

# SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TORONTO



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From the Toronto Saints Alumni Association :

## A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

### NEW EXECUTIVES ELECTED IN TORONTO AND BARBADOS

In recent elections, the members of the Alumni Associations of Toronto and Barbados elected new Executives for the 2010/2011 year (Toronto) and the 2010/2012 period (Barbados).

#### TORONTO

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on Sun. 26 Sept., 2010, in the Association's meeting rooms at 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto. The President and representatives of the various sub-committees of the Executive presented reports on the activities of the concluding year, and these reports were passed. Elections were held, and the following were elected to the Executive :

**President** : Errol Chapman

**Vice-President** : Godfrey Whyte

**Secretary** : Paul Archer

**Assistant Secretary** : Marcelline Ramcharran

**Treasurer** : Beverly Vandeyar

**Assistant Treasurer** : Renuka Persaud

**Directors** : Paul Camacho, Hugh Hazlewood, Andrew Insanally, Amanda King, Vibert Lampkin, Shevin Naraine, Albert Smith, Gerry Yaw, Bunty Phillips (*Past President*)

#### BARBADOS

In its Annual General Meeting in November, the Barbados Alumni Association elected the following to their next Executive.

**President** : Kesh Saywack

**Vice-President** : Sean Husain

**Secretary** : Gavin Bovell

**Assistant Secretary** : Kenneth Khan

**Treasurer** : Jeane Forde

**Immediate Past President** : Gavin Ferreira

**Committee Members** : Gerald de Freitas, Clement Derrell, Pat Thompson

### ADDRESS BY TORONTO PRESIDENT AT AGM

The following is part of the report presented by **Errol Chapman**, the out-going President, at the AGM.

"This past year, we have achieved some measure of success in the establishment of better and more frequent communications with the Board of Governors, other Saints Alumni Associations, and some staff at the College. We have also finalized the launch of our new and improved website which appears to have greatly enhanced our ability to access a wider audience.

"Unfortunately, the Association's finances and fund-raising activities have again been adversely affected by the worldwide economic problems. However, in spite of the slow economic improvement, our investments have made almost a 20% recovery over the past year. Also, in spite of other organizations competing for the same patrons at similar functions, we were still able to raise just over \$20,000 from our various fund raising events and to send financial aid to the school of approximately \$22,000 in cash and equipment.

"I wish to thank everyone who graciously volunteered and served on this past year's Executive and especially on the sub-committees. Special thanks to our Treasurer, **Beverly Vandeyar**, and Assistant Secretary, **Paul Archer**. Without everyone's altruistic efforts and hard work, our Association's commitment to aiding our Alma Mater would not be possible.

"I hope that we can continue to do whatever is necessary to help the college regain its former prominence in the education of Guyanese children. However, we need to get other Alumni to join our Association to make it stronger and more vibrant. We should also encourage non-Alumni to join as Associate members and enjoy the benefits of volunteering."

When he was re-elected, the President thanked the alumni for

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## Rendezvous at Timehri

How many times have you tried to get together with folks you know and whose company you enjoy but, for whatever reason, it never happens? You are not alone. It starts with making the commitment, persistent follows-up, nailing down dates, times, places, and people. It takes time and effort, and sometimes it ends in frustrations, and nothing happens, unless a major event or a persistent organizer drives the process along. And then...Bingo...it happens. On 15 October, 2010, a group of SSC students from the 5B class of 1960-61 finally got together. The following is an account of that experience through the eyes of one of the participants.

### The Venue

A reservation was made at the Timehri, not the Airport in Guyana but a restaurant by the same name in the east end of Toronto. It was by no accident that the Timehri was chosen. The menu included all the ethnic dishes which were so much part of our multicultural upbringing, with Curry and Roti being high on the list. Also available on that day was a Buffet lunch which provided even more latitude for a hearty appetite.

