

# SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. STANISLAUS  
COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TORONTO



Volume 12, Issue 2 June 23, 2006

On the Web at:  
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## Saints Alumni Association Formed in Antigua and Barbuda

*Our congratulations go out to alumni in Antigua and Barbuda for taking the bold step to launch an Alumni Association in Antigua. We are now a family of four, with other Associations located in Guyana, Barbados and Toronto. The Toronto Association welcomes this most recent family member and stands ready to help so that together we can "Keep the Traditions Alive".*

Robin Shaw, an active member of the Toronto Chapter, recently returned to St. John's, Antigua, to take up an appointment with the Royal Bank of Canada. Prior to leaving Toronto, he consulted with Rupert DeCastro, Roger Devers, and Joseph Reis regarding the merits of setting up a Saints Antigua Chapter.

He located and hooked up with some old Saints guys and gals, and a bit of lobbying was done. Robin sought guidance and counsel from the Toronto Chapter and, with their suggestions and his input, the framework and basic constitution was in hand. A few phone calls, lots of interest and enthusiasm, some rum, many cold beers and, two meetings later, the St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Antigua & Barbuda was officially inaugurated on 12 April 2006.

The members thus far are Robin Shaw (President), Dean Whitehead (Secretary), Paul DaSilva (Vice President), Bill McDavid (Treasurer), Farrah Cheong (Asst. Sec./Treas.), Chris Cameron, Frank DeAbreu, Albert D'Ornellas, Abe Reis, Bobby Reis, Keith Thompson, Marcel Butler, and Niecea Bagot. Unable to attend were Stephen Camacho, Mike Collins, Peter Park, and Ken Fisher.

Being in its fledgling stage, the Association has nothing planned as yet, but an enjoyable time was had by all at the inaugural meeting, reminiscing over bygone days, and looking forward to monthly get-togethers and, seeking in time, to make a meaningful contribution to the benefit of the College.

*Robin Shaw*

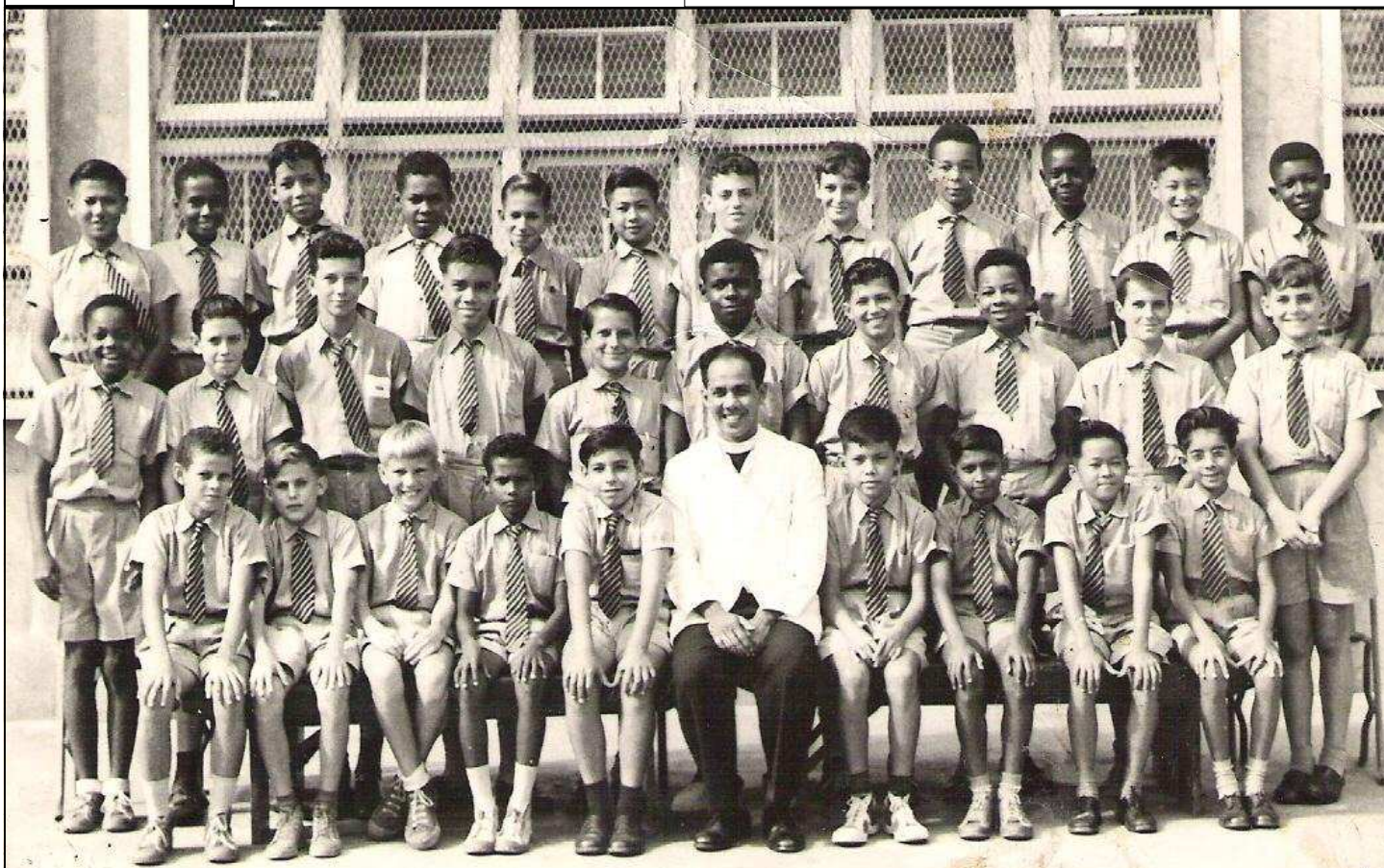
## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

