executive Committee as Vice President for St. Thomas and St. John since 1992.

**Treasurer - Joseph B. Boschulte**, a native of St. Thomas was born on December 24, 1969 to Louis and Angel Boschulte. Joseph is a 1987 Graduate of the Charlotte Amalie High School and a 1991 graduate of the College of William and Mary in Virginia. He earned a MBA from the University of Virginia's Darden Graduate school of Business Administration in 1995. While in the states Joseph was the Vice President of Middle Market Investment Banking at Bank of America and Senior Vice President of Corpo-

rate at Wachovia Securities. In 2003, Joseph returned home after having lived in New York, Atlanta, and North Carolina. Upon his return Joseph was named UVI's Vice President of Institutional Advancement. While he held this position Mr. Boschulte was responsible for fundraising and public relations as well as alumni affairs; he also served as the Executive Director for the University's foundations. Joseph was appointed in 2005 by then Governor Charles W. Turnbull to serve on the Board of the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission (PSC). Shortly thereafter, Mr. Boschulte was voted by his peers to serve as chairman of the PSC's Board.

After leaving UVI, Joseph was employed as Chief Financial Officer with the Government Employee Retirement System (GERS). After 2.5 years at GERS, he moved to the position of Chief Financial Officer at the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority. Today, Mr. Boschulte is the President and Chief Executive Officer at the West Indian Company, Limited. Mr. Boschulte has an extensive corporate background as an investment banker and a senior level financial officer. Joseph is married to the former Aisha Bonelli and they are the proud parents of two children Jaeden and Janae.

**Vice President St. Thomas - Ansen Sligar**, has served as the

President of the Virgin Islands Wrestling Federation for the past 8 years. He is actively involved with the International Olympic Academy having attended the Young Participants Sessions, IO-APA Sessions and the Director's Session on Olympic education. In addition to his participation with the VIOC, Ansen is also serving as Vice President on the Executive Board of the Virgin Islands Advertising Federation and is a Board Member of the St. Thomas/St. John Chamber of Commerce. Ansen has lived in the Virgin Islands for almost 20 years. He moved to St. Thomas from Oregon to attend the University of the Virgin Islands where he graduated with a BA in Business Administration. He also holds an Executive Masters in Sports Organization Management from the University of Poitiers, France.

**Vice President St. Croix - John Abramson, Jr.**, has had several positions in the Executive, Legislative branches of the Government of the Virgin Islands. Presently, Supervisor of Elections. Formerly Territorial Energy Director, and Chief of Staff for Senators Alicia Torres-James, Adelbert M. Bryan and Judy M. Gomez. Consultant to the Office of Senator Judy M. Gomez. Elected to serve on the Tenth (10th) Board of Education. As well as significant experience in the private sector with the Private Industry Council, Energy Resources International, Inc. Virgin Islands Tea Company, Inc. In addition to twenty-six years of public/private service I have been active in numerous community organization such as: The Resource Conservation and Development Council, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Virgin Islands Tourism Awareness Link, Virgin Islands Basketball Federation, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., National Highway Safety Advisory Board, the National Association of Parliamentarians, and the National Association of Public Administrators. Member Board of Director Girl Scout Council Virgin Islands. Part-time Professor of Economic and Social Science at the University of the Virgin Islands. Member of the Government Health Insurance Board of Directors, Member of Rotary West of St. Croix. President of Frederiksted Economic Development Association.