



SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

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

Volume 27, Issue 3, 20 Sept., 2021

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Editorial

RATIONALIZATION OF TORONTO ORGANIZATIONS

The heading at the top of this first page declares that this is the newsletter of St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto (SSCAAT) and St. Stanislaus College (Guyana) Alumni Society (SSCGAS). Readers may have been confused by there being two separate Toronto organizations of alumni and may have wondered why. We would like to clarify this point and to state what action is being taken to return to one organization.

In 1994, SSCAAT was incorporated and registered in the Province of Ontario as a not-for-profit corporation. The primary objective of the corporation is to provide financial and other assistance to St. Stanislaus College in Georgetown, Guyana.

In 2010, SSCGAS was incorporated and registered in the Province of Ontario as a not-for-profit corporation. In 2011, SSCGAS received charitable registration under the Canada Income Tax Act from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), an agency of the Federal Government of Canada. The primary objective of the corporation is to provide financial and other assistance to St. Stanislaus College in Georgetown, Guyana. SSCGAS was created by those already running SSCAAT and not by another “outside” group of alumni.

In 2009, after 15 years of operation, the SSCAAT Executive Committee believed that it would be easier to raise funds (and in larger amounts) if it were operating as a charity. Therefore, SSCAAT set out to convert its status from a not-for-profit to a charity. However, working on the conversion brought to light the fact that there were very strict conditions, concerning past operations, which had to be met to satisfy the CRA before such a conversion would be allowed. Unfortunately, SSCAAT was unable to meet these conditions. However, further research revealed that it was easier to obtain charitable status by creating a new corporation which would have no history and to which the conversion conditions would not apply. This path was taken successfully.

It must be noted that there was no deliberate initial and long-term plan to create two separate organizations which were doing the same things. What was done was done simply because it was the easiest way of achieving the objective which was to have a charity organization. Once SSCGAS had been created, SSCAAT would be dissolved, leaving only one organization to do the work.

However, it was decided to keep both organizations running in parallel, with some of the fund-raising activities split between the two, to obtain a practical comparison of the effectiveness of the work of the organizations. It was discovered that SSCGAS had less fund-raising activities than SSCAAT but was obtaining as much, if not more, income than SSCAAT. The COVID-19 pandemic emphasised this point more firmly.

For two years effectively (2019-2021), SSCAAT has been unable to host any fund-raising events due to the pandemic. While SSCGAS was similarly constricted, this lasted only one year and, in the second year (2021), SSCGAS was able to host two golf tournaments which raised about \$50,000 (Can). The sum of the annual totals raised by the two organizations has never reached this high, let alone only one doing so. This was the final nail in the coffin for the existence of two organizations.

The return to running one organization rather than two will have no effect on achieving the objective of helping the College in Guyana. After all, there was only one organization in the beginning. There would be no change in personnel as the constitutions of the two organizations allow a paid-up member of one to be automatically a paid-up member of the other. Therefore, those members running events under SSCAAT will continue to do the same under SSCGAS. The only difference which may be obvious to outsiders is the name of the organization in the publicity announcing any event. The heading of the newsletter will go back to listing only one organization.

The assets of SSCAAT, after all or any debts had been paid, have already been transferred to SSCGAS through the process of a donation. SSCAAT now remains a “shell” corporation with no activity.

ARTICLE XVI - DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION, Section 1, of the Constitution of SSCAAT states that the dissolution of the Association must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members in good standing. A motion to do so will be tabled at the Annual General Meeting due to occur at 2:00 p.m. (EST) on Sunday 26 September, 2021, via Zoom

Continued on page 6

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Coming Events.....	12
Contact Information.....	12
COVID-19 and Fund-raising Events.....	7
Editorial	1
Fr. Patrick Connors.....	2
Membership Form.....	12
Membership - Paid-up Alumni.....	4
My Passage through Life.....	3
Obituaries.....	9
One Piece of My Life.....	2
Remembering Banks Jerry.....	8
Report on 2021 Golf Tournaments.....	6
Saints Student is Top Guyana U-18 Chess Player.....	11
Saints Students on Guyana Women’s Field Hockey Team....	10

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

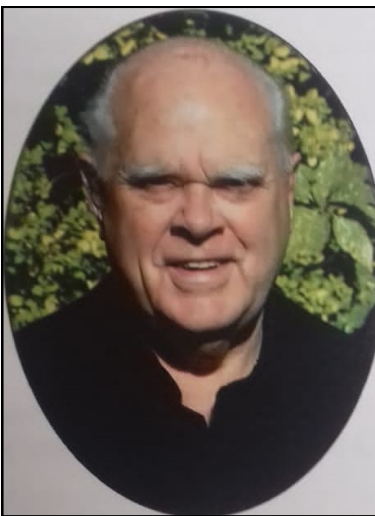
Biography of Jesuits at St. Stanislaus College - 25

FR. PATRICK CONNORS

Fr. Patrick “Paddy” Connors SJ died peacefully at around 8.30 p.m. on Friday 2nd July, 2021, in the St. Wilfrid’s community house in Preston, England. His health had been failing for some time. He was 86 years old, and was in his 69th year of religious life.

