



SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TORONTO
AND THE ST. STANISLAUS COLLEGE (GUYANA) ALUMNI SOCIETY

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Editorial

PLANNING IN TODAY'S ENVIRONMENT

We are now well into the new year of 2023 at the start of which we usually reflect on what has occurred to us in the last year and what are our objectives which we wish to achieve in the new year. The plans to achieve these objectives are not and cannot be immutable as our circumstances can vary without expectation. Also, most often, these plans are not written down but kept in our heads. Finally, the objectives and the plans need to have a modicum of realism in them e.g. a plan to become a millionaire, by the end of the year, when our total assets are less than \$50,000 and our annual net income is \$25,000 is not realistic.

In developing the objectives and plans, we also need to know and understand the main drivers of the past year and what will likely affect us in the new year. While we will consider this from a Canadian perspective, the approach is applicable to whichever country where you live. The main thing to remember that, today, we live in a very, very connected world i.e. there seldom are major national issues which do not have an effect internationally. In Canada, there is a saying that, when the U.S.A. sneezes, Canada catches a cold! We cannot predict what will happen, but we can develop guidelines in what we can do in general circumstances.

In looking at the past (over the last three years), we can say without hesitation or contradiction that the COVID pandemic was the greatest influencer in our lives. In fact, everything up to the current time is a result of it. Today, with access to vaccines and with careful behaviour, we have control of this virus, but it has not gone away. There are still some people suffering from it, and some more will likely catch it, but not in the great numbers as happened early in the pandemic period. The COVID virus is in a class similar to the annual flu virus which tends to circulate during the cold months of the year and for which flu vaccines have been created. These vaccines do not stop the spread but either they stop it from infecting us if we catch it or they make the symptoms very mild and short-lasting. Work is continuing on the COVID virus to produce appropriate vaccines to combat newer variations of the virus as they occur. Therefore, we believe that it will become like the flu virus where updated vaccines will continue to be developed and made available to the populace for their protection. Our plans for our future safety in health must include a resolve to take the newer COVID vaccines as they are made available.

The main government attack against the COVID pandemic was to shut down the economy! Many jobs were lost, but the governments stepped in to compensate financially those who lost their jobs, while other jobs were reformed to minimize contact. In both cases, there was no way to spend

disposable cash, and the banks reported savings to have reached the highest ever experienced. Once COVID seemed to have been controlled and the economy opened up once more, there was a built-up urge to spend the savings, so much so that the demand overwhelmed the supply which itself was affected by a shortage of staffing due to the pandemic. This economic condition normally results in prices going up, and so they did. This is called inflation which means that the cost of living has increased, sometimes beyond the ability of some of the populace to withstand it.

The standard approach to combatting inflation is for the country's central bank (Bank of Canada (BOC) in our case) to use the only tool available in its tool box for this situation i.e. to raise the interest rate until inflation has dropped to a desired level. This makes borrowing more expensive (for both individuals and firms) and curbs start-ups from happening and stops the expansion of existing firms. Disposable cash becomes necessary cash, so demand is reduced and there is an over-supply. To counter this, firms need to cut back their expenses, and the easiest way of doing this is to lay off their no-longer-required staff which action also lowers the demand further. The overall effect is that there is a significant decline in economic activity over several months, and this is called a recession. If it is a major downturn in the economy and it continues too long until it eventually reaches a trough, this is a depression which is really a more severe recession.

When the restrictions, in place for COVID, were finally removed by the end of the first quarter of 2022, the economy came roaring back with an accompanying fast rise in inflation. This was countered by the BOC making several large raises in the interest rate which did have an effect since the inflation rate started to fall, though not as quickly as was hoped for.

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(The following article has been taken (and edited) with permission from the archives of the British Province of the Society of Jesus, London, England.)

Biography of Jesuits at St. Stanislaus College - 27

FR. MALCOLM RODRIGUES

Malcolm Rodrigues was born in Georgetown, Guyana, in 1941. He was a student at the Jesuit school of St. Stanislaus College ("Saints") before leaving for England and the Jesuit Novitiate in 1960. He did the Novitiate and then Philosophy at Heythrop before doing a Master's degree in Physics at Oxford University. He returned to Guyana for Regency, teaching Physics at Corentyne High School in Berbice, and then went for Theology in Mexico where he developed his interest in (and love for) all things Latin American.

He was ordained in 1973 and returned to Guyana to teach Physics – first at Saints but then at the University of Guyana. The political pressures in the 70s and 80s meant that he had to remain in Guyana but, eventually, he did his Tertiarianship in the USA in 1984, and then was appointed Regional Superior, the first Guyanese to hold the office, in 1986. During his period in office, he was also working at the University of Guyana, first as Dean of Science and then as Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University. Having completed his time as Regional Superior and with the return to democratic government, Malcolm was heavily involved in environmental matters, including a series of research projects including the inquiry into the 1995 Omai cyanide spill. The Government of Guyana appointed him a founding Board Member of the (now) world-renowned Iwokrama Forest Project.

