

SABA LABOUR PARTY

Is
The Needed Change
Saba's Only Hope!



NOW IS THE TIME!

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MEET THE SABA LABOUR PARTY **CANDIDATES AND BOARD**

Candidate # 1 - Ishmael M.A Levenston

Candidate # 2 - Stanley R. Peterson

Candidate # 3 - Enrico R. Klaber

Candidate # 4 - Augustino C. Martin

Candidate # 5 - Shemiqua Blackman

Candidate # 6 - Monique Wilson

Candidate # 7 - Janet Wilson

Candidate # 8 - Augustus T.S Nicholson

Candidate # 9 – Ulric S. Hassell

Candidate # 1

Ishmael Mathew Ameal Levenston

Ishmael entered Saba politics in 1975, following in the footsteps of his father, the late John Esmond Mathew Levenston.

Four years later, in 1979, he joined forces with the Saba People's Party and lost his seat. In 1983, on the Saba United Party's list, he was re-elected and like in 1975 by preferential votes. He took a break from politics from 1983 – 1987 and came back as an Island Council member with the Saba Labour Party, from 1999 – 2003.

The SLP continued in their opposition role in 2007 with Akilah Levenstone as an Island Council member. In 2011 Ishmael came back and is serving on the Council up until the present. Ishmael is in politics for the people.

He was, is and will continue to work for all Sabans, now more than ever together with a new team; it is time for a change.



Candidate # 2

Stanley Ross Peterson

A local entrepreneur who sees a need for better representation for the people of Saba.

He grew up on Saba and was educated in the U.S. with a degree in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation he immediately went to work for General Motors where he started out as a technician and worked his way up to upper level management positions.

In 2002 he returned to his roots in Saba and volunteered at the Saba Marine Park, maintaining the boats, hyperbaric chamber and moorings which later changed into a full time position.

In 2009 he saw the need to help develop Saba and formed the Real Estate company Breadline Properties Holding, N.V; with the vision to build and beautify a part of the Windwardside.

Construction on the Breadline Plaza started in 2010. The 1st tenants moved in January 2012 and now the Breadline Plaza has become the hub of community activities and a great meet and greet place for the people of Saba and tourists alike.

Over the last few years he has realized that Saba needed an even greater positive change, a change that will help the community.

He is asking you, the people of Saba for your support of the SLP Party and with your help we can create an even brighter Saba for all.



Candidate # 3

Enrico Ronald Klaber (aka Cuchi)

Cuchi was born on Curacao and moved to Saba when he was three months old and has lived here ever since. The well being of his island, Saba, and his people means the world to him and he will always have their best interests at heart.

Everyone knows he is a fighter for what he believes is right and will fight to the very end for the residents of Saba.

He needs your support to show you that he has our island and you the people in his mind and heart.



Candidate # 4

Augustino Cirilio Martin (aka Slim)

Cirilio attended Saba Comprehensive School and Sint Maarten vocational training school. He lived in the Netherlands for 12 years and is presently working for Saba Roads.

Cirilio is well known in the community and is a local artist and very active in the cultural sector. He is fluent in English, Dutch, Papiamentu and Spanish.

He is asking you the voters to come out and vote SLP, vote for the persons that are ready to work for people of Saba.



Candidate # 5

Shemiqua Blackman

Shemiqua was born and raised on the island of Saba, a young and ambitious mother of two. She is in nursing for the past four years and loves helping people.

Shemiqua has taken up the challenge to do what many like to criticize but do not dare to do and that is to enter the arena of politics. She is young, outspoken, energetic, eager to learn and ready for a new challenge not only for herself but for her island.

Shemiqua says: “We will be the change, your vote matters”.



Candidate # 6

Monique Wilson

Monique is an ambitious, dedicated and aspiring Saban female. Raised on the island of Saba, attended junior and secondary school on the island and then attended university abroad in the USA.

During her academic journey she obtained two bachelor degrees in Sociology and Criminal Justice, followed by a Masters degree in Mental Health Counseling all of which she completed with honors.