Fr. Connors was born in Leeds on 23rd July, 1934. He was educated at Wimbledon College, and joined the novitiate in Harlaxton in 1952. After taking First Vows, he did a year’s juniorate in Manresa House, Roehampton, and then moved to Heythrop in Oxfordshire for philosophy. Regency followed between 1958 and 1961, the first year at Mount St Mary’s, and then two years teaching at St. Stanislaus College in Georgetown, in what was then British Guiana. His first year of theology took place at Heythrop, but he then did three further years at the theologate in Poona, India. He was ordained in the Sacred Heart, Wimbledon, by Archbishop Roberts SJ on 1st August, 1965. Next came tertianship at St Beuno’s, after which, for two decades, he worked in Guyana in a number of parishes in the interior and on the coast. On 8th March, 1980, when Fr. Connors was the Parish priest of Lethem, fully armed riot police surrounded the priest’s house in Aishalton, South Rupununi, and ordered him and Fr. John Bridges out of the region. The charges were that the priests had incited persons to rebel against the Government, had termed the government atheists, and had assembled Amerindians armed with bows and arrows and other weapons. The priests denied all the charges.

In a letter read in all parishes on 9th March, Bishop Benedict Singh declared that the accusations were false and were simply an excuse for the wrongful expulsion of the



priests.

The group of Caribbean Bishops, led by Archbishops Anthony Pantin of Trinidad and Tobago and Samuel Carter of Jamaica, travelled to Guyana intending to provide 'spiritual solidarity' to Bishop Singh whose home was searched following the expulsion order issued against Fr. Connors.

The homes of several other religious leaders in Guyana were searched following a protest issued by the Guyana Council of Churches which condemned the expulsion of Fr. Connors.

He was by no means the only priest who was being harassed in this way as a direct result of the stand the Catholic Church had taken in defense of people’s rights. Frs. McKenna, Maxwell, Kene, and Petry were among others who were ordered to leave interior locations.

Many protests and petitions were also made by Amerindians at the expulsions of their priests.

Fr. Connors was eventually forcefully expelled from the country on 1st January, 1986.

For the next ten years, he worked in Barbados, Jamaica, St Vincent, and in Venezuela. In 1996, he was able to return to Guyana, and spent some time as Superior and parish priest at Hosororo, near the border with Venezuela. He returned to Britain in 2001 and, the following year, was appointed parish priest at St. Francis Xavier church in Liverpool. He moved to St. Ignatius, Stamford Hill, in 2011, doing supply work, and then to the Corpus Christi community in Boscombe in 2016. Finally, in 2018, he joined the community at St. Wilfrid’s, Preston, until his death.

ONE PIECE OF MY LIFE

By Alumnus (54-59) Rupert De Castro

I arrived here in Toronto on 4th February, 1965. I actually came through Montreal in a blinding snow storm. I was accustomed to the COLD, having lived in London in 62-63. I had 8 jobs in 8 years (different times). Along the way, I accumulated friends. A CA friend, whom I met at Trans Canada Pipelines Ltd. where we worked and who encouraged me to pursue a career in Accounting, introduced me to a friend of his who was about to set up his own real estate project financing business. The friend, Ed Marchant (he also was a CA), hired me to work on projects in the company for which he was working. I remember the company owned 1000+ acres in Dade County, Florida.

When Ed moved to start his own business, he took me with him. I worked putting together packages to be presented to

lenders for both short and long term financing. The company, owned by the Del Zotto brothers prior to the formation of Tridel, was one of our customers.

I worked with Ed for six years before moving on to real estate brokerage with my late wife, Camille. I started with Ed at \$10,000 per year and, by the time I left in 1977, I was making \$25,000 per year.

Here is the “kicker” to the story. Ed Marchant, the youngest in his family, was the only one among his siblings who was NOT born in British Guiana. His father was the Editor of the *Daily Chronicle* in Georgetown in the 1930’s.

I believe one of the reasons I was hired was because I was from British Guyana and I was introduced to Ed as a hard working employee.

Continued on page 4

MY PASSAGE THROUGH LIFE RANDOM RAMBLINGS, RECOLLECTIONS, REFLECTIONS AND MUSINGS

By *Alumnus (48-56) Harold Anthony (Tony) Clarke*

(Excerpts)

With COVID-19 rampant, isolated at home for several months, and time heavy on my hands, I decided to take a 'walkabout' through my life, the product being a tome of 160 pages regarding my early years in the Caribbean region including Guyana, my middle years in Canada dealing largely with my professional working life, my retirement years, and finally my cricket experiences through the decades.