In 1998, he was re-appointed as Regional Superior for another 3 years. (It is not a common practice in the Society for a man to be re-appointed in this way). Then, in 2001, he was missioned to the Amerindian village of Karasabai in the South Pakaraimas of the Guyanese interior. Sadly, ill-health (malaria and TB) forced him to a more temperate climate, and he was appointed as parish priest of St. Teresa's in Trinidad in 2004, as part of a Regional formation community being established there. He returned to Guyana in 2007 and was appointed Superior of the Brickdam Community. He worked closely with Fr. Dermot Preston on the transformation of the old CCY buildings into the present Arrupe House, and facilitated the move of the Georgetown community into these new premises.

In 2013, he moved to St. Pius parish to assist in pastoral ministries. Then, in 2014, he moved to Bartica where he was instrumental in the building of a new church.

In 2016, he joined Fr. Marlon Innis and Fr. Amar Bage to re-establish a Jesuit community in Hosororo in the North West District. Here, he became well known for his faithful ministry to the sick and shut-ins, working closely with the Missionary Sisters of Charity.

Sadly, while in the North West, the first signs of Alzheimer's began to appear, and it became necessary for him to return to Georgetown in 2019. His condition deteriorated to the stage where he needed 24-hour care.

On Saturday 19th November, he was admitted to Mercy Hospital ICU with a serious chest infection. At first, he showed signs of responding to treatment but, sadly, gave up the fight and breathed his last on the evening of Sunday 4th December, 2019.

The above skeleton does little to show the importance of Malcolm in the history of the Church in Guyana.

Justice/Advocacy/Elections

Malcolm was recognized as one who stood firmly for justice. He was always ready to speak out to defend the rights of the poor, even at great cost to himself. As a young priest, he became a brave and articulate critic of the dictatorship's gross infringements of human rights in Guyana. Because of the political situation, he became a recognisable leader in the political arena which required a great deal of courage and vocal ability. He encouraged and challenged the Church to become involved in the struggles during the oppression. Like all true prophets, this did not come without persecution, and he suffered threats and harassment for his stand on justice. When the Dictatorship charged him with trumped-up accusations, he ably defended himself in the law courts. On a national stage, he was a significant player in finally bringing about free-and-fair elections in Guyana. In a country where political corruption is often the norm, Malcolm had the reputation among all sections of society as a man of integrity.

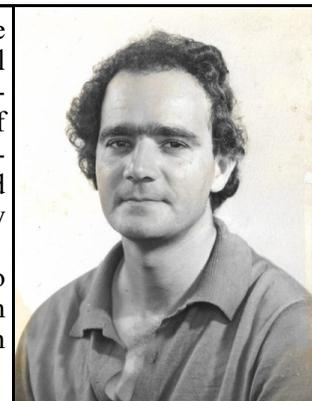
Superior/Leader

Malcolm was the first Guyanese to be appointed Jesuit Superior of the Mission/Region. Among the Jesuits, he was a respected leader whose judgements were sound. He generously shared the wealth of wisdom and experience with those who came after him in office of Regional Superior.

Guyanese

Malcolm exhibited a superb understanding for the lives of people and families of all races, classes, and religious groups. Many people turned to him for help, and their requests were rarely denied. Indeed, Malcolm would often go to extraordinary lengths to assist those in need. People found him affable and ready to listen while realizing that he was ready to confront them when this was necessary. Anyone who is anyone in Guyana knew Malcolm and, even if they disagreed with him, they respected him. He supported local cultural institutions and organizations as diverse as art exhibitions and ecology.

Malcolm was recognized as an independent authority in many areas of public life in Guyana — the university and high schools, the labour unions,



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Fr. Malcolm Rodrigues *(continued from page 2)* and NGOs. He moved comfortably in all circles, be they religious, political, civil, or academic. He was highly respected as one who stood for the truth with no element of self-seeking.

Apostolic

He was an excellent pedagogue and a popular one. He was a hard worker who did not spare himself. Whatever his formal ‘work’, he kept up a constant programme of priestly activity - convent masses, weddings, funerals, hospital visits, etc. - and showed a particular interest in the welfare of patients and prisoners. For the latter, at least three Amerindian men owe their liberty to the fact that Malcolm was prepared to find them, lost and forgotten in Georgetown Prison, and painstakingly arrange legal representation for them. He was a compassionate man. As a Regional Superior, he was always very encouraging of the work in the interior and played a useful role on the three-month laymen

formation Seminars. His enthusiasm for the interior mission was infectious, and he encouraged many people to visit the interior and see the work. When based in Georgetown, he was of invaluable service, co-ordinating, communicating, shopping, and organizing support for the interior locations. The people of Karasabai remember Malcolm with particular affection since he was the first priest to live in the community.