**Mark McWatt** was the winner of the 2006 Commonwealth Writers' Prize Award of £1,000 for the Best First Book in the Caribbean and Canada Region. His book, *Suspended Sentences: Fictions of Atonement* (Peepal Tree Press), went on to win the Overall Best First Book Award of £3,000. The jurors described his work as "a first novel that refracts light like a powerful and many-faceted diamond. Its characters circle multiple challenges as they struggle to throw off the yoke of colonialism in Guyana. This is a wonderfully sophisticated threading of voices and variety. ....(it) takes tremendous risks, an amazing accomplishment." Mark graduated from Saints in 1966, took his first degree at the University of Toronto, and then went to Leeds University to complete a Ph.D. He is currently Head of the English Department at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill campus, Barbados. He has published widely in journals on aspects of Caribbean literature, and is joint editor of the *Oxford Book of Caribbean Verse* (2005). He also has published two collections of poetry, *Interiors* (1989) and *The Language of Eldorado* (1994), but *Suspended Sentences* is his first work of fiction.

**Linden Ramdeholl** recently won the Canadian Governor General's Award for Exemplary Service in the Emergency Measures Service. He has been a Paramedic for twenty-five years and at the forefront as a mentor for other Medics, having trained Medics in Canada and in India during his career. He is presently completing his certification and training as a Psychotherapist. He attended Saints from 1966 to 1972, was in Galton house, and won a Community Service Award Prize on prize day in 1970/71.

**Ian Rodrigues**, who attended Saints around 1946, died on 27 May, 2006, in the Greater Toronto Area. He left the College to attend a seminary in Trinidad, and then moved with his parents to Montreal where he was ordained as a Deacon. He did not complete his priesthood studies, but became a top consultant to many large firms in matters relating to Canadian Customs and Excise regulations. In his recent years of retirement, he worked with the Church during the winter months by assisting the clergy in several West Indian islands. He leaves his wife, Chris, and one daughter to both of whom the Association extends its deepest sympathies.

