

January 11, 2011

Thank You, Mr. Gene Steede

Mr. Gene Steede, you celebrated your birthday on January 6 and that was your lucky year because you made the Queen's New Year Honors list. It sure was long overdue. On behalf of all the disabled of Bermuda we congratulate you and we hope you were your medal proudly. I would also like to say "thank you" for sharing your talent and time with the Bermuda Physically Handicapped Association in helping us to raise funds over the last four decades. The nice thing we remember is that you've never told us "No" whenever we asked for your assistance. The late Margaret Carter and the late Rosie Fox used to attend your shows at the Hamilton Princess a couple of times a week and they encouraged me to attend. I realized then that I was being entertained by Bermuda's #1 entertainer. I found your shows to have a variety to please your entire audience eg. comedy, calypso and country/western - which was my favorite. I am not a country boy nor am I a billy boy, I am a hill billy and a cowboy without a horse. Gene, I would like to publicly say "thank you" for volunteering to drive the handicapped bus to see that Margaret Carter got to her appointments. Rosie Fox always said that you were her personal driver, I assume that gives you another title as chauffeur. The last few years you had a set back in your health, I was encouraged to hear you say on the radio recently that you were up to par and ready to return to work.

The Bermuda Government, Hotel Association and all the restaurant chains, please employ Bermuda entertainers, because the visitors are looking for local entertainers. Minister of Tourism, Ms. Minors, please listen to the tourists' requests. Thanks for thinking of your fellow countrymen and lending a helping hand from your heart. God bless you, Gene.

Signed, Willard Fox