A. MY EARLY YEARS IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION.

I. *British Guiana, now Guyana (1937 - 1956)*

I have lots of good memories growing up in British Guiana: exploring the countryside along the west coast of Demerara, littered with villages with difficult to pronounce dutch names; swimming in the Atlantic Ocean (which was a stone's throw from our back yard in Metenmeerzorg,) much to my mother's concern; catching crabs on the mudflats (hence the term 'mudheads' for Guyanese) along the ocean front behind the seawall and roasting them over a makeshift bramble fire; canoeing along the irrigation and drainage canals built by the Dutch hundreds of years ago; fishing; hunting alligators at night on the canals in a canoe with a torchlight and stick with a wire noose; riding the mules (used for pulling punts full of harvested sugar cane to the mill for processing) on the sugar estate; and eating all kinds of fruit that were in abundance such as mangoes, star apples, passion fruit, papaya, coconuts, and downs. The living was outside, and it was fun.

Cricket became my passion, and I spent countless hours playing with the kids in the village on mud pitches that could not be described in any way as flat, with a monkey apple bat and balata ball. I became a competent off-spinner by following the advice, of an England bowler-turned-coach, that I found in a book in the library. As a youngster, I read voraciously, collected stamps, and made beautiful singing kites for my siblings at Easter time; and my teenage years at St. Stanislaus College were a pleasant learning period of my life. The Jesuits ran a first class school, and all those who were fortunate to attend Saints were given a solid foundation on which to build their lives.

It became clear early on in my youth that I was born with a competitive gene. One day, in a science laboratory class....I was about 12 years old..... Fr. Feeny wanted two volunteers to participate in an experiment illustrating the heat conductivity of different metals. I was given a copper wire and the other student was given an iron wire which we held in our fingers. We placed the wires into the flame of a bunsen burner and were told to indicate when the wires were too hot to handle. My wire heated up quickly, but I was too stubborn to acknowledge that my fingers were in pain because I was going to outlast the other guy. What an idiot! Fortunately, Fr. Feeny called the experiment to a halt



otherwise I would have sustained a very serious burn. Fr. Feeny could not believe how hot my wire was and me saying that it wasn't. I have no idea what he thought was going through my mind. The lesson learned was that copper is a better conductor of heat than iron, and that scientific fact and competitive zeal were too different things altogether.

B.G. was a colony of Great Britain at that time. One of the benefits of being under British rule was a society which adhered to law and order, in the main. One could walk the streets at night

and day without any concern for one's safety. There were six different ethnic groups of people in the country, and my memories back then in the 40s and 50s as a youngster were of people living, working, and playing together fairly harmoniously. In fact, B.G. was known throughout the Caribbean region as a most friendly place to visit....no beautiful sand beaches like in the islands but a country of hospitable people. The message was: come and have a great holiday.

One of the dis-benefits of colonial rule was being treated at times like second class citizens in your own country, in particular by the so-called English upper class which basically 'ran' the country. One example: my father worked for a British company, Bookers Sugar Estates, for many years as an overseer and became quite knowledgeable about the agricultural aspects of growing sugar cane. However, he was a 'local' and could only rise so far up the job ladder. Every so often, an English manager to whom he reported would go back to the 'old country' to be replaced by a new staff member, often the young son of a privileged person in England who needed to send his sometimes wayward son to the colonies to develop his character. This inexperienced person would come, be trained by my Dad for a period of 6 months or so, then become my dad's superior and receive a salary very much larger than what my dad was making, not to mention regular paid vacation trips back to the U.K. Even as a young boy, I resented this obvious discrimination between local and foreign and grew up disliking intensely the hauteur of the English governing system as it applied to the colony. Back then, I was no fan of the English and reluctantly stood for the anthem 'God save the King/Queen' on certain statutory holidays. As an aside, Bookers business activities were so numerous and all-encompassing in B.G. that the colony was often referred to as Bookers Guiana.

I could go on and on about the pros and cons of British rule but, in the main as far as I could ascertain as a youngster, life was good, education opportunities were available and accessible, the health system was there when needed, the country was peaceful, the economy was thriving in the 1950s, there was no shortage of food, jobs were plentiful although working conditions for those on the sugar estates left much to be desired.

Continued on page 5

MEMBERSHIP

The following is the list of alumni who are currently paid-up members in 2021. Membership is based on the calendar year.

