



Closing Remarks

by

The Honourable Byran S. Woodside, MP

Minister of State for Youth and Sports

On the Occasion of

Farmer's Cay 22nd

First Friday in February Festival

(5F's)

And 10th Annual Regatta

Farmer's Cay, Exuma

Saturday, February 2, 2008

- Administrator Ivan Ferguson
- Councilor/Commodore Mr. Alfred Rolle
- Other Government Officials and Religious Leaders
- Regatta Committee Members
- Boat Owners, Skippers and Crew
- Visitors
- Good People of Farmers Cay.

Good Afternoon

Once again, we have come to the closing of another successful Regatta and Festival on this beautiful Island. I am delighted to be here in Farmer's Cay this afternoon. Last week was the beginning of something. The winning boat of the "All for One Championship Regatta", 'Irene Good Night', owned by Mr. Lewis Hart, was from right here in Farmer's Cay.

I congratulate the hard working Committee Members for a job well done and I thank the people who made it possible. This weekend of activities were held in honour of the late Mrs. Corene Alydice Moxey-Bain. She was the soul of Little Farmer's Cay, wife and mother of ten children, dock mistress, post mistress, sexton at times for her church; bell ringer and many times acting pastor,

She was the first owner of the world-famous Ocean Cabin Restaurant, which is now owned by her son Mr. Terry “Kadaffi” Bain.

Bahamians and visitors from all over the world have shared in this festival this past weekend. To see persons here today from all over The Bahamas enjoying themselves, speaks volumes about the unity that exists in our country. This is indeed positive social development, which serves to bring about cohesiveness among our people: it also brings people back home and gives families a chance to celebrate and get together.

I am delighted to hear that in 10 short years of hosting a Regatta, Farmer’s Cay is becoming the most popular C Class Regatta; (second only to Black Point). Now Chief

Councilor Alfred Rolle, if I am wrong with this information blame Clyde Rolle.

I thank Regatta supporters and fans for their unwavering support of Regattas. I am sure no one was disappointed this weekend. I salute all of the persons past and present who have contributed to this Regatta and look forward to a much greater Festival and Regatta next year.

I thank all of the boat owners and sailors for their contribution to the sport over the years, for keeping Regattas alive in all parts of The Bahamas. I hear that a few scores were settled, and a few new bets placed, I am just happy to see the camaraderie among the skippers and sailors. Once again you have demonstrated that it not about the money for you, but the sport of sloop sailing. Thank you, gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure to officially declare this 22nd Annual 5F's Festival and 10th Annual Farmer's Cay 'C' Class Regatta officially closed.