### The Motley Crew

A group of boys barely over the age of 60 years, all SSC Graduates of the 1960-61 5B class, except one, started to arrive between 11.15 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. There were feelings of apprehension that their colleagues might not recognize them since some had not seen each other in almost 50 years. Their state of anxiety was totally unfounded. This motley crew arrived, some sporting hair styles not unlike Kojak but without the lollipop, some with hair dyed grey, and others with a mixture of both. Without exception, they all recognized their colleagues, and were very excited about the opportunity to experience this long awaited reunion.

In order of approximate arrival times in the parking lot at Timehri were:

**Michael Mendes-DeFranca:** Alias Fushung Soup, also famous for fixing Teachers' motor cycles.

**Orlando Goveia:** Alias Wild Oats, aka Wonder Boy due to his prowess as an accomplished competitive international cyclist.

**Gregory DeCastro:** Alias Fidel Castro's Imposter, aka Pantalón, also left-handed leg-spinner for SSC Wight Cup Team, whose only claim to fame was to get the one and only wicket for 79 runs against T&HD. (The "buck-sick" still hurts).

**Richard James:** Alias The Vulcanizer, also famous for the unauthorized borrowing of his father's vehicle just to give us a ride to Red Water Creek, located at Atkinson Field Airport (now Timehri).

**Leslie Choo-Wing:** Alias Al Capone, Chewing Gum, aka

Roscoe DeJesus Xavier, the organizer of this event, and a famous Black Pudding and Mauby distributor.

**Vibert Pereira:** Alias Reds, also a famous leather belt surgeon with an uncanny dexterity with a pen-knife.



On the left (l to r) Richard James, Vibert Pereira, Les Choo-Wing, Monty Henson, Raymond I. Pereira.

On the right (r to l) Michael Mendes de Franca, Greg De Castro, Orlando Goveia, Albert Hamilton.

**Monty (Tony) Henson:** Alias Brick Hudson, aka Track & Field Star (100, 220, 440, Hurdles) in his final two years at SSC.

**Albert Hamilton:** Alias George, aka Buck Boy, performed mischief with a disarming smile, often times wrongfully accused.

**RI Pereira:** Alias RI with nuff sisters, great Soccer player in and out of SSC. As a former 5A boy, he attended to keep the peace. (B form boys can be rowdy, as you will see later).

### Buffet Luncheon

After the formality of the greetings and the renewal of old acquaintances, these young fellows were ready to do justice to the Buffet Lunch. We soon began digging into the dishes with reckless abandon. As these men with hearty appetites and tremendous abdominal capacities made trips to the buffet counter, the owner looked visibly shaken. Written all over his face was a man with great concern for his profit margin. For only \$7.00 a person, it was clear to him what damage these new patrons were doing to his credit rating. Thank goodness, with full stomachs we turned our attention to the discussion phase.

### Discussions

It was as if we had all struck our rewind buttons at the same time. Through the canyons of our minds we travelled back in time almost 50 years, retrieving those anecdotes with which we were so familiar from High School days. For several hours we poured out our hearts and souls with no reservations.

**Rendezvous at Timehri** (continued from page 2)

The rectangular table at which the nine of us sat became divided into two discussion groups, and going at it simultaneously. We covered our former classmates and teachers with fond memories. We joked about our Biology Teacher Harold Rampersaud, aka Rampo, alias Elvis of whom we were all very fond. Using a cow's heart, he had captured our attention about the intricacies of the cardio-vascular system. As a matter fact, because of Rampo, Orlando claimed his interest in Biology increased immensely. We discussed the good, the bad, and the ugly of the teaching staff who were there in our time and era. Along with Rampo, we also had fond memories of: Leslie Cummings, Father Earl alias Early Bird, Father Boase aka the Saint, Father Feeney, Louis Campayne, and many others, all men in the good category, some of whom have since passed on. In the bad category, names have been withheld to protect the innocent. We were all having a great time, sharing our experiences until some one mentioned "Hoppy". At the sound of his name we all gazed at each other. Facial expressions ranged across the entire spectrum...The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly all wrapped into one personality.