CANADA (104)	Peter DeFreitas	Anthony Jekir	Akisha Somrah ²	
Paul Abdool ³	Frank Delph	Aubrey Kellawan	Peter Spooner	U.K. (7)
Lance Alexander ¹	Andre DePeana ⁴	Gregory Kellawan	Brian Stevenson ¹	John DaCosta ⁴
Howard Amo ³	Clive Devers ¹	Amanda King	Albert Sweetnam ³	Julio Faria ⁴
Alwyn Appiah ⁴	Roger Devers ¹	Vibert Lampkin ³	Michael Texeira ⁴	Tony Gomes ¹
Glenmore Armogan	Terence Devers ¹	John Lopes ⁴	Arthur Veerasammy	Leyland Grant ⁴
Bernard Austin ³	Neville Devonish ¹	Geoffrey Luck ¹	Vibert Vieira ²	Neville Jordan ¹
Gregory Badley ¹	Ron Dias ¹	Gerard Martins	Paul Vincent ³	Charles Kennard ³
Malcolm Barrington ²	Jerome D'Oliveira	Michael Mendes de	Howard Welshman ²	Raymond Pancham ⁴
Gerard Bayley ²	Paul Duarte	Franca ²	Godfrey Whyte	
John Rene Bayley ³	Joe Faria ¹	Colin Nurse ⁴	David Wong ²	U.S.A. (18)
Teddy Boyce	Raymond Fernandes	Anthony O'Dowd ³	Brian Yhap ⁴	Satynanand Bhagrat- tee ²
Ian Camacho ⁴	Keith Fletcher ⁴	Michael Persaud ³	John Yip ¹	Rev. Andrew Chan-a- sue ⁴
Paul Camacho ²	Andre Fredricks ¹	Renuka Persaud ²	Angus Zitman ⁴	Ronald Chanderbhan ³
Alfred Carr ³	Darwin Fung ²	Compton Pestano ⁴		Ronald DeAbreu
Wilfred Carr ²	James Fung	L. A. Phillips ¹	AUSTRALIA (1)	Dalip Etwaroo ³
Joseph Castanheiro ¹	Mike Gomes	Carl Ramalho	Lennox Yhap ¹	Bernard Friemann ³
Bob Chee-a-tow	Trevor Gomes	Marcelline Ram- charan ¹		Edward Gouveia ³
Sydney Chin	J. Neil Gonsalves ²	Linden Ramdeholl ³	BRAZIL (1)	Philip Greathead ³
Gerry Chin-sam ⁴	Ken Hahnfeld ³	Paul Reed	Stephen DeCastro ²	Michael Heydon ⁴
Ivan Choo ³	Albert Hamilton ⁴	Alexander Rego		Edwin Jack ¹
Tony Clarke ⁷	Hugh Hazlewood ²	Romeo Resaul ²	DOMINICAN	Wilfred Jack ⁴
Paul Crum-ewing ³	Paul Hazlewood ³	Bryan Rodrigues	REPUBLIC (1)	Kenneth Jordan ¹
Richard DaCosta	Monty Henson ⁴	Raphael Rodrigues	Deep Ford ⁴	Jolyon King ⁶
Vivian D'Andrade	Jocelyn Heydorn	Peter St. Aubyn ¹		Joey Lopes ¹
Edward DaSilva ¹	Desmond Hill ²	Savitri Seenauth ³	GUYANA (1)	Godfrey Nurse ⁴
Terry DeAbreu ³	Yale Holder	Robin Shaw ³	Fitzgerald Yaw Jr. ¹	Hugh Christopher Pat- rick
Tyrone DeAbreu ³	Andrew Insanally ³	Asoka Robin Singh ²		Hugh Rodrigues ¹
Benedict DeCastro	Richard James ⁵	Michael Singh ²	TRINIDAD (3)	
Gregory DeCastro ³	Desmond Jardine ²	Vanita Soman	Richard Harford ²	
Rupert DeCastro ¹	Clayton Jeffery ³		Ronald Harford ²	
			John Jardim (dec)	

There are 136 paid-up members.

Notes :

1. These (27) alumni have paid in advance through 2022.
2. These (22) alumni have paid in advance through 2023.
3. These (28) alumni have paid in advance through 2024.
4. These (22) alumni have paid in advance through 2025.
5. This (1) alumnus have paid in advance through 2026.
6. This (1) alumnus have paid in advance through 2028.
7. This (1) alumnus have paid in advance through 2029.

SPECIAL NOTICE ON MEMBERSHIP

Membership is paid by calendar year i.e. January to December. Therefore, membership for 2020 expired on 31st December, 2020. 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.

One Piece of My Life

(Continued from page 2)

Hey....many a Sunday's evening found me at Ed's home after dinner, planning our (really MY work) for the next week.

To cap off the story, the best man at Joanne's and my wedding a couple years ago is a friend whom I met while we were both working with Ed Marchant.

Canada has been good to me. I came here with a High School education, prepared to dig ditches if I had to, and, though I have had some difficult times along the way, I have enjoyed the ride. I believe Toronto is the absolute best City in the world to live in, especially if one is an immigrant.

I am sure glad that they (the Canadians) let me in.

My Passage through Life*(Continued from page 3)*

In summary, I have only good memories of the country, school, cricket, Georgetown, the food - for example, garlic pork, metemgi (a vegetable stew with salt fish and coconut), curries and black cake - and the many friends and family who surrounded me. After being awarded the Demerara Bauxite Company (DEMBA) scholarship based on my GCE (London) Advanced levels, I moved on to Jamaica in September of 1956 to attend the University College of the West Indies (UCWI).