Personality

Malcolm had a real gift for optimism and cheerfulness - when everything seemed to be falling apart, Malcolm was able to put a positive spin on things. He was always a cheerful Superior and a ready listener and able to find ways of keeping community or Regional meetings upbeat and cheerful. Fr Bob Barrow, himself a great Jesuit, said of Fr. Malcolm “It is a strong claim, but Malcolm has probably had a more positive effect in the lives of Guyanese than any other Jesuit in the history of the Region”.

OBITUARIES

Alumnus (68-72) Roderick Fisher died on 3 November, 2022, in Ontario, Canada.

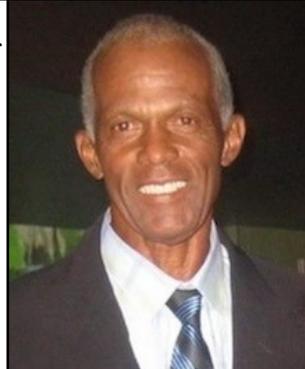
Rita Mendes de Franca (née Duarte) passed away on Tuesday, 7 March, 2023, at Amica Unionville Retirement Home at the age of 84. She was the wife of **the late alumnus (49-54) Vincent Mendes de Franca**, and the mother of Susan Mendes de Franca (John Carruthers), Debra Mendes de Franca Poirier (Marc Poirier), Mary Mendes de Franca (Steve Maxwell), Diane Mendes de Franca (John Baldassarra) and Vincent Mendes de Franca (Susan Arthur).

She was a loving and beloved grandma to sixteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, and a much-loved auntie to 42 nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, Vincent, her father, John Edward, her mother, Helen, and her brother, John (Fanzia).

She is survived by her sister, Mona (Flavio, deceased), and brothers, Desmond (Barbra), Gerard, **alumnus (54-59) Paul Duarte** (Marcia), Martin (Shira), and Anthony (Astrid).

(Amanda) of Sulphur Springs, and Roger Sancho (Nicolette) of California; grandchildren, Wendell Sancho, Jr., Bria Sancho, Jeramiah Dias, Alexa Dias, Sophie LaRue; sisters, Dorothy Cumberbatch and Marjorie Minns.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Cyril and Inez Sancho; son, Wendell Sancho, Sr.; brothers, Rudolph, William, Edgar, Ralph; sisters, Velma, Muriel; mother in law, Kathleen; and niece, Yvonne.

A few years ago, he was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease, but the diagnosis was changed later to Parkinson’s with Lewy Body Dementia. He was fine one day, and then it went downhill suddenly and permanently, leaving him bedridden. He was given 48 hrs to live but lived for 34 more days

“Doc” was born 10 June, 1940, in San Fernando, Trinidad, to Cyril McDonald and Inez Sancho, and married Angela Dias on 15 July, 1988, in Georgetown, Guyana. He earned his Doctorate degree in Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in 1966 and was a retired Veterinarian. He was also a farmer and rancher, and he loved breeding and raising his Santa Gertrudis cattle.

Alumnus (54-59) Victor “Doc” Sancho DVM, age 82, died on Saturday, 28 January, 2023, at his residence in Sulphur Springs, Texas, U.S.A. He is survived by his loving wife, Angela; daughters, Margaret Sancho (John) of Virginia, and Lisa Dias of Sulphur Springs; sons, Ramon Dias

Planning in Today’s Environment

(Continued from page 1)

Surprisingly and contrary to expectations, the economy has continued to boom, not decrease. However, the BOC seems reluctant to implement more interest rate raises and will probably stand pat if inflation continues to decrease steadily, even if only by small decrements.

As the consumer, we have no control over the situation, but we can react to it as best as we can and in such a way that we do not have a negative impact on it. For the time being,

we should buy only that which we truly need (not necessarily what we want) and buy the lowest price substitute where available. As well, we can cut back on the quantity so as to reduce demand, bringing this back to the level of supply available which causes the price to fall and a decrease in inflation.

Of more recent concern is the stability of the banking system. In the U.S.A., the second largest American bank failure occurred when Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) crashed. The bank catered heavily to the

REMEMBERING MICHAEL HEYDON

It seems like forever since I've known Michael Heydon. Before I was 10 years old, we were in the same Scholarship group at St. Mary's R.C. Primary School (aka Brickdam School), studying to take the County Scholarship Exam for entry into secondary school. In June/July (I can't remember which month) 1950, we were scheduled to take the Exam and, on the Friday before the Exam on the following Monday, we were given "passes" to allow us to enter the Exam room and sit the exam. Then, the Headmistress, Sr. Ursula, told us to go across the street to the Brickdam cathedral to pray for our success in the exam. I did so by myself but, when I returned to the school, there was a big commotion as Mike had lost his pass, and everyone was frantically looking for it. All the desks, book-bags, school books, etc., were being searched and, when they reached my books, lo and behold, both my pass and Mike's pass were found together! To this day, I do not know how that happened but, fortunately, disaster had been averted!

Outside of school, I would go occasionally to Mike's house which was on the west side of Bourda St., opposite the Bourda Cemetery, between Charlotte and Regent Sts. They lived in a flat above a store. They later moved to a house on South Road between Camp and Alexander Sts., but nearer to Alexander St. This was better for me as I lived on Brickdam St., one block south of South Road and near to the north/south road which connected to Alexander St. I believed that Mike's father worked at a men's clothing store on the west side of Camp St., just north of Charlotte St.