Throughout her professional career she has been fortunate to gain experience and knowledge from various scopes ranging from the educational to business sectors. She has been actively involved in the human services field publicly and privately and so pursuing a mission and development of human equality is not unfamiliar to her.

Being a proud Saban it has and continues to be her desire and mission to contribute back to the development of the well being of the people of Saba and this is why she presents herself to you as an asset that will continue to work towards change for all.

Monique calls on her fellow Sabans and says: “the time is now to stand up for what you want. Vote SLP, together we can achieve your goals”.



Candidate # 7

Janet Wilson

Janet was born on Saba and is a licensed practical nurse.

As a mother of four she is a member of the Saba Educational Association in which she actively works in the best interests of all students and teachers of the Saba Comprehensive School.

Janet is also a substitute of the Representative Advisory Board (Medezeggenschapsraad) of that same school.

She is asking everyone to come out and vote Blue, vote SLP.



Candidate # 8

Augustus Thaddeus Sebastian Nicholson

Thaddeus was born and lives on Saba, the son of the late Max Nicholson.

Thaddeus attended secondary schools on Curacao, Aruba and Sint Maarten. He attended the M.T.S. to become a technician. He is also educated in cellular engineering-accountants systems.

Thaddeus supports the betterment of livable, equal and rightful rights for all people living on Saba.



Candidate # 9

Ulric “Steve” Hassell

Steve started his air conditioning and refrigeration business more than ten years ago. During the 1980's, Steve was manager of the well known Captain's Quarters, then owned and managed a hardware store before going into politics with the Windward Islands People's Party.

In 1991 he was elected to the Island Council and as Commissioner he was member of the Executive Council. In January 1995 he resigned from the WIPM party and served the remaining months as an independent member of the Island Council. Successfully campaigning as the leader of the Saba Democratic Labor Movement against the WIPM party, Steve was elected to the Island Council and served as Commissioner through 1999.

He and his family moved to Texas for a few years and upon his return he re-entered the political arena as the leader of Saba United Democratic Party. In 2003 his party won two seats on the Island Council for four years. Devoted to his family and community, Steve worked hard to build his business in air conditioning, served as a board member for several foundations and also helped other foundations with their projects.

Steve is reliable, honest, trustworthy and dedicated. Steve can be called on any time, day or night.



SLP Board Members

Front Left to Right:

Joseph Louimaire - Member
Kenneth Hassell - Member
Pamela Meijvogel - Chairman
Damaris Barnes - Secretary

Back Left to Right:

Eddie Peterson - Member
Alberto Levenstone - Member
Chris Meijvogel- Treasurer



Saba Is Ready

Saba, the Unspoiled Queen, is ready for a new government with new people. A government consisting of persons who are fully prepared to work hard not for only few but for all.

Saba, it is time for CHANGE! The organization of the government has changed; the Island Council has the political and decision power. The Commissioners have to execute decisions that are made by the Island Council therefore it is important to have your best representatives in the Island Council. SLP is asking you to vote for persons that will represent YOU in the Island Council when decisions are being made.

SLP aims for an open application process for the positions of Commissioner. The objective is to appoint the best individuals with the optimum competences to execute the Island Council's decisions. The community of Saba deserves to have a team of leaders in the Island Council and as Commissioners.

A regular statement made by the present government is: *"That's a Kingdom law; we cannot do anything with it."* We think different about that! As soon as something concerns the Saban people, it is our business, Kingdom law or not.

Any law can be changed with an effort and hard work to get it done. We need to influence the National Government by having personal contact with people in The Hague; Ministers and Second and First Chamber members.

We also need to build a relationship with several organizations and people to get them to understand and share our vision for Saba and make positive changes that all Sabans will benefit from.

More communication is needed between the Government and people of Saba. All citizens of Saba should be informed about what is happening on our Island; what rules and decisions are in discussions and what decisions have been made. A good working website, use of social media and information on paper are needed so that everybody has access to all the government information.

All Island Council meetings should be aired by radio or better yet, seen on TV and internet. The government should be open, transparent and informative.

A lot of changes have been implemented since 10-10-10.