2. Jamaica (1956 - 1960)

I have even better memories of the 4 years I spent living on campus at Mona, where I achieved my B.Sc. (London) degree and a Diploma in Chemical Technology (UCWI). The university campus was located about 8 miles outside of Kingston, on 600+ acres in the foothills of the Blue Mountains, a picturesque location. The curriculum was exactly the same as that of London University, with many visiting professors from that institution teaching at Mona, and we sat the same exams, 6 hours or so apart. Standards were high and intentionally kept so. As my first experience away from home, it was sometimes a struggle to keep a focus on my studies, but I succeeded in large part, particularly in my final year, by studying with a Trinidadian lady, a good friend, who was in my math classes. I owe a great deal to her as she kept my nose to the grindstone.

I played for the university cricket side in the 1st division league in Kingston, coming third in the all island bowling standings in 1958, and captaining it in 1959; of note is the fact that I took 5 wickets for 70 runs against the touring Antigua island side in 1958, resulting in a nice article by the sports editor of the Daily Gleaner (the island newspaper). I enjoyed the cricket, getting the opportunity to play against some of my boyhood heroes who had played for Jamaica and the West Indies Test team, such Alan Rae, Edmond Kentish, Dennis Thorburn, and Roy Gilchrist. The social life was busy on campus with lots of friendly rivalry between Chancellor Hall where I was in residence and Taylor Hall. The music of Jamaica was vibrant, catchy for dancing - with its three piece instrumental groups, and the bigger bands like Byron Lee and the Dragonaires (ska) - and politically relevant with the emerging strains of rocksteady and reggae (Jimmy Cliff, Bob Marley and Peter Tosh). I was fortunate to become friends with Pancho Rankin, a former Olympian in the 1920s who owned a sporting goods store in Kingston. Pancho took invitational teams all over the island to play cricket games on Sundays, where there was always lots of food (ackee and salt fish, goat curries) and drink (gin and coconut water), friendly company, and fun.

The living was good on a beautiful island despite the overhanging spectre of having to pass exams to get your degree. We performed amusing skits after dinner in the dining hall on a regular basis, paraded in Kingston against apartheid in South Africa, and organised our own Carnival celebrations. The Rastafarian cult was in full swing with the ever present smoking of ganja but, despite the poor living conditions in places like Boys Town, a suburb of King-

ston, the island was peaceful, a condition that sadly disappeared in the 1970s

After independence in the mid-60s, by which time I had moved on to Canada and the University of Toronto, Michael Manley, son of Norman who was a former Prime Minister, took the country down a road that resulted in the economy going down 'the tubes' with rampant crime, illegal drugs, riots, the burning of middle class areas of Kingston, high unemployment, a tourism industry that cratered, and the sugar and bauxite industries on life support....all of which made the island, especially Kingston, a dangerous place to visit to which I can attest on repeat visits in 1973 and 1985. Thank you, Michael. I'm sure your father turned in his grave to see how you destroyed his legacy of good governance.

As an aside, both Michael Manley and Lyndon Forbes Burnham (future President of Guyana) attended the London School of Economics (LSE). Both men appeared to embrace a governing philosophy of eradicating everything 'British' from their countries after independence was attained in the mid-1960s....the exception being cricket; in addition, a socialist thrust came to the fore (the LSE was known as a hotbed of socialist/communist ideology), in particular with the nationalization of major industrial sectors which were foreign owned, such as sugar and bauxite. If you are wise, you do not spit in the eye of powerful corporations, economies, or countries. As described above in Jamaica, the result in Guyana was similar in the loss of markets and foreign exchange, economic chaos, high unemployment, scarcity of essential goods, lawlessness and crime, corruption, cronyism, and so on. Two lovely countries down the 'crapper' even to today.

While I was at UCWI in the latter half of the 1950s, the leaders of the Caribbean countries, basically the British West Indian islands, convened on the Mona campus to discuss the creation of a Federation of the West Indies. To those of us young folks at the university with our futures before us, this was an exciting idea. We envisioned a federated union as offering much more than just a number of individual stand-alone small island states, particularly in terms of the potential for synergistic economic activity through such mechanisms as a common market and a mobile labour force, thereby resulting in better social and living standards for the people of the islands. As in any federation, some would be better off economically than others, and there was an implicit understanding that the bigger, developed islands, like Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago, might have to give a bit more to the less developed islands to make the project a success, not unlike what has subsequently happened in the European Union. In the end, Trinidad and Jamaica decided that they might have to give too much. and the concept of the federation died. I still remember Mr. Bustamante prowling around Jamaica, with a pistol on his hip, telling labour groups that they were going to be screwed royally if this federation ever came into being, and basically that was that. Game over. Norman Manley, the Prime Minister of Jamaica at that time, took the country into an election on the basis

Continued on page 6

My Passage through Life*(Continued from page 5)*

of joining the federation but lost to Bustamante. (This reminds me of David Cameron, the PM of the UK calling an election on whether the UK should stay in the EU or not...and lost, hence Brexit). Needless to say, there was great disappointment amongst the student population.