From our Brickdam school group, Joe Castanheiro, Raymond Farnum, Mike, George Pereira, and I ended up in the same Form (2nd) at Saints in September 1950. Sometime in his time at Saints, Mike acquired the nickname of "Speedy", but why has been lost in the mists of my memory. He did turn out to be a good 880 yd. runner, but that hardly qualified him for the sobriquet.

Mike also played cricket and eventually made the 1st XI as a right-arm spin bowler, following in the footsteps of the former Saints captain, Tony Clark. Early in September, 1958, Saints was scheduled to play Queens in a Jacob Cup match at the EICC ground on Camp St. by the sea-wall. At that time, I no longer was registered as a student at Saints as I was waiting for a plane at the end of the month to take Guianese students to UCWI in Jamaica. Saints was required to provide an official scorer at the match and, as I was available, Fr. Lynch ("Jiggs") asked me to fill the post. Again, the cobwebs are firmly in place and I do not remember the result of the match. However, I do remember writing a commentary of the match which, I believe, I shared with the team and Fr. Lynch. I also remember commenting on Mike's performance with the bat. He would make a couple of hops out of the crease down the pitch as the bowler was about to deliver the ball. The bowler would see this and make a last-minute adjustment to his selection of his delivery. Mike would then hastily hop back into his crease, but would be unable to make a good attacking

shot. I passed on my comments to Mike during the match but, not unexpectedly, they made no difference!

Mike had entered Saints on a St. Stanislaus College Scholarship, and our class-mate, Steven DeCastro, had done so on a Special Private Scholarship. When we reached 5th Form where we all were scheduled to take the Oxford and Cambridge Ordinary (O) level exams, Fr. Scannell (the Headmaster) informed Mike and Steve that their scholarships would not pay for studies in the 6th Form where we would need to take the London Advanced (A) level exams in preparation for entry into University. However, there seemed to be scholarships offered for these studies for students who were successful at the Cambridge Certificate exams which had been superseded by the O level exams. Since both Mike and Steve were likely candidates for 6th Form, they both had to register for the Cambridge exams which meant that not only were they scheduled to take two sets of exams at the school year-end but they also had to teach themselves History and Geography, two subjects which they had dropped on entering 5th Form! Not surprisingly, they both failed these two subjects but seemed to have done well enough in the other subjects to obtain scholarships to continue into 6th Form. Both became part of the first group of Saints students who were able to take 6th Form science in the newly constructed labs in the bottom of the "new" wing (now known as the Scannell wing).



Initial First (A) and Second (B) 6th Form Science Students

Back row (left to right): Angus Zitman (B), Ronald Camacho (B), Steven DeCastro (A), David Menezes (A), Bunty Phillips (A), Pat Derrell (B), Mike Heydon (A)

Middle row: Cosmas Searwar (A), John Sparrock (A), Fr. Feeney, John Choy (A), Michael Camacho (A)

Front row: John Yip (B), Winston Gomes (B), Freddie Campayne (B), Malcolm Chan-a-sue (B)

Mike and I were together for 8 years in the same Form through to 6th Form after which I left to go to UCWI. Mike stayed another year at Saints as a Teacher and then, with another classmate Pat Derrell, went on to UCWI, both sponsored by Government scholarships

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MEMBERSHIP

The following is the list of alumni who are currently paid-up members in 2023. Membership is based on the calendar year.

CANADA (80)

Paul Abdool¹
Howard Amo¹
Alwyn Appiah²
Glen Armogan⁴
Bernard Austin¹
Malcolm Barrington
Michael Barrington³
Gerard Bayley (*dec*)
John Rene Bayley¹
Teddy Boyce³
Ian Camacho²
Paul Camacho
Alfred Carr⁷
Wilfred Carr
Joseph Castanheiro⁴
Sydney Chin
Gerry Chin-sam²
Ivan Choo¹
Tony Clarke⁷
Paul Crum-ewing³
Richard DaCosta³
Edward DaSilva¹
Derek D'Andrade⁴
Terry DeAbreu¹
Tyrone DeAbreu
Gregory DeCastro¹
Rupert DeCastro⁴

Andre DePeana²
Raymond Dias³
Jerome D'Oliveira
Joe Faria⁴
Keith Fletcher²
Andre Fredricks⁴
Darwin Fung⁵
James Fung²
Mike Gomes
Richard Gomes³
Harold Gonsalves¹
J. Neil Gonsalves
Ken Hahnfeld¹
Albert Hamilton²
Hugh Hazlewood
Paul Hazlewood¹
Monty Henson²
Desmond Hill
Andrew Insanally¹
Richard James³
Desmond Jardine
Clayton Jeffery¹
Anthony Jekir
Gregory Kellawan
Vibert Lampkin¹
John Lopes²
Michael Mendes de Franca