**Confrontation with Father Hopkinson, the Principal**

His soul rests in peace, but our memories of him still live on. We could not resist discussing one of our famous confrontations with Father Hopkinson, alias Hoppy, the then Principal of SSC. In Upper 4B, there was one student notorious for taking around his books strapped in a leather belt. Upon arrival in class, he would bang his books onto the desk, startling those seated nearest to him. Unknown to the rest of us, a disillusioned student took matters into his own hands. He carefully sliced the belt into pieces and covertly threw the pieces back at him. With a loud outburst, the victim left the class and reported the incident to the Principal.

Shortly thereafter, Hoppy came down to the classroom and notified us of his plan for our detention at the end of the school day. He arrived promptly at 3.00 p.m. and took over the class from Louis Campayne who had the last period of the day. Within minutes of his arrival, he started gathering "forensic" evidence from the students to capture the convict. To add to our humiliation, he ordered two students to sweep up the debris off the floor. Needless to say, his first efforts at intimidation and investigation yielded no conclusive evidence. Hoppy dealt what he thought was his final blow to the Case. He announced: "No one goes home tonight unless the culprit confesses, or some one identifies him". Because poor Hoppy did not understand the adolescent mind, he was oblivious to what he was up against or, perhaps, he was unfamiliar with the Guyanese culture. It is not a good idea to play the game of "Chicken" with teen-aged kids. Five o'clock came and went, and still no confessions. Hoppy decided to ratchet up the pressure one

more notch.

He called in the CID from across the street on Brickdam Road, thus increasing the intimidation factor in the hope of flushing out the culprit. One plain-clothes detective arrived with a grin on his face, and conducted a half-hearted interrogation of the students. However, this strategy did not yield a culprit. It was to no avail. The weapon, a pen-knife, used in the crime was carefully concealed in the shoes of the offender, never to be found. The detective left somewhat amused by the whole incident. Hoppy continued the detention well into the night, and still, no confessions.

It was now after 6.00 p.m. and the students were getting a little agitated with their ordeal. To add insult to injury, an unknown student threw a banana peel at Hoppy, almost hitting him on his head. That was it! Hoppy had had



*Where shall we meet again in 50 years?  
Left to Right : Greg De Castro, Albert Hamilton, Richard James, Monty Henson, Orlando Goveia, Les Choo-Wing*

enough! He got up in a rage, looked at the class, then said: "You will all grow up to become the finest bunch of criminals". With that last comment, he dismissed the class. After that incident, expulsion from our class became common place. Some were deprived from continuing their education, or even from writing their final GCE exams. The above statement made by our principal had a profound effect upon all members of the class of 5B who subsequently graduated between 1960 and 61. It was still visible on their faces.

**Back to Reality**

Four hours had gone by as if time...stood...still...until the waiter walked up to the table and presented us with the bill. Almost in unison we looked at our watches and pondered what had happened to this elapsed time.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The following is the list of alumni who are currently paid-up members in 2010. The names in *italics* are alumni who have paid since the last issue of the newsletter was published.