*L. A. (Bunty) Phillips*



*Hair combed, ties straight, all neatly lined up—the picture of decorum.*

*They looked so innocent 45 years ago!*

Our thanks to Chris Menezes for sharing with us this precious Third Form picture from 1960. Those in the picture are:

Back, left to right : G. Luck, G. Fraser, G. James, J. Wilson, J. Gonsalves, A. Wong,  
C. Menezes, M. Pereira, R. Downes, W. Griffith, A. Vervuurt, K. Seaforth

Middle, left to right: A. Burch-Smith, F. Lopes, C. French, S. Fung, M. DeRyck, A. Johnson,  
B. DeCastro, G. Morrison, A. Reid, P. De Freitas

Front, left to right: F. Rodrigues, D. Anderson, A. Messing, E. Persaud, J. Gonsalves,  
Fr. Wong, V. Fung, E. Paul, E. Fung, K. Persaud

The News & Views is happy to publish this picture, and invites alumni to submit for publication any of their own class pictures, or pictures of college activities related to those long ago innocent years at Saints. For those of you who might want to contact Chris, he may be reached by email at: [cmenezes@ca.ibm.com](mailto:cmenezes@ca.ibm.com)

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Judy Chang-Sang, nee Seth, on June 20. Judy attended St. Joseph's Convent and was predeceased by her brother Aubrey Seth, a Saints alumnus. To her husband Desmond, children David and John, and other members of her family, we extend our deep sympathy and ask that they be included in your prayers.

## Membership

Of the 78 paid-up so far, 57 are renewals from last year, and the remaining 21 are new. Names in *italics* indicate members who have paid since the last issue of the newsletter was published.

Lance Alexander	David Da Silva	Mark Dummett	Richard James	<i>Paul Reed</i>
<i>Leonard Arokium</i>	<i>Dennis De Cambra</i>	Paul Dummett	<i>John Jardim</i>	Ramon Rego
<i>Bernard Austin</i>	Hilary DeCambra	<i>Carlton Faria</i>	Des Jardine	Joe Reis
<i>Arnold Bayley</i>	Richard De Caires	Frank Fernandes	<i>John King</i>	<i>Romeo Resaul</i>
Doug Brandt	Rupert De Castro	<i>Peter Fernandes</i>	Vibert Lampkin	<i>Bryan Rodrigues</i>
Edward Caetano	Stephen De Castro	Julian Fisher	<i>Fr. Ken Macaulay</i>	<i>Raphael Rodrigues</i>
<i>Ian Camacho</i>	<i>Peter De Freitas</i>	Sonny Francis	<i>Gerard Martins</i>	Keith Seaforth
Paul Camacho	Frank Delph	Trevor Gomes	Carl Marx	Maurice Serrao
Joseph Castanheiro	Brian Devers	Mark Gonsalves	<i>Vincent Mendes de Franca</i>	<i>Cecil Seymour</i>
<i>Ronald Chanderbhan</i>	Clive Devers	Neil Gonsalves	<i>Richard Miller</i>	Walter Tiam-fook
Victor Charan	Terrence Devers	<i>Gerry Gouveia</i>	Stan Niccols	Arthur Veerasammy
Bob Chee-a-tow	Roger Devers	Alfred Goveia	Tony O'Dowd	<i>John Vincent</i>
<i>Philip Cheong-leen</i>	Neville Devonish	Leyland Grant	<i>Malcolm Pequenezza</i>	<i>Howard Welshman</i>
<i>Guy Choo-shee-nam</i>	<i>Jerome D'Oliveira</i>	Hugh Hazlewood	Bunty Phillips	<i>Len Yhap</i>
<i>Paul Crum-Ewing</i>	Ronald D'Ornellas	Paul Hazlewood	Ganga Ramdas	John Yip
<i>Ken Cumberbatch</i>	<i>Paul Duarte</i>	<i>Jocelyn Heydorn</i>		

## Wall of Fame Subscriptions

Since last November, the following have purchased a plaque for the Wall of Fame:

Errol Chapman (Major Donor),

Peter Fernandes (Cornerstone Donor)

Alumni are encouraged to make partial or group donations to a plaque in the name of any member of staff they wish to honour. The Wall Committee keeps track of partial

donations and will install a plaque when sufficient contributions are received in the name of the person nominated.

Typically, a group donation is made by members of a Form as a tribute to staff who were particularly influential during their years at Saints.

Please contact the Secretary or any member of the Executive if you need further information on the purchase of a plaque.

## The Passing of Two Brothers

It is with great regret and sadness that we advise you of the deaths last March in Guyana, of two younger brothers of Ken Cumberbatch, a member of our Executive.