- Are we happy with them? No, a lot of the changes are hurting our people.
- What did our government do? They just accepted changes. (Its Kingdom law, remember?)

This has to be changed! Our Kingdom partner has to understand that we will not accept to be dealt with as second class citizens.

Democracy, transparency and governance

The SLP stands for the principles of human dignity, equality and solidarity.

In the public service, transparency must be the norm. Everybody must be able to check on the public administration. All information in administrative documents is, in principle, public.

The response to questions based on the Wet Openbaarheid van Bestuur, must be clear, understandable, quick and complete.

Island Council and Central Committee meetings are public. They must be advertised well in advance, must be aired at least by radio, streamed over the internet and the minutes must be sent to the media without delay.

Changes and new legislation have to be discussed openly and before implementation and publicized timely.

The SLP wants an Island Council that listens to the people and listens to the small entrepreneur.

Development of Saba

The development plan for Saba needs to be a joint effort from both Public and Private sectors.

SLP government will work hand-in-hand with the private sector to ensure growth by expanding Saba's infrastructure such as new roads to open up the people's access to their land.

Growth and development will be carried out in a sustainable manor; long term projects, long term goals, keeping the environment as a priority.

SLP will work to restore prosperity. We will work on building our island into a land of opportunity and help to build up our working class. We are ready to pull our economy out of the rut and put people to work, today and tomorrow.

SLP will:

- Review the local retributions such as the newly introduced garbage collection fee. Not necessarily to cancel them but to make them fair
- Review the necessity of contract workers in government. What exactly are they doing? What does it cost? Do they have Saban counterparts and is it effective?
- Set a priority list to fast track economy transformation projects to deliver self-sustaining prosperity
- Resolve the Captain's Quarters Saga once and for all. The once majestic hotel and it's property should not be left for ruin as it has remained for decades

- Support the development of new resorts and sports activities
- Be instrumental in the development of Giles Quarter/Spring Bay/Mountain road infrastructure; be instrumental in the research for geothermal energy
- Work with the private sector to provide water at an affordable rate

Tourism

SLP will revitalize tourism to provide a wave of quality jobs by:

- Promoting and developing Zip Lining
- Promoting and developing Sport Fishing
- Promoting and developing Golfing
- Promoting Saba as a family friendly destination with diving, hiking, sport fishing, golf and zip lining so Saba can use the slogan: “Something for everyone in your family”.

Agriculture

- We will encourage investments and training on a larger scale agriculture
- We will set goals to be able to produce the majority of vegetables/fruits for the island
- We will support research and development in hydro and aquaponics

Housing

SLP will promote the development of affordable housing.

Housing projects that are built in multiple-unit blocks with shared water/septic systems that reduce costs; that are built for hurricane strength but cost effective and constructed in locations that are easily accessible to reduce costs.

SLP will work on creating the possibility for soft loans.

In other words: affordable housing for our growing population that makes sense and people can actually afford.

Social Saba

The differences between rich and poor on Saba has to be looked into.

SLP believes that more attention should be given to poverty policies. It is important that more attention is given to existing schemes, subsidies and also guidance opportunities for persons with low income.

Too many children go to school on empty stomachs. SLP is willing to invest in projects that teach children to grow their own food at school and out of school. That way no child goes hungry but they also eat healthy.

Care and welfare should be based on solidarity: equal quality care and services must be available to everyone. Current developments undermine this principle. Everyone should always rely on good help. Therefore special attention is needed for the less wealthy.

We want patients, doctors and nurses to have more to say about the care.

Yes, prevention is better than cure and eventually much cheaper. Therefore we want to invest more in prevention by encouraging activities for the elderly and for the youth.

Good care is a human right.

Education

SLP believes in equal education for all students! No student will be left behind!

Parenting must have a prominent place in education and youth policy. All the opportunities that are available to prevent school dropout and early school leaving, must be utilized.

The SLP also wants to see more interaction by government with the students, be it on Saba as well as abroad.

When representatives visit Holland they have to sit exclusively with the students and hear their concerns and get a firsthand look at the living situations abroad.

The SLP will do its utmost to engage students into summer jobs and internships for all levels of education, not only on Saba but also in the ministries and municipalities in Holland.