|                                 |                                |                                       |                                |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>CANADA (142)</b>             | Rupert De Castro <sup>2</sup>  | Desmond Hill <sup>2</sup>             | Cecil Ramraj                   | <b>BERMUDA (1)</b>                   |
| <i>Paul Abdool</i>              | Thomas De Castro               | <i>Ivan Holder</i>                    | Mary Rayman                    | <i>Francis Grenardo</i> <sup>4</sup> |
| Lance Alexander                 | Peter De Freitas               | Andrew Insanally <sup>4</sup>         | Paul Reed                      | <b>BRAZIL (1)</b>                    |
| Terry Angoy <sup>2</sup>        | Andre De Peana                 | Richard James <sup>2</sup>            | Ramon Rego                     | Stephen De Castro <sup>2</sup>       |
| Paul Archer                     | Frank Delph <sup>2</sup>       | Des Jardine <sup>2</sup>              | Joe Reis <sup>3</sup>          | <b>MEXICO (1)</b>                    |
| Bernard Austin <sup>2</sup>     | Vyvyan Deryck                  | Douglas Jardine                       | Romeo Resaul <sup>4</sup>      | Frank Mandal <sup>1</sup>            |
| Arnold Bayley <sup>1</sup>      | Clive Devers                   | Clayton Jeffrey <sup>4</sup>          | Bryan Rodrigues                | <b>TRIN. &amp; TOB. (1)</b>          |
| Gerard Bayley <sup>2</sup>      | Roger Devers <sup>3</sup>      | Aubrey Kellawan                       | Phillip Rodrigues <sup>4</sup> | John Jardim                          |
| Rene Bayley <sup>3</sup>        | Terry Devers <sup>3</sup>      | <i>Amanda King</i>                    | Raphael Rodrigues              | <b>U.K. (4)</b>                      |
| Teddy Boyce                     | Neville Devonish <sup>4</sup>  | John King                             | Jeffrey Rogers <sup>1</sup>    | Christopher Cho-Young <sup>1</sup>   |
| Ian Camacho <sup>5</sup>        | Frederick Dias <sup>2</sup>    | William Lall                          | Dereck Rupnarine               | Richard DeCaires <sup>2</sup>        |
| Paul Camacho <sup>2</sup>       | Ronald Dias                    | Vibert Lampkin <sup>7</sup>           | Brian Sadler                   | Tony Gomes                           |
| Ronald Camacho <sup>1</sup>     | Jerome D'Oliveira              | John Lopes <sup>3</sup>               | Peter St. Aubyn                | Neville Jordan <sup>4</sup>          |
| Wilfred Carr <sup>1</sup>       | Ronald D'Ornellas <sup>1</sup> | Geoffrey Luck <sup>1</sup>            | Maurice Serrao                 | <b>U.S.A. (20)</b>                   |
| Joseph Castanheiro <sup>2</sup> | Terry D'Ornellas               | Fr. Ken Macaulay <sup>1</sup>         | Cecil Seymour                  | Anthony Bollers <sup>2</sup>         |
| Antony Chapman                  | Paul Duarte                    | Dereck Mahangar                       | Desmond Singh                  | Fr. Andrew Chan-a-sue <sup>2</sup>   |
| Errol Chapman                   | Mark Dummett                   | Gerard Martins                        | Albert Smith <sup>3</sup>      | Ronald Chanderbhan <sup>2</sup>      |
| Vernon Chaves <sup>3</sup>      | Carlton Faria <sup>2</sup>     | Herman McCowan <sup>1</sup>           | Winston Sparrock <sup>4</sup>  | Brian Chin <sup>4</sup>              |
