



FIRST TIME: From left Icelandair Flight Attendant Eda Palsdottir, De Bouyne Tour Representative and Pilot Leifur Arnason chatting with Carole Guntley-Brady Director General in the Ministry of Tourism. Aloun Assamba was on hand welcoming arriving guest onboard the Icelandair Airline. Some 135 passengers arrived in the island on Monday, May 3, at the Donald Sangster International Airport. The airline made its inaugural flight to Jamaica from Belgium and is expected to visit Jamaica at least once each week.



SuperClubs to expand options

The SuperClubs Resort chain in Jamaica is being innovative in meeting the needs of the tourism marketplace and in strengthening its products.

Now the Group has announced an expansion in the range of products it offers. The latest move in the SuperClubs operations will be the availability of the European Plan (EP) package at their newest resort to be called Rooms, in the heart of Ocho Rios.

The move widens the range of vacation options available under the SuperClubs group, which to now offered only all inclusive properties. SuperClubs has recently acquired the beach-front property and has carried out extensive refurbishing work on the facility, formerly Club Jamaica.

Rooms will offer one hundred (100) quality, comfortable rooms, with new bathrooms and

bedroom furnishings as well as high speed internet access with basic amenities such as breakfast, a pool and a bar.

Announcement of the details on how the new resort will operate was made by executive vice president of the SuperClubs chain, Zein Nakash. This was at a press breakfast hosted by SuperClubs at the Jamaica Product Exchange (JPEX) show on Monday, May 3.

In order to keep up with their competitors, Mrs. Nakash has outlined a number of promotions. One of such is the 'Jamming in Jamaica Barbie'.

She said: "From June through August, we'll host weekly theme parties for little girls and their Barbies to play house on the beach. As part of out outreach to this very important family market, the first 100 bookings will also receive free Barbie dolls."

Althea Bryan – Mother, Businesswoman

By: Jovel Johnson

Juggling work and motherhood can be very stressful, but some women manage that task very well. Althea Bryan, Managing Director of Blue Mountain Bicycle Tours and Boss of the Year 2004, is no exception. With a husband and two children, she has her hands full, but still manages to cope under the strain.

Mrs. Bryan loves her family dearly and finds ways and means of giving them the love and attention they deserve. Her two sons, Garfield, 14 and Donovan Jr. (D.J.), 9, are her top priority. "I always spend weekends with them. Garfield goes to Calabar High School and he boards. He usually comes down on the weekends. When he's not here, we spend a lot of time on the phone. D.J. attends the United Learning Centre Prep school and as soon as he gets home, we both talk. I usually assist him with homework. Even though the helper will help him with homework, I give it a final look over," she said.

She has a very close and open relationship with her children, but identifies time and supervision as her challenges. "What hurts me with Garfield is that I don't get to help him with homework. He only comes home on the weekends and it's hard for me to adapt to the changes he

is going through. He's growing into an adult and, at times I feel like I'm losing him. I know I have to try to cope with that," she said. She adds that there are times she goes home and her son D.J. will want to play, but she would be too tired to even talk. "It's hard, but the connection is still there. I try to do the job that nobody else but a mother can do."

TOTAL SWEETHEARTS

Children have a way of being total sweethearts when you're upset, even at them. "It's hard to be mad at Garfield, because he readily admits when he's wrong and apologizes. He's the quiet one, but he's quite protective. He would just come up to me and say, 'Mommy, yuh alright?' He's also the actor, the one who makes jokes."

D.J. is the troublemaker, but he does his share of cheering up. She recounted one of the many incidents where D.J. showed his soft side. "One day I was feeling really upset, not at them, something had come up. I went to them and told them not to bother me, I wanted to be alone. I went into the room and locked myself in it. After awhile I saw something slide under the door. He drew a picture with hearts on it saying, 'I Love You, Mommy!' That was touching," Garfield had also told her that with his birthday being in

September, a time where parents spend a lot of money on schools supplies, she didn't have to buy him any birthday present. "They are very appreciative," she said.

THE SEX TALK

With any parent, it's hard to give the sex talk, especially if you think they are too young to know anything about sex. So it is with her and D.J. He asks her things like, "Where he came from" and "If his father threw him down her belly". She usually tries to explain to him as well as she can, but she thinks he maybe a little too young to know any explicit details. She then suggests to him that he goes to his father, since being a male himself, maybe he could do a better job of explaining things to D.J. Unfortunately, Dad just sends him back to his mother.

To show how close their bond is, D.J. showed his concern for his mother by saying, "Mommy, I didn't know it was so hard to be a mother. You have to do so many things." She's glad that they appreciate and recognize her hard work and sacrifice. "For me, motherhood is a pleasure. I'm just asking God to help me send them through college. I pledged to them that I'll carry them out on a date – individually. I want it to be something they will remember for the rest of their lives," she said.

A SPECIAL MOTHER

From page 9

Commercial Services Manager for the parish of St. Ann. He gave her one of the happiest moments in her life as he had graduated from the University of the West Indies. Although Ian is somewhat reserved, he is an outgoing person.

During the interview, she suddenly shudders as she remembers a painful and frightening ordeal that occurred during the early years of motherhood. This was when her two sons became ill and were hospitalized, one on each male ward at the same time. How was she to cope, rushing back and forth between

each ward? She believes that it was her relationship with God that kept her sane during this troubled time. "He gave me all the strength I needed."

For her, the best thing about being a mother now is being treated on Mother's Day and she is never disappointed. She also mentioned that Mother's Day should be a day of relaxing and reflection for mothers.

Her advice to young women today is for them to achieve a career first and to ensure a stable family life before having children. She stated that a very important factor in raising children is to be there for them no matter what.



WORKING MOM: Althea Bryan and her two sons, Garfield (left) and D.J.