Colin Nurse²
Anthony O'Dowd¹
Michael Persaud¹
Renuka Persaud
Compton Pestano²
L. A. Phillips⁴
Linden Ramdeholl¹
Romeo Resaul
Savitri Seenauth¹
Robin Shaw¹
Michael Singh
Albert Smith³
Vanita Soman
Akisha Somrah
Cecil Subryan³
Albert Sweetnam¹
Michael Texeira²
Arthur Veerasammy
Vibert Vieira
Paul Vincent¹
Howard Welshman
Godfrey Whyte
David Wong
Brian Yhap²
John Yip¹
Angus Zitman²

AUSTRALIA (1)

Lennox Yhap¹
BRAZIL (1)
Stephen DeCastro
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (1)
Deep Ford²
TRINIDAD (3)
Richard Harford
Ronald Harford
P. I. Gomes⁴

U.K. (6)

John DaCosta²
Julio Faria²
Leyland Grant²
Neville Jordan¹
Charles Kennard¹
Raymond Pancham²
U.S.A. (30)
Clydewyn Anthony³
Mark Anthony³
Mark E. Anthony³
Wayne Austin³
Lloyd Barker³

Satynanand Bhagrattee
Stephen Budhu³
Rev. Andrew Chan-a-sue²
Ronald Chanderbhan¹
Dalip Etwaroo¹
Bernard Friemann¹
Trevor Gibbs³
Edward Gouveia¹
Philip Greathead¹
Leyland Hazlewood³
Michael Heydon² (*dec*)
Edward Isaacs³
Wilfred Jack²
Jolyon King⁵
Nevrindra Mangru³
Christopher Martin³
Carlyle Moore²
Godfrey Nurse²
Hugh Christopher Patrick³
Horace Persaud³
Hugh Rodrigues⁴
Peter Rodrigues⁴
Richard F. Rodrigues⁴
John Sparrock
Jolyon Williams³

There are 123 paid-up members. (*dec - deceased*)

Notes :

1. These (30) alumni have paid in advance through 2024.
2. These (24) alumni have paid in advance through 2025.
3. These (24) alumni have paid in advance through 2026.

4. These (11) alumni have paid in advance through 2027.
5. These (2) alumni have paid in advance through 2028.
6. These (2) alumni have paid in advance through 2029.

SPECIAL NOTICE ON MEMBERSHIP

Membership is paid by calendar year i.e. January to December. Therefore, membership for 2022 expired on 31st December, 2022. If your name no longer appears in the above list, please submit your membership fees as soon as possible. See page 8 for the membership form and address, or pay electronically at www.torontosaints.com.

We remind you that the fee is \$25 (Can) per year but, if you pay \$100 (Can) for 4 years, you will receive an extra year for no further charge. Selecting the multiple year membership will mean that you will not need to worry about having to remember to pay the fees for the next five years.

THE COLLEGE AND ITS PATRON SAINT

The Feast Day of St. Stanislaus Kostka, after whom the College is named, is 13th November. We plan to honour him and the College on that day but, as it is on a Monday this year, we will do so on Sat. 11th November. We will start with a Mass at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church on Sheppard Ave. E. (just West of Bayview), followed by a "meet and greet" session with refreshments in the Church Hall immediately afterwards. More details will be forthcoming as the date draws nearer. Reserve this date on your calendar for this event.

Arthur Veerasammy (Alumnus)

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BLASTS FROM THE PAST
 (Thanks to Alumnus (42-47) Ken Corsbie)

It's a plane, it's a bird, it's ???



It's Ken Corsbie participating in the High Jump in the College's Athletics competition at the GCC ground. He had read an article, "*Science of Athletics*", by Harold Abrams, the English athlete who was the Olympic champion in 1924 in the 100 metres sprint, a feat depicted in the 1981 film, *Chariots of Fire*. The article included this new technique, the Western Roll, for the High Jump. Monkey see, monkey do!



Harrison Dillard was an American track and field athlete, who is the only male in the history of the Olympic Games

to win gold in both the 100 metres and the 110 metres hurdles in 1948, making him the "World's Fastest Man" at that time.

Dillard visited Guyana, and a hurdles race was arranged against Guyana's best which included Ken Corsbie at that time. It really was no competition with Dillard winning easily, but our fearless Ken managed to place second, and Leslie Chin ended up in third place.



In later years after having left the College, Ken would turn up at the annual College Sports Day, usually held at the GCC ground.

There was always a feature event for the Old Boys in attendance, a 220 yds. sprint race. This distance was really more than enough for the out-of-shape competitors who would be huffing-and-puffing as they finally managed to cross the finish line. Not so for our intrepid Ken who usually would end up as the winner!

One year after winning the race for the fifth successive time, one of the officials came up to him and quietly asked him not to run again the next year so as to give somebody else a chance to win!



On the left, Ken Corsbie in action!

Remembering Michael Heydon *(Continued from page 4)*
with the understanding that they would return to teach for 5 years after completing their degrees.