| Bob Chee-a-tow                  | David Faria                    | Michael Mendes de Franca <sup>3</sup> | Albert Sweetnam <sup>4</sup>   | Godfrey Chin                         |
| Sydney Chin                     | Joe Faria <sup>8</sup>         | Vincent Mendes de Franca <sup>2</sup> | Michael Teixeira <sup>2</sup>  | Lawrence Correia <sup>3</sup>        |
| Ivan Choo                       | Frank Fernandes <sup>1</sup>   | Richard Miller <sup>4</sup>           | Walter Tiam-fook               | Peter Fernandes <sup>3</sup>         |
| John Choy <sup>1</sup>          | Raymond Fernandes <sup>4</sup> | Perry Mittelholzer <sup>4</sup>       | Beverly Vandeyar               | Bernard Friemann <sup>2</sup>        |
| Diane Christie                  | Mark Fisher                    | Babita Naraine                        | Arthur Veerasammy <sup>4</sup> | Vic Gonsalves <sup>2</sup>           |
| Tony Clarke <sup>4</sup>        | Nigel Fisher                   | Shevin Naraine                        | Ivan Vieira                    | Guy Goveia <sup>4</sup>              |
| Paul Crum-Ewing <sup>2</sup>    | Keith Fletcher <sup>2</sup>    | Stan Niccols                          | Vibert Vieira <sup>3</sup>     | Edward Gouveia <sup>3</sup>          |
| Vivian D'Andrade <sup>2</sup>   | Sonny Francis <sup>2</sup>     | Colin Nurse <sup>1</sup>              | John Vincent <sup>3</sup>      | <i>John Grenardo</i> <sup>4</sup>    |
| Clive Da Silva                  | Leslie Fung <sup>4</sup>       | Anthony O'Dowd <sup>4</sup>           | Howard Welshman <sup>4</sup>   | Michael Heydon <sup>4</sup>          |
| Eddie Da Silva                  | Richard Gomes <sup>2</sup>     | Malcolm Pequenezza <sup>2</sup>       | Godfrey Whyte                  | Kenneth Jordan <sup>6</sup>          |
| Ivor Da Silva <sup>2</sup>      | Trevor Gomes                   | Leslie Pereira <sup>2</sup>           | David Wong <sup>2</sup>        | Carl Marx <sup>1</sup>               |
| Jerry Da Silva                  | Neil Gonsalves <sup>4</sup>    | Desmond Perreira                      | Raymond Wong <sup>4</sup>      | Hugh Rodrigues <sup>1</sup>          |
| Terry De Abreu <sup>3</sup>     | Alfred Goveia                  | Michael Persaud <sup>4</sup>          | Gerry Yaw                      | Keith Seaforth <sup>1</sup>          |
| Tyrone De Abreu <sup>2</sup>    | Orlando Goveia                 | Renuka Persaud                        | Brian Yhap <sup>3</sup>        | Leyland Thomas <sup>1</sup>          |
| Dennis De Cambra                | Ken Hahnfeld <sup>2</sup>      | Bunty Phillips <sup>2</sup>           | John Yip                       | John Van Sluytman                    |
| Hilary De Cambra                | Albert Hamilton <sup>3</sup>   | Carl Ramalho                          | <b>AUSTRALIA (1)</b>           | George Wooming                       |
| Benedict De Castro              | Hugh Hazlewood <sup>3</sup>    | Marcelline Ramcharan                  | Lennox Yhap                    | <b>VENEZUELA (1)</b>                 |
| Gabriel De Castro <sup>3</sup>  | Paul Hazlewood                 | Harold Rampersaud <sup>2</sup>        | <b>BARBADOS (1)</b>            | Michael Chin-a-loy <sup>2</sup>      |
| Gregory De Castro <sup>2</sup>  | Jocelyn Heydorn                |                                       | Geoff De Caires <sup>3</sup>   |                                      |