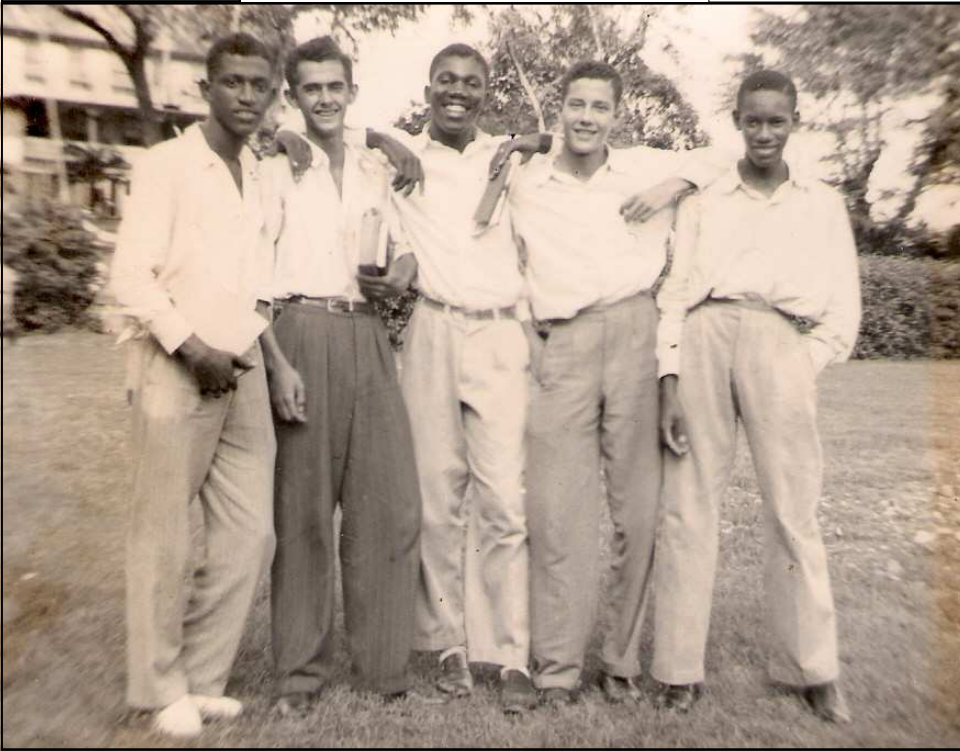
Peter died in a diabetic coma after a long battle with this insidious disease, while Fabian's death was the result of an attack and robbery. Fabian, like his brother Ken, attended Saints.

On behalf of the Executive and membership of the Toronto Alumni Association, we offer our sincere condolences to Ken and his family.

May they Rest in Peace.

*Arthur Veerasammy*

*Secretary, St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto.*



It is 1949, and a group of Saints 16 year olds are 'chilling out' on the grounds of the school. We are indebted to Cecil Glasgow and Vibert Lampkin for this precious record of their school days, and a reminder of the sartorial elegance of the time!

Editor's note:

*By the time I started at Saints in 1951, these 'old boys' were no longer students at Saints, but Mr. Lampkin was my Geometry teacher in Form 2. By the end of my first year, the name Cecil Glasgow was already legendary as 'the man who won the 440'. It was the only race won by Saints in a meeting with the visiting St. Mary's team from Trinidad that year.*

J.Y.

The students are, from left to right :

Ken Croal, Stanley Camacho, Cecil Glasgow, Louis Gittens, and Vibert Lampkin.

## Saints Scouts continue to make news

Scouts from St. Stanislaus College participated recently in the 'Jamboree on the Trail', a world wide exercise in scouting. The Toronto Association congratulates Group Commissioner Gary Mendonca and the Troop on its successful completion of the exercise, and continues to support scouting activities at Saints.

*The following report on the event is taken from the Guyana Chronicle, Tuesday 16 May, 2006.*

Over the last weekend, 18 Scouts and their adult Leaders of the St Stanislaus College Scout Group participated in the 'Jamboree on the Trail', an international event that requires Scouts all over the world to hike on the second Saturday of each year. A press release from the Group said all Scouts, whatever their age and wherever they may be in the world, are invited to participate in whatever way they can. In their own way, everyone will be hiking the same direction: towards a better future through Scouting, it said.