Terry DaSilva, a close friend who was in the Form behind me and who also travelled to UCWI with Mike on the same aeroplane, has recounted a story of that flight. They were seated together and were discussing what they would do if they could afford it. According to Terry, Mike said: "If I had a lot of money....like \$10....!". Well, in those days, \$10 was a lot of money!

At UCWI, Mike and Terry joined me and a group of Saints alumni who lived in Taylor Hall over the years... Joe Ajodhia, Ron Camacho, Freddie Campagne, John Choy, Pat (Clement) Derrell, Leyland Grant, Dennis Lee, John Sparrock are names I can remember. Alumni Tony Clark and Harold Rampersaud were in Chancellor Hall, and Hilari D'Aguiar and Johnny Yip were in Irvine Hall.

Leyland Grant remembers having a lot of contact with Mike as they lived only a few doors apart on Block A in Taylor Hall. They also spent time together in the gym, lifting weights, joined by both John Sparrock and (occasionally) me! Perhaps the most impressive characteristic of Mike which we all remember from our days at UCWI was his guitar playing. It seems that, at Saints, he was a great fan of Elvis Presley, so he decided to learn to play and was given some lessons by one of the Melville boys (from Rupununi) who were at Saints. At UCWI, he continued to teach himself to the extent that he became a very competent classical guitarist, and Leyland also remembers spending many an hour listening to him play in his 'yard'. Mike also became a "teacher", giving lessons to Joe Ajodhia. The two of them played a lot of Kingston Trio and Everly Brothers songs on their guitars, singing harmony together. They also spent hours listening to Joe's Franz Liszt and Chopin LPs. He really loved music.

In the summer of 1962, Mike and Joe "lodged and boarded" at his then girlfriend's parents' home in Kingston. She was a medical student and had her LRSM in music, so she tried to teach them to read music and to play the piano. Mike seemed to have the aptitude for music and learnt a lot fast.

After graduating from UCWI, Mike took his music degree in Jamaica at a well known college not far from the university campus and then, with Joe, spent the summer of '63 in Toronto! He never did return to Guyana to teach!

Mike decided to study Radiology, so went on to London, England. There, he met up again with Leyland Grant and Harold Sparrock (John's brother), and was in phone contact with John Sparrock. It seems that Harold worked with British Telecom and used his perks to keep in touch with Mike even after Mike had left the UK. After receiving his PhD, John returned to Jamaica and continued to hear about Mike through his brother, and it continued this way even after John ended up in the New Jersey and Mike ended up in Florida.

From here on, things get a little fuzzy as we all had gone our separate ways after graduation. Mike eventually re-

turned to UCWI where he worked at the UCWI teaching hospital in the Radiology department. Sometime later, he moved to the San Jose area, just south of San Francisco in California.

One year (in the early 80s, I think), in my work in Toronto, I was scheduled to attend a computer convention in San Francisco. At Saints, I had known alumnus Trevor Newman, and my family knew his family, some of whom were living in Toronto. I had enquired about Trevor (his older brother and alumnus, Desmond, had been the Mayor of Whitby for many years), and I found out that Trevor had lived in Toronto for a short time but had since moved to Sacramento in California. I obtained his address and planned to look him up during my visit to Frisco. Somehow, during my search for Trevor, I found out that Mike was in San Jose, and I even obtained his address and phone number! I just can't remember how I obtained this information!

The convention was scheduled for Sunday to Friday, but I took some vacation time and went early, on the preceding Wednesday, as I wanted to see the city and the area. I rented a car and drove around the area outside of Frisco. I phoned Mike and he invited me to come to his place for dinner. I told him that, while I had a car, it might be difficult to find his place at night, so he gave me directions to a site which I should be able to find just outside of San Jose, and he would meet me there. I did as he said, and I did find the site and met him. His younger brother was with him, and I left my car at the site and joined them in his, and he took us back to his house. I met his wife, Zobeida, and we had dinner and then indulged in a long post-dinner catch-up session. He mentioned that he wanted to move to somewhere warmer than Northern California, possibly Florida, so I told him to let me know after he had moved. I kept in contact with him, and he let me know when he had moved to Old Town in Northern Florida.

Over the years, I would send him a Christmas card, and he would phone me early in the new year. Recently, I had not heard from him since the COVID virus started, even though I still sent him a card. I did not know what difficulties he was experiencing, so I left it to him to contact me. In the meantime, Johnny Yip and Joe Ajodhia asked me for his contact information, and they managed to talk to him, and everything seemed to be normal, except that Zobeida wanted to move to the Orlando area as she had family there. I gather that Zobeida would travel often to Orlando to see her family and leave Mike to fend for himself at those times.

This year, I decided to contact Mike, and I tried several times over the first two weeks in January, but never could get an answer. Finally, on Thursday 11th January, I got through and Zobeida answered the phone. I asked to speak to Mike, and she said that he was ill and could not come to the phone. I explained who I was, and she immediately knew who I was. She then broke the news to me.