Of the **173** paid-up members, **133** are renewals from last year.

**Notes :**

1. These (17) alumni have paid in advance through 2011.
2. These (36) alumni have paid in advance through 2012.
3. These (19) alumni have paid in advance through 2013.

4. These (24) alumni have paid in advance through 2014.

5. This (1) alumnus has paid in advance through 2017.

6. This (1) alumnus has paid in advance through 2018.

7. This (1) alumnus has paid in advance through 2019.

8. This (1) alumnus has paid in advance through 2022.

**THE FIRST SAINTS CAMPFIRE – 9 OCT., 2010**

Traditionally, the SSCAAT hosts a summer crab-fest for members of the Association. This year proved a bit challenging for the planning and hosting of this annual event.

The idea of a campfire evening as an alternative started to excite the imagination of Marcelline Ramcharan. She ran her thoughts by Art Veerasammy and, with his suggestion of a venue, circulated the idea among the membership. The early response would have suggested that the idea was going to be a non-event, but Marcelline persisted in soliciting feedback and contributions to the event. As it turned out, we got all the required contributions of food, drinks, and chairs, and it was a hugely successful event. It was the first of its kind for the Association, and the success of the event suggests that we seek to make it an annual event.

When we think of campfire, we think camping, scouts, folksongs, Jumbie stories, a moonlit night, and either warm or cold drinks. This memorable event had all of the above, including a temperature of 9 degrees Celsius. However,

Venezuela wants Essequibo, Surinam wants Berbice, Brazil is invading Demerara, and the Guyanese are taking Toronto and New York. We also had storytelling and poetry reading. Neibert Archer went back to her elocution days



the bonfire and the inviting atmosphere created enough warmth to keep the cheerful vibrant group of 24 warm enough to have a great time full of nostalgic songs and funny, scary stories that had folks alternatively scared, laughing, and 100% having a wonderful, fun-filled and nostalgic evening .

Art Veerasammy got the fire going. Errol Chapman functioned as keeper of the fire, while Maurice Serrão led the singing with his guitar. We sang folksongs like “Small days”, “Hear Auntie Bess”, and so on. The patriotic song “Not a blade a grass” got everyone singing, some at the top of their voices, and stirred discussion among the diaspora gathering about the real Guyanese issues reflected in the lyrics of the song. It was somewhat jokingly noted that

and gave us a rendition of the poem “Ol’ Higue”, while Des Jardine gave us some really interesting stories from his baby and high school days of living on the East Coast Demerara.

Who really knew what an “Ol’ Higue” was? Well, if you were at the campfire, you were sure to leave knowing what an “Ol’ Higue” is and even how to get rid of it! “Jumbie” – who said they don’t exist? After some of the stories at the campfire, everybody was seeing “Jumbie”!

We had a great selection of food and drinks brought by the various attendees. Marcelline’s brainchild turned out to be a real fun evening, celebrating and acknowledging the contributions of the members of the SSCAAT. Whilst the SSCAAT’s mandate is to raise funds for the College, events like this, with no fundraising monies used, help to create togetherness, build relationships outside of the meeting room, provide an opportunity to reminisce on our days and experiences at Saints, and even attract (scare) new members. *(Renuka Persaud and Fitzgerald Yaw)*

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## ALUMNI/AE IN THE NEWS

### WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO.....?

#### Winston Campayne

I left Saints in 1960 with Fr. Malcolm Rodrigues to join the Society of Jesus in England where we were met by Fr. Brian Scannell. Between 1960 and 1965, as a novice at Manresa, London, and as a philosopher student at Heythrop College, Oxfordshire, I was blessed to do two tours at Lourdes as a brancadier (a male volunteer helper), helping the sick in wheelchairs to the Grotto and in processions of the Blessed Sacrament.

Between 1965 and 1968, I returned to Guyana where I taught at St. Paul's Seminary, Better Hope, for two years with Frs. John Bridges and Sydney Boase. I also worked with Fr. Terence Petry at St. Joseph the Worker parish in Linden, McKenzie, and Wismar for a year. During my time in Guyana, I also taught briefly at Saints.

Between 1968 and 1971, I returned to England for my theology studies at Heythrop but, in my second year, the college moved to become part of London University. By then, I had been ordained as a Deacon.

I returned to Guyana in 1971 and was ordained as a priest

by Bishop Richard Lester Guilly. I was assigned to St. Pius Church under Fr. Brian O'Reilly in La Penitence, and also lived at St. Alphonso House, then the Jesuit novitiate. During that period, I completed my fourth year theology under Frs. Jack McCluskey, Bernard Gardner, and Michael Cambell-Johnson. I was appointed Youth Chaplain for the Diocese, Chaplain to St. Joseph High School, Chaplain for the Guyana National Service, and assisted Fr. John Hopkinson in 1974 during a preaching mission to various parishes in Georgetown, the East Coast, and Berbice in preparation for the 1975 Holy Year.

In 1974/1975, I traveled to India to complete my spiritual year of renewal, during which time I gave retreats to Sisters, lived with Blessed Mother Teresa's brothers, met her on a few occasions, and worked at her various centres...the highlight of my journeys!