Editor's Note

Tony Clarke was the Captain of the College's First XI cricket team which played in the Northcote Cup (second

division in British Guiana. He went on to captain not only the UCWI First XI, playing in the Jamaica first division, but also two different First XI teams (at different times - Yorkshire CC and the Toronto Cricket, Curling, and Skating Club), both in the first division of the Toronto & District Cricket Association. He also was selected to captain the Ontario First XI and the Canada First XI teams.

A second part of his memoirs with his personal musings on the Caribbean region (including Guyana) will be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

Editorial*(Continued from page 1)*

at the following location.....

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87393451117?pwd=Yjg1UytLYks4cGQ3LzU2bEdYM0OrOT09>, Meeting ID 873 9345 1117, Passcode 208328. Therefore, we ask our paid-up members, who cannot be present to vote at the AGM, to submit their proxy votes in favour of the motion to allow

SSCGAS to move forward in this important issue. A proxy vote form was attached to the notice of the AGM, which has been sent out. You may use this (or one of your own making) and mail it to our postal address, or you may send it to me by e-mail (see all the contact information on the last page of this newsletter). Thank you for your cooperation.

REPORT ON 2021 GOLF TOURNAMENTS*By Alumnus Des Jardine, Sub-committee Chaitman*

St. Stanislaus College (Guyana) Alumni Society (SSCGAS) held two golf tournaments on 10th July and 11th August, 2021, at the Lebovic Golf Club in Aurora. Both tournaments were a tremendous success. With a donation from the Lebovic Foundation and after expenses for club fees and small gifts for participants, the income from the tournaments was about \$50,000 (Can).

All of our participants spoke very highly about the course, the staff, the food and beverages and the event, overall. We have set the standards and the groundwork for a continued Golf Tournament that will deliver outstanding value for participants and raise substantial funds for the Society and, ultimately, the students at St. Stanislaus College.

The funds spent on the gifts for our players were about \$2,500. Jimmy Fung needs to be thanked on taking the initiative of sourcing and paying (he was reimbursed) for golf caps (offering at first tournament) and golf gloves (offering at second tournament).

Also BIG THANKS to Paul Hazelwood and Alfred Carr for their involvement in making the initial preparations of registering golfers and making sure the collections of fees were accurately coordinated and collected. Also BIG THANKS to everyone who reached out to our players and to get them to register and pay up-front. This was the first of our tournaments where we collected 100% of our fees before the play day. This is a BIG accomplishment and should be continued.

We had a full complement of golfers for both tournaments – set at 132, due to the pandemic - which was slightly less than the 144 that we had always strived for in the past. The course was well prepared to handle the event, and all the feedback received from the staff and the course management was positive. Any slight hiccups were handled

immediately, and everything went smoothly.

The winning score from the first tournament was -16, and there was a tie for the second tournament with a score of -14, both great scores.

Again due to the pandemic, we were obviously unable to have a gathering in the clubhouse where we could officially announce the winners and deliver trophies, prizes, etc. If there is one thing we have to address and get back to, it's the presentation of the event itself in a clubhouse setting where we can make the announcements of winners (best score, longest drive, nearest to pin, etc.). We will also need to investigate what the golf club will allow us to conduct as to 50/50 draws, raffles, etc. The Golf Subcommittee will need to be ENGAGED next year, for sure.

To that extent, we have spoken to the club management to express our gratitude for the opportunity to have our tournament at the Lebovic Golf Club, and we look forward to their invitation for next year.

We took the opportunity to speak to as many players as we could during both tournaments and made a pitch to have them acknowledge how outstanding our offer was this year. We mentioned that we will be moving the cost of the event next year to \$300 and are expecting their return participation. We hardly heard a dissenting voice as they all recognized the value of such and the extra bonus of supporting our charity.

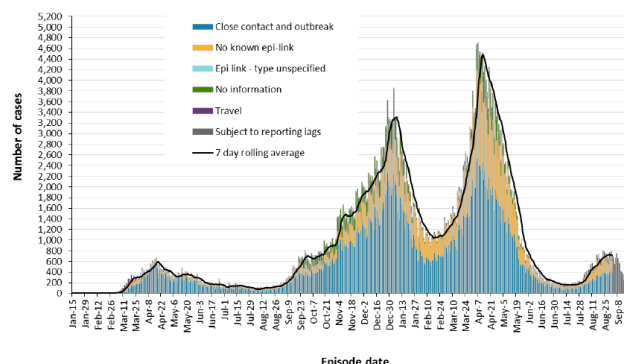
We are in contact with the club to finalise the event date (hopefully, dates) for next year, and will let everyone know how those contract negotiations are coming along.