The Scouts of St Stanislaus College chose as their in-



Saint Stanislaus College Scouts perform an Emergency First Aid drill during the recent 'Jamboree on the Trail' exercise

volvement in this event to participate in an 'Incident Hike', the release said.

According to the Group, the route was from Yarowkabra Creek on the Soesdyke/Linden Highway, through the Glass Factory Road to Red Water Creek, then along a sand trail to the Guyana Motor Racing Sport Circuit, and then along Atkinson Airport Road to the Cheddi Jagan International Airport.

See Saints Scouts on Page 5

## THE COLLEGE OF OLD

I started at St. Stanislaus College in the late 1940s in Prep form. The desks had ink-wells from which we used to replenish our fountain pens - Watermans, Platinum or, for the affluent, Parker. How many of you can remember Miss Cora Lopes who used to teach that form? She taught us all the subjects as far as I can remember. Father Smith was the Principal, and I remember I got interviewed and did a simple test, barefooted, in Smithy's office to be admitted to Prep form.

In those days, if you were caught fighting, the two pugilists were given two pairs of boxing gloves, and the dispute was settled in a dignified manner with a referee, usually Fr. Smith, during the morning break.

I moved on to Form 1, and then to Form 2A where I had the famous lay-teacher, Mr. Stanley Marques, as Form Master. What a great teacher he was, and he was never too bashful to send you down for six or nine lashes in the palm of your hand with the shoe sole (ferula). The most feared administrators of the punishment were Fr. Gill (Red Fox) and Fr. Marques (Mouger). On the other hand, the most loved one was Fr. Boase. I remember once I was threatened by Fr. Gill that, if I returned for punishment within the next two weeks, he would administer it on my rear end!

During my first few years, we had only the "old" wing which had been built a long time before. All sports - cricket, football, and even heats for Sports Day as well as the Long Jump finals - were held at the Brickdam grounds for the Colts, as the young boys (under 12 years) were called. We went home for lunch which was from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., but hurried back as quickly as possible to play "labass". This was a game of "kick him", in which you formed a circle into the middle of which a tennis ball was rolled, and you attempted to kick it without getting your rear kicked, as kicking the ball allowed others to kick you. There was one particular stu-

dent who wore black sneakers, and he would paint them with jet oil so that, when his kick connected, he left his shoe-print on your back-end!

Once a week for the last period of the day, we had P.T., supervised by Mr. Marques. Also once a week, we had Music with Mr. Denny. For the last period on Fridays, we had to show up at Brickdam Cathedral for Benediction service. The Prefects, of course, blocked the side-streets to make sure you made it there!

Do you remember Miss Jordan, and the shave-ice, and the coconut sugar-cake? In those days, three cents would get you a shave-ice with syrup and a sugar-cake. Do you remember John Das, the custodian, and his wife, Mi ("My"). Das never wore shoes, and he would ring the big school bell to signal the end of the periods. This same bell was used on Sports Day to signal the last lap of a multi-lap track event.

I never applied myself to the books so, as a result, I had to repeat 2A. Eventually, I finished school after taking my GCE exams, passing Maths, English, and English Literature. I did not appreciate what a sound education to which I had been exposed until some eight years later. I ended up at the University of Wisconsin, Madison campus, and, by a circuitous route, I thought I might try to get a degree in Agriculture. My Maths skills, eight years after high school graduation, were good enough for me to be exempted from Math 101.

I am forever indebted to the Jesuits for my education, both academically and morally. A pity the children of today do not have the benefits of being taught by the likes of Frs. Feeney, Earle, Marques, Scannell, Gill, and Lynch!

*Dr. Peter Fernandes, D.V.M.*

*Hialeah, Florida*

**Saints Scouts**, continued from page 4

The Scouts, along the route, staged several "Incidents" (involving the practice of emergency First Aid), and Patrol Challenges (involving the use of Scoutcraft skills).

A clean-up exercise at Red Water Creek was also carried out by the Scouts, the Group reported, adding that the par-

ticipants were able to fulfill one of the requirements for the Hikers Badge.

The St Stanislaus College Scout Group continues to be one of the more active Scout Groups in the Scout Association, the release said.