On my return to Guyana, I was appointed to Sacred Heart Church and then to St. Anthony's Catholic Church. It was from there that I left the Jesuits in 1981 to follow my new vocation of marriage. Alma and I have now been happily married for 29 years.

#### Memories of Fr. Darke

I was a student at Saints in 1972-1977. During that time, Fr. Darke was Maths teacher, photographer, Scout Master, and chief disciplinarian. It was during my time at Saints that the school came under the full control of the Government of Guyana, and it was also the period when girls first started to attend Saints.

Over the entire period I was at Saints, I remember Fr. Darke as a pleasant personality patrolling the school compound with his pipe in his mouth. Sometimes when we had official events at the school, Fr. Darke would have his camera slung over his shoulder in his role as official photographer of the school. Fr. Darke was also the photographer for the "Catholic Standard" which was the newspaper of the Catholic Diocese in Guyana. While I was at Saints, that newspaper was an important alternative source of news for Guyanese at a time when there was heavy handed government censorship of the news available to Guyanese.

I remember, in my Fourth and Fifth Form years for sure and possibly in my earlier years, Fr. Darke ("Darko" to students) as my maths teacher. He got our attention in class because, as I mentioned earlier, he was the school disciplinarian. He helped me get to like Maths by encouraging me to solve many problems.

I remember having a run-in with Fr. Darke in his role as school disciplinarians when I was in Third Form. The event involved a Geography class. I found Geography bor-

ing. Four of us sitting at the back of the Geography class one day somehow got a pack of cards and started playing in the back of the classroom. Mr Roopchand, the Geography teacher, saw us (I don't recall if we were snitched on by classmates). He reported the matter, and the guilty four of us were "sentenced" to six ferulas each. A ferula was a piece of leather shaped like a small lawn tennis racquet. To get a ferula was to be hit in your open palm with this piece of leather. That process produced a deep stinging sensation, and Fr. Darke was the staff member whose duty it was to administer ferulas. You got your ferulas at the end of the school day and slunk off with your hands stinging. It really helped you focus on what was right and wrong. I recall only this one session for ferulas with Fr. Darke.

I left saints in 1977, and Fr. Darke was still on staff. I don't know how long he lived in Guyana but he helped to educate many Guyanese boys and, later, girls. He died in tragic circumstances while serving Guyana. As noted earlier, he was the photographer for the Catholic Standard. In 1979 while taking photos of some political activity on Brickdam outside the school compound, he was brutally stabbed by some thugs. He passed away from the injuries he sustained.

Fr. Darke...mentor to hundreds of Guyanese youths.

*Fitzgerald Yaw*

**FROM THE EDITOR**

Time passes...things change...nothing ever stays the same...all clichés but, nevertheless, all very true. This was brought home to me most forcibly when, in 2005, I visited Guyana for the first time since I had left 46 years earlier. Guyana had changed, mainly for the worse as far as I was concerned.

My primary concern was for the College, but I was greatly disappointed with what I discovered. I shouldn't have been as I had been an active member of the Toronto Alumni Association for some time and had been kept up-to-date with the situation. Perhaps, seeing is truly believing.

I had joined the Toronto Association out of curiosity, but this soon changed to great sorrow about what had become of a fine school which had been the key to my successes in my adult life. I became resolved to help to restore the school to its former glory.

I tried to persuade alumni I knew or met to join me, but this elicited odd answers from some. "The school is not the same as when I attended." or "The priests were too strict so I did not enjoy my schooling." or "I don't have the time."

My replies would be "Yes, the school has changed, but did you not gain something positive from being there? Why would you deny less privileged others from doing likewise?" and "Didn't the order and discipline instilled in you enable you to be a better person later in life" and "Can you not spare an average of an hour or two a week?"

This is the time of year when we think of the less fortunate, especially the children. Let me ask all alumni to look into their hearts and show compassion to those children in Guyana who are suffering through no fault of their own.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*L. A. (Bunty) Phillips*

**ADDRESS BY TORONTO PRESIDENT**

*(continued from page 1)*

their continued faith in him and presented his vision for the Association for the coming year.