Our final note has to be one of BIG THANKS to those who participated in the tournaments and who trusted us to deliver an exceptional event in spite of the pandemic and the increase in the fees over past years.

COVID-19 AND FUND-RAISING EVENTS

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 virus is still with us, and we are well into Stage 4 with the more virulent and contagious delta variant being the current culprit doing the damage. The number of daily new cases in Ontario had reached a low of less than 200 two months ago but, since then, has started to rise to the current level of about 800 daily. The great majority of these cases are due to the delta vari-

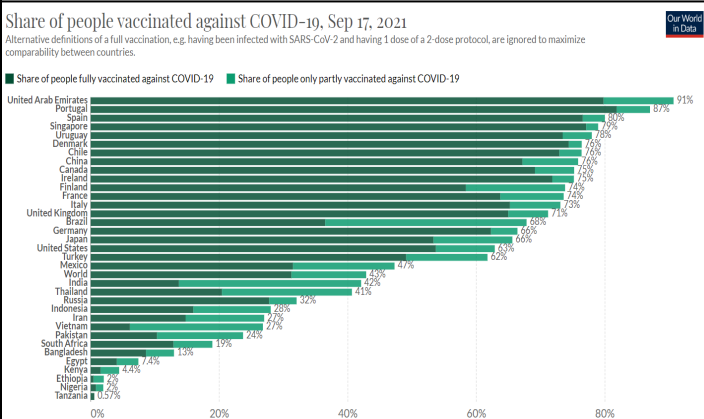
Figure 2. Confirmed cases of COVID-19 by likely acquisition and approximation of symptom onset date: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to September 16, 2021



ant and is occurring mainly in non-vaccinated persons. In fact, about 75% of the more serious cases having to be admitted to hospitals are non-vaccinated persons with the delta variant.

The current number of Ontario residents who are fully vaccinated is about 79% of the total populace, but about 85% have had at least the first shot. The corresponding numbers for Canada are 69% and 74%. These are very good numbers, ranking Canada as the ninth best in the world, and they have encouraged some Canadian provinces to start to relax their earlier imposed restrictions on movements and gatherings.

However, what was forgotten among the positive news was



the fact that the vaccinations do not result in immunity from the virus for those who have received the full treatment. Fully vaccinated persons may still be infected with the virus, but either they will be asymptomatic and not realize it and may pass it on to others, or they may demonstrate only mild symptoms which will pass quickly as the body's immune system starts to recognise and destroy the

virus. This was demonstrated most clearly by the Province of Alberta which, two months ago, opened up the Province by removing all restrictions which had helped to stop the spread of the virus. The Calgary Stampede was allowed to proceed without both the use of face masks and the observance social distancing. The result is that, today, Alberta is in a crisis mode with hospitals unable to find the space for new COVID patients in need of medical intervention.

Nevertheless, in spite of the rantings of the anti-vaxers about their views about their rights for their bodies (see the June 2020 newsletter which discusses this point in the Editorial), it is important to get everyone vaccinated if the virus is to be stopped and be eliminated.

The Ontario Provincial Government has taken a more cautious approach and has continued to insist on some restrictions being kept even after some have been lifted. Further, it will be implementing a "passport" which will prove that a person has been fully vaccinated so that firms may be allowed to hire and/or serve only those who can prove to have been vaccinated, thus reducing the risk on catching and/or spreading the virus.

There are two restrictions which have not been removed completely and which will continue to affect us in holding our traditional fund-raising events. For the foreseeable future, the wearing of protective masks remains mandatory for all indoor public places, the size of non-essential gatherings can be larger (depending on the space available) but is limited, and a social distance of 2 metres or six feet apart must be maintained indoors and outdoors. For an indoor event, the maximum is 50% of the capacity of the space available, but no more than 1,000 people, while maintaining the social distance of at least two metres. For an outdoor event, the numbers are 75% and 5,000 people.

Our traditional fund raising events are dances where many unrelated people may share the same table, and the dance floor is usually full of couples within two metres of each other. To satisfy the requirements, the number of people allowed at any of our dances would be so low as to make the event unprofitable. With the delta variant being now rampant in Ontario, we do not expect the restrictions to change before the end of the year. Therefore, our Fall dance (usually held in October) has been cancelled as has the New Year's Eve Gala.

Looking ahead to 2022, we are trying to be positive and have taken the stand that everything will be back to "normal" by the end of the first quarter. Therefore, we have tentatively scheduled our three dances as in the past – the Spring Dance in April, Caribjam in August, and the Fall Dance in October. This schedule will be confirmed or modified as the dates grow nearer.

The Golf Tournament will definitely take place, as it did this year, at the same location. The date is yet to be finalised but most likely will be again in July. We may revert to a shot-gun format start, but this will depend on the golf club's instructions which we were forced to follow this year.