ISO 9001 Quality Assurance the goal as the

## Toronto Association pledges help in improving the quality of education at Saints

At a workshop held in April at the Demerara Mutual Boardroom in Georgetown, there was unanimous agreement on a plan to implement ISO 9001 Quality/Business Excellence at the school. The push for ISO 9001 quality was initiated by alumnus Clive Devers, who made the trip to Saints last November for the Dedication of The

Wall ceremony, and came away convinced of the need for such a program to lift the level of education at his old school. Clive, himself a consultant in management and quality control, attended the workshop as a representative of the Executive of the Toronto Association. His report on the outcome of the workshop follows.

### St. Stanislaus College Workshop – 18-19 April, 2006

#### Positive observations on the workshop

Attendance by the Board of Governors, SSC GT, top-class presenters, and relevant topics.

Location, facilities for multi-media presentation, and meals.

Interaction of presenters and participants, and group discussion.

Contributions of text books by SSC – Barbados, and personal contributions of gifts to workshop presenters, board members, and selected teachers, ASQ magazines, and resume preparation software by Clive Devers for SSC Toronto.

#### Improvement opportunities for future workshops

Strict adherence and respect to timing.

Documenting of presenter and topic's evaluation.

Better attendance by teachers (approx 50%).

#### Comments on "ISO not I.S.O" - ISO 9001 presentation

Appreciation for the ISO 9001:2000 presentation to the Board of Governors after the workshop program was reviewed and finalized. The outcome of the presentation resulted with unanimous acceptance of the idea for ISO 9001 implementation at the College, but concerns for teacher acceptance, cost, and timing. A decision to include the presentation as a part of management system planning and strategic business planning was made.

The presentation of the concept, justification, implementation, and costs was well received by all. Surprisingly, the teachers and some Board of Governors members and SSC – GT Association members requested an immediate start to the implementation of ISO 9001 at the College. The endorsement of the ISO registration and benefits to teachers by the teachers representation at the closure of the workshop was overwhelming.

### Recommendations for ISO 9001 implementation at St. Stanislaus College:

1. Board of Governors and SSC – GT immediately approve the implementation plan for ISO 9001 guaranteed registration at St Stanislaus College only by 4/30/06 and communicate the approval to SSC – Toronto for contract approval to allow for action.
2. The ISO 9001 documentation of the quality manual shall be completed as a **draft** by Clive Devers prior to the May 11, 2006 meeting by the BOG and teachers / students.
3. Board of Governors and SSC GT and SSC Barbados should **commit** to the immediate implementation and for "no more than 24% of the total costs of implementation" with the understanding that the expenses will be distributed to the principal, teachers and staff-persons for their involvement and encouragement as "financial ISO 9001 incentives".
4. SSC Toronto shall fund 50% of the costs or Can \$9,000 (including the initial visit to Guyana by Clive Devers to attend the workshop), and request personnel contributions for current members and attendees at the Spring dance in April 2006 to financially support the ISO 9001 project at the College. A decision to register the ISO 9001 by an accredited Registrar outside of Guyana should be enforced, and the additional costs of registration, estimated at Can \$6000 over 3 years, will be shared equally between SSC GT, SSC Barbados, and SSC Toronto in 2006, 2007, and 2008.
5. Clive Devers will request financial and other material contributions to offset his reduction in costs for ISO 9001 consulting contract for SSC from his current clients, and parent company to make private contributions to the ISO 9001 Quality / Business Excellence at the college by December 2006.

See ISO 9001, page 7

ISO 9001, continued from on page

## Other topics covered at the Workshop -

included an update on the administration of Saints under the BOG, and a summary of ongoing activities. Plans by the Ministry of Education were also a topic of discussion.

## New developments at SSC in Guyana 2006

The Board of Governors, SSC GT, and the teachers continue to work together with the interest of the College. The Principal and Deputy Assistant are “doing their best” with representing the Ministry of Education needs and expectations, and a plan for the hiring of a new Administrative Manager of the College is being considered by the Board. Teachers continue to identify that a financial supplement to their salary is the #1 request.

The container shipment from SSC Toronto was received but is currently being cleared through customs. The screwdriver set and assembly instructions were delivered.

The lack of text book issue from the Ministry of Education to SSC as class books and individual books need to be followed up by the Principal and a “Ministry of Education contact person” that was identified by Clive Devers.

Prize day and College Sports were successfully implemented in 2006.