In an emotionally affected voice, she said that Mike was very seriously ill, having developed

Continued on page 8

Remembering Michael Heydon *(Continued from page 7)*

prostate cancer which had metastasized i.e. spread to other parts of his body. It seems that Mike had contracted prostate cancer first in 2011 but, with treatment, it had gone into remission. During the COVID outbreak, he had surgery on his hip and neck, and those surgeries were very successful. However, with the reoccurrence and spread of the cancer in 2022, he had decided that any future treatment would be of no help and had rejected any further medical treatment. In a tremulous voice, she said that she believed that it was now just a matter of days!

She then asked Mike if he wanted to talk to me, and she handed him the phone. I had a brief talk with him, and his voice sounded fairly normal. He asked me to make his condition known to his friends. However, he eventually said he has lost a lot of energy and tires easily, so we concluded the conversation. I asked Zobeida to keep me informed about his condition.

I gave Joe Ajodhia the news, and he mentioned that he last had spoken to Mike a year ago at which time Mike seemed very depressed but did not mention the cancer. He phoned Mike who seemed to be feeling better at this time, and they had a good ten minutes conversation, laughing as they recalled some fun times they had at UCWI and also his cricket adventures at Saints, though he confessed he was not a very good cricketer. Mike then got tired and had to return to his bed. Joe then talked to Zobeida who explained that Mike was now in hospice care at home which was helpful

as, though she was getting some help from her sister, she was feeling the strain of it all and was struggling to keep her composure at times. She was glad that Joe had called and got Mike to talk about some 'old time stories' since he spends most of his time in bed.

About two weeks later, Joe received a phone call from Zobeida (she couldn't find my phone number) to say that Mike had passed away on Saturday 28th January, 2023. He has left behind not only his wife, Zobeida, but also three daughters (from his first wife) who did manage to visit him during his final illness.

Later in the following week (after having let a "decent" interval pass to let Zobeida settle the necessary arrangements), I phoned Zobeida who picked up the phone immediately without it having rung at all. It seems that she had found my phone number and had just picked it up to call me! I offered her my sympathy and condolences, and she said that Mike had not wanted any fuss about a funeral, so there would be none. Before I hung off, I promised to send her a copy of this newsletter with the reminiscences of Mike in it.

Please remember Mike and all those whom he has left behind in your prayers.

Requiescat in pace.

Bunty Phillips

(Thanks to Joe Ajodhia, Steven DeCastro, Pat Derrell, Leyland Grant, and John Sparrock who contributed to this remembrance.)

Planning in Today's Environment

(Continued from page 3)

entrepreneurial tech industry and received a lot of cash from high-flying start-ups. It kept a small amount in cash, and invested the rest in long-term debt by buying Treasury bonds which promised steady and modest returns when interest rates remained low. However, the economy became over-heated with the pandemic stimulus funds after the pandemic came under control, with resulting rapid inflation. To combat this, the Federal Reserve started raising the interest rate, with the result that the low yield bonds became unattractive. At the same time, funding for technology start-ups became hard to get, and these firms had to withdraw their deposits to stay in business. To provide this cash, the bank was forced to sell the low yield bonds at a deep discount, causing the bank to run out of money and to be shut down by the federal regulators.

Right on the heels of the SVB predicament, the third largest American bank failure occurred when Signature Bank in New York also crashed. This bank was highly involved with cryptocurrencies the depositors of which got spooked by the collapse of SVB and started a run on their deposits in the bank, causing prompt action from the regulators.

From a Canadian perspective, the panic in the U.S.A. should not have a major effect, if any at all, on the Canadian banking industry. South of the border, the banking industry falls under the jurisdiction of the State Government, not the Federal Government, and the regulations can vary from State to State. Hence, there tends to be a lot of small

local banks catering to their own small communities. As well, banks can be opened and be totally owned by an individual. This tends to lead to a higher probability of bank failures with little impact outside of their home State.

In Canada, the banking industry falls under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government with one set of very stringent rules throughout the whole country. The banks are larger and fewer, and can easily withstand adverse conditions. Canadian banks cannot be totally owned by one individual, and no person or corporation (which, legally, is considered to be a person) can own more than 10% of a bank. They do operate in the U.S.A. through wholly owned stand-alone subsidiaries which can take advantage of any relief offered by the American regulators.

The Canadian banking industry is one of the most (if not the most) stable banking industry in the world, and we can develop any plans, where they must be included, without any fear of losing money from their collapse. The last time a Canadian Bank collapsed was in 1996 when the small Calgary-based financial firm, Security Home Mortgage Corporation failed but, since it was a member of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation, its 2,600 customers with eligible deposits of up to \$60,000 were reimbursed. Between 2008 and 2012, 465 banks closed in the U.S. A., while none occurred in Canada. Before 1996, the last Canadian bank to close occurred in the early 20th century!

In summary, the key to developing any plan is understand what can possibly affect it and to do the appropriate research to avoid any negative situations.