The SLP will look into the possibilities of scholarships/financial assistance for students wherever the educational institution is located.

Marine Park and Saba Bank

The SLP supports the Marine Park and the service it provides to the Diving Community.

Safe diving is a must and we want to see clear mandates on whom/what organization is responsible for operating and maintaining the Hyperbaric Chamber. It is critical that we provide a safe environment for our current single largest tourist attraction on the island, diving.

The SLP sees the need to protect the Saba Bank fishery and help create new fisheries.

Several Caribbean islands have implemented Lobster/Snapper seasons. It is only a matter of time before those same fishery seasons are implemented on Saba. We need to create new fisheries in order to keep Saba's fishermen jobs safe.

The sport fishing industry is a billion dollar industry and we will together with the local fishermen help promote it through tourism. We have some of the best sport fishing practically at our shoreline.

Taxes

The new tax regime started on January 1st, 2011.

Saba has barely come to terms with all the new tax legislation and still new taxes are being brought forward all too frequently.

Holland wants to raise taxes again and to this SLP says NO.

We need a stop on all tax increases until we can get our fragile economy out of the rut it is in.

Immovable property / Inherited Land

For generations our fathers, grandfathers and forefathers have worked together to acquire land.

Property was passed from one person to another by handwritten agreements. Now what was the norm for generations is under severe threat. New laws have been put in place that makes it all but impossible to prove what you and everybody else know is yours.

We are in jeopardy of losing the lands that all our forefathers worked tirelessly to obtain. This is unacceptable!

SLP will work to help you retain the land that we all know is already yours. SLP believes that no pensioners should be subject to losing their lands simply because they cannot afford the Kadaster fees and the expensive process to prove what is theirs.

We believe that a fund should be in place for pensioners and qualified citizens to use, so that they can confirm the ownership of their land and to be able to pass it on to future generations.

Safety For The People

Safety needs clear understandable legislation but more importantly the enforcement of it. Government has to take care of that legislation with which the Island Governor, the Executive Council and the Police can work with.

We need to see more uniformed officers on the street on a daily bases to inform, to educate and to correct/advise when necessary. The police should visit businesses, schools, youth workers etc. for that same reason and to get to know one other.

The Police should have regular town hall meetings. The Police have to come to the people. They are there to serve.

Culture

SLP will revive the Saban culture. Saba has a lot of culture of which all Sabans should be very proud of.

We have to conserve what we have by teaching our youth about it in school and after school.

Teaching how Saba Lace is done; how Saba spice is made and how to play the steelpan, to name a few.

Living together on Saba

Saba is a melting pot of cultures.

People are living on Saba from all over the world. For everyone there need to be the opportunity to build a dignified existence.

Every form of discrimination has to be rejected!

Principles of the Saba Labour Party

The Saba Labour Party's loyalty is with the people of Saba.

SLP believes that the interests of the people are of the utmost importance at all times and that there should be equality for one and for all.

No one person should believe that they are above the Nation. SLP believes that all elected members of government must serve the interests of the people of Saba at all times.

SLP believes that Government should be for one and all and not for a chosen few.

SLP Objectives

- To create a free and democratic society to ensure and secure continued well-being and welfare for each individual, regardless of color, race, gender, political affiliation or religion
- To stimulate a better and harmonious society, spiritually, socially and economically
- To help develop the material life of the people of Saba
- To properly develop and expand existing economic resources and simultaneously create new ones
- To respect the human rights of all people
- To stimulate, create and develop all forms of cooperation with institutions and countries that share the same views and are striving towards the same goals
- That the people of Saba should be heard on all issues regarding any developments on the island
- That government should become more transparent in all of its dealings on behalf of the community

Mission Of The Saba Labour Party

- Ensure that every citizen has the right of free choice in the political affairs of the island at all times
- Bring about equality in the economic development of the island
- Access for all citizens to an adequate and universally accepted level of social services
- Respect for the rule of law, social norms, orders and discipline
- A dedication to maintain high moral, ethical and religious values and principles in all aspect of our day to day activities.