College Grounds are still being improved, and a delay in the pavilion upgrade is expected in 2006.

The extension of ISO 9001 at other top schools and the Ministry of Education will be considered on a case by case basis, time allowing.

New US\$8 Million convention centre in Lilliendale, ECD near to Caricom HQ / –opened on Feb 16, 2006. CUBA for Port Morant hospital for a new ophthalmologist centre (10000 cataract surgeries / year). US\$ .25 Million for 40 year independence in Mashramani in May 2006. 715 scholarships to Cuba for medical, engineering, vet, and agriculture, and China and other donors have written off debt prior to 2004 – US\$ 336 Million.

## Main concerns affecting progress at SSC in Guyana

Common entrance examinations are expected to be discontinued in 2007 and replaced with a new progressive learning approach where the teachers grade the students. This approach is still being developed.

There is an “undocumented plan” by the Ministry of Education to identify the top three schools in Guyana as : QC for Science only, Bishops for Arts only, and Saints for Business only. The other top schools will provide a broad base curriculum in 2007. The plan can allow for a drastic



Mrs. Esther Mc Garrell, Principal of St. Stanislaus takes the podium at the recent workshop on a plan to implement ISO 9001 at the college. Seated at the Head Table behind, left to right are: Thomas Singh (Chairman of the Education Committee), Mr Tiwari (Ministry of Education representative), Fr Barrow (Jesuit Priest representative) and Chris Fernandes (Chairman of the Board of Governors).

change in the type for College graduate from SSC in 2007.

There is a lack of resources for science labs. Students are being taught science at Saints with limited or no practical and no lab technician in the science and industrial program.

There is little development of the industrial arts in spite of financial donation by SSC Toronto. The computer lab and internet capability is functioning, but more computer equipment and multi-media (video camera, digital and overhead projector, screen, dvd/vhs) facilities are needed.

There are too many courses included and taught in the curriculum, and a waste of certified teachers as a teaching resource. Too much of un-required work is being done by teachers.

## This Year at The Last Lap Lime

There will be SAINTS T-SHIRTS, KEY RINGS, and LAPEL PINS available for you to purchase and show your support for Saints. Don't forget that advance tickets are now on sale at \$10.00 each, or 10 for \$90.00. At the gate, tickets will cost \$15.00 each. Contact any member of the Executive to purchase advance tickets. Attend the Lime and help to “Keep the Traditions Alive”.

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

**Editorial Committee:**  
Maurice Serrao, L. A. (Bunty) Phillips, John Yip,  
Rupert De Castro

**Contributing Writers:**  
Robin Shaw, Clive Devers, Peter Fernandes,  
L. A. (Bunty) Phillips, Art Veerasammy

**Photographs:**  
Clive Devers, Cecil Glasgow, Vibert Lampkin, Chris Menezes

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.

Saints News & Views welcomes contributing articles from its membership. The publisher reserves the right to edit or publish all submissions solely at its discretion.



**A. Rupert De Castro, CMA**  
**Camille De Castro, FRI**  
Associate Broker/Broker



**Camdec Real Estate Ltd.**  
CENTURION® Office, 1983-94

4544 Sheppard Avenue East  
Toronto, Ontario M1S 1V2  
**Business 416-298-2800**  
Residence 416-292-1056

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### Contact Us

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

The Secretary, St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association (Toronto), 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, Ontario, M1S 1V2. You may contact the Secretary, Art Veerasammy, by phone at Home at 416-431-1171 or at Work at 905-502-9995 x 21. You may also contact us by email at admin@torontosaints.com.

### Coming Events

Fri. 4 Aug.	Caribjam	Thornhill Community Centre	\$25
Mon. 7 Aug.	Last Lap Lime	Woodbridge Fairgrounds	\$10 early/\$15 on day
Thur. 28 Sept.	Annual General Meeting	4544 Sheppard Ave. E., Scar.	Refreshments served
Sat. 28 Oct.	Fall Dance	Thornhill Community Centre	\$20
Sun. 31 Dec.	New Year's Eve Dance	Thornhill Community Centre	\$65 each

### Alumni Association Membership Form

Please complete this portion and return it with a cheque for \$25.00 (Cdn) payable to:

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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