COLLEGE NOTES

CHANGE IN BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The College's Board of Governors has announced that the honorary Secretary, Nicole Bowen, has resigned, and her position has been filled by barrister Ms. Jimelle Joseph.



Left:

Mr. Chris Fernandes, Chairman of the College Board of Governors, presents Nicole Bowen with a parting gift of thanks

Right:

Barrister Ms. Jimelle Joseph, incoming Secretary of the College's Board of Governors.



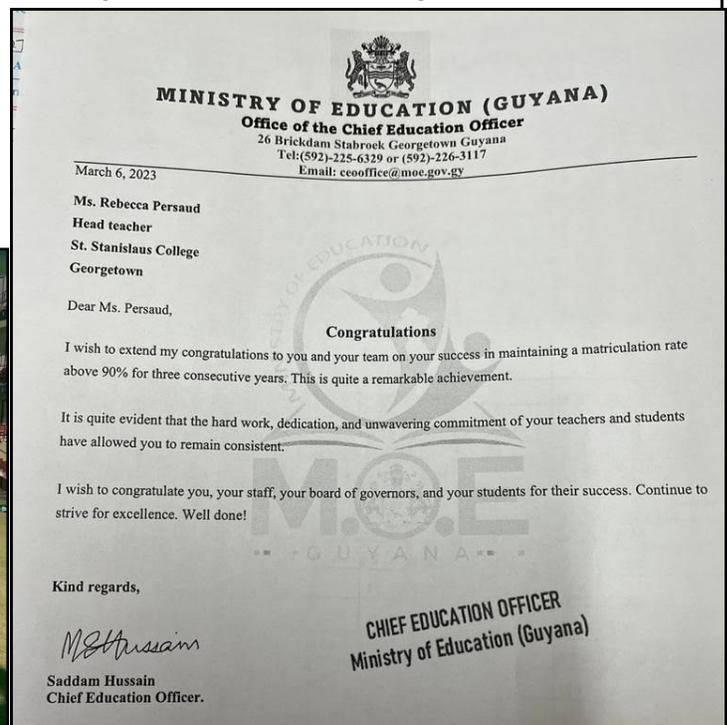
SAINTS HOCKEY TEAM WINS TOURNAMENT

In a one-day hockey festival competition held at the Stadium, the College entered a team of male students, all under the age of 19, which proceeded to win the tournament in spite of having to compete against 11 men's teams comprised of the best senior club teams in the country. Congratulations go out to the team and the College in this major achievement. To those "of a certain age", it will bring back memories of a time when the College regularly produced alumni who became members of the country's national teams. **WELL DONE!**



MOE CONGRATULATES COLLEGE

The Ministry of Education (MOE) has extended to the College Board of Education, the Head, and the teaching staff its congratulations on maintaining a matriculation rate of



THE LIVING END

The funniest thing I heard an elder say: "My generation had Wonder Woman. Your generation has to wonder if it's a woman!"

Get some roosters for eggs, and raise some bulls for milk! Then, you will see that gender matters.....especially at milking time!

We are living in a generation which would unplug your life support system just to charge their cell phone.

"The longer I live, the more convinced I am that this planet is being used by other planets as a lunatic asylum!"
George Bernard Shaw

I see people my age out there climbing mountains and zip lining and, here I am, feeling good because I got my leg through my underwear without losing my balance!

Being white doesn't make you a racist, and being black doesn't make you a slave. Being an idiot, however, comes in both colours!

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St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto, founded in 1993, is devoted to making St. Stanislaus College the best educational institution in Guyana. It provides financial aid and other aid to the college, which was founded by Fr. Langton S. J. in 1866. Formerly run by the Jesuit Order of Catholic Priests, the school was taken over by the Government in 1976, with Government-appointed teachers replacing the clergy in 1980.

Saints News & Views publishes four issues each year. The articles published represent the opinions of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher.

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Contact Us

The Association welcomes your feedback. Please direct your comments, enquiries, or articles you would like published to :

The Editor, St. Stanislaus College (Guyana) Alumni Society, 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario M1S 1V2.

You also may contact the Editor, Bunty Phillips, by e-mail at lpPhillips@st-stanislaus-gy.com

COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Cost
Sat. 23 Apr., 2023	Spring Dance	West Rouge Community Centre 270 Rouge Hill Drive, Toronto (Hwy 401/Hwy 2/Port Union Road)	\$60 per person (all inclusive—includes dinner and all drinks)
Sat. 9 Jul., 2023	Golf Event	<i>tba</i>	<i>tba</i>
Fri. 29 Jul., 2023	Caribjam	<i>tba</i>	<i>tba</i>
Sat. 15 Oct., 2023	Fall Dance (Dinner: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)	West Rouge Community Centre 270 Rouge Hill Drive, Toronto (Hwy 401/Hwy 2/Port Union Road)	<i>tba</i>
Sat. 31 Dec., 2023	New Year's Eve Gala	Scarborough Convention Centre 20 Torham Place, Scarborough	<i>tba</i>

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