"As I promised last year, I will continue to try to address the issue of achieving better attendance at our functions. Also, we are still experiencing difficulty in expanding the membership of our Association. Accordingly, in keeping with the now proposed amendment to the Constitution, I will encourage the Association to vigorously try to persuade non-Alumni to join our Association as Associate members which, among other benefits, will assist us in improving our fund-raising efforts.

"We will continue our now adopted strategy of being more reactive than proactive in our assistance to the needs of the school. Regardless, we will do whatever is necessary to help our Alma Mater to improve for the benefit of its students' education.

"Finally, I wish to impress on everyone here that the Asso-

ciation desperately needs your support as well as the support of many others. I am therefore appealing to you to continue giving your support and to try to enlist the help of as many more people as you can to ensure the continued viability of our Association."

To get the Association rolling along, the President also requested "...the newly elected Secretary to arrange a meeting of the Executive and any other interested members very soon to update our plan of action for the 2010 to 2011 term."

**Rendezvous at Timehri**

*(continued from page 3)*

Now our time machines were on fast forward. We quickly travelled forward 50 years and got back to reality. Of one thing we were certain. This was not a case of kidnappings by Extra Terrestrial Creatures. It was an extremely enjoyable four hours, well spent with close friends who had so much in common to share. After settling up our bills for ginger beer, beers, and the delightful Buffet Lunch, we parted company with great anticipation of the next reunion.

**Epilogue**

Horace Persaud, who is now an Attorney in New York, was a member of this Graduating Class. Although he did not make an exhaustive attempt to track all former members of this class, Horace was able to account for more than half. He discovered the following:

(a) At the time of his enquiry, the majority were: either practicing professionals in Law, Medicine, Accounting, Engineering and other professional fields of endeavour, or held senior positions in the Private and Public Sectors. Some were running their own businesses.

(b) One student was a Captain in the Canadian Air Force.

(c) One student was working for NASA in California.

(d) One student was a Professor of Languages at a University in New York.

(e) As far as Horace was aware, no one had yet seen the inside of a prison, unless he was there as an Administrator or as Legal Counsel for other defendants. However, some did confess to receiving Traffic Tickets for speeding and other traffic violations.

It was almost as if Hoppy had applied reverse psychology. Apparently, these students went out of their way to prove him wrong. If that was indeed Hoppy's intent, then bless his little heart. May he now officially rest in peace!

Where necessary, names were withheld to protect the innocent.

*Written by: Greg DeCastro, a member of that infamous 5B class, with contributions from The Motley Crew, Horace Persaud, and all those innocent souls who suffered their detention in silence to make this story possible. The writer acknowledges that the accuracy of the events might be limited due to aging memory cells and the environment.*

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**COMING EVENTS**

| Date               | Event                      | Location                               | Cost                              |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Sat. 9 Apr., 2011  | Spring 2011 Dinner / Dance | West Rouge Community Centre            | \$40, all inclusive               |
| Sun. 15 May, 2011  | 5 Km. Walk-in-the-Park     | Taylor Creek Park, Area 4              | Refreshments                      |
| Sat. 9 Jul., 2011  | Golf Tournament            | Glen Eagle Golf Club, Hwy 50, Palgrave | \$120, all inclusive              |
| Fri. 29 July, 2011 | Caribjam                   | Thornhill Community Centre             | \$40                              |
| Mon. 1 Aug., 2011  | Last Lap Lime              | Woodbridge Fairgrounds                 | \$15 pre-event<br>\$25 on the day |
| Sat. 15 Oct., 2011 | Fall Dance                 | West Rouge Community Centre            | tba                               |

**Alumni Association Membership Form**

Please complete this portion and return it with a cheque for \$25.00 (Cdn) for 1 year, or \$100.00 (Cdn) for 5 years payable to:

**St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto, 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M1S 1V2**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone (Res.) :** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Bus) :** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amt. enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year graduated:** \_\_\_\_\_