REMEMBERING BANKS JERRY

By Alumnus (46-51) Dave Martins

Over the weekend of 14th August, 2021, Guyana said goodbye to one of its premier citizens, Saints Alumnus (44–51) **Jerome Aloysius Gouveia**, who recently passed away suddenly. In every society, there are these special citizens living very special, even unique lives, whose exit leaves a space that is never filled by others, and he was certainly one of them.

His name is actually Jerry Goveia, but folks refer to him as “Banks Jerry” (he worked as a manager at Banks DIH for many years before his retirement) to differentiate him from the other guy, the pilot one, with the same-sounding name, and he actually came to mind recently after a column I wrote on flamboyant Guyanese from times past, not in the sense of being flamboyant but as one of those people who leave an impression on you that endures.

I actually knew Jerry as “Gov” going back to the days when we were together at Saints (the timing here is early 1950s) and that’s the name that has stuck with me. Gov seemed to play every sport known to man and some, like “labass”, known only to Guyanese. He was into soccer, field hockey, high jump, volleyball, 100-yard dash, rugby (I think he was on our national team several times), and was known as a ferocious competitor in each. Any kind of physical challenge, Gov was there. He would go down to the wharf, climb a schooner mast to the very top, and jump into the Demerara River some 60 feet below. Anything that caused the schooner to tilt shoreward could have caused Goveia to hit wooden deck instead of river water, and I believe that eventually the schooner captains put an end to that stunt.

After Saints, when I was working at Atkinson Field and he was working at PanAm, we would sometimes go roaming the landscape (Atkinson was dead as a doornail; nothing to do) and, one day, we were on his motorbike in the abandoned area on the eastern side of the airport. It was now a place of cracked tarmac, with a few rotting telephone poles. Gov spotted one pole in reasonable shape but which had rotted almost completely away at the bottom. He pulled over, got off his bike and, without saying a word to me, started climbing on the metal pegs anchored in the pole. Reaching the top, he then began rocking the pole back and forth to try and break it off. I’m thinking the man’s gone mad: if that pole breaks, he’s going to come crashing down to the tarmac 20 feet below. The rotten wood held, to my relief, but not Goveia; he rode off spitting and grumbling that “the damn pole wouldn’t break”.

In the weekend hunting trips he started as a young man, it was the same adventurous approach. Once, on a hunt in the Pomeroy River, he shot a snake in a tree overhead only to have the reptile fall in the boat. Fortunately for the crew, they got the snake overboard in a hurry; Goveia would have probably taken another shot at the creature, blowing a hole in the boat in the process. Another time, on a savannah hunt, Jerry’s jeep stalled as he was crossing a shallow creek, and the group was attacked almost immediately by a swarm of African killer bees. Every man jack bolted, except Gov who sat there taking the bites and

cranking the engine. He told me later the bees were coming by the hundreds, from all sides, and with such ferocity they were smashing into the windshield like pellets. He was brushing off bees with one hand and working the ignition with the other. Eventually, the engine caught and he drove off, but he was very sick man for several days from the venom his body had absorbed.

Goveia was drawn to physical challenges; he would even create them. I remember standing one night in the road outside my house at Vreed-en-Hoop, officiating as the starter in a sprint race he had just cooked up on the spot with his crony, the late Roy Gunby. It was a pitch black night, no street lights, and the two of them walked down the road into the darkness, I shouted “You ready?”, they shouted back “Yeah”, and I declared “Go”. The two of them came thundering out of the darkness, flashing by me with Gov in front. Never one to give up easily, Gunby asked for another race and we went through the same routine again. They actually ran four races that night – final result, Gov 4-0. I was told of another time when he was with some friends upstairs at the Georgetown Club, and he suddenly challenges one of his pals: “I bet you I can beat you downstairs in a race”. Bet agreed, somebody gives them a start signal but, instead of bolting for the stairs, Gov trots over to the window, jumps through onto the shed, then down in the yard below, and is standing there fanning himself as his competitor comes scrambling down the stairs.

There was also this incident after a weekend trip down the West Coast: Gov is on his motorcycle with Gunby on a Monday morning, steaming up Vreed-en-Hoop to catch the ferry. About a quarter-mile from the stelling, approaching a high bridge over a trench, he’s overtaking the eastbound traffic when a truck suddenly pulls out into the westbound lane. It’s too late to get back in line, the truck is bearing down, and he’s going too fast to stop. Gov simply swings the bike to the right of the bridge, and they plunge into the trench 10 feet below. I learn all this when the two of them appear on the ferryboat, dripping dirty water and grey trench mud. People were staring; they looked like two swamp rats, leaking muddy water and smelling foul amid all these nicely dressed folks headed for town. To be fair to him, Gunby looked a bit embarrassed; to Gov, it was just another day at the office; his only concern was going back later to retrieve his faithful motorbike.

I’m only skimming the surface of the Banks Jerry story here; there is a book in the guy, and one surprising piece of that tale will be that, while caught up in all those wild adventures, Jerry has remained a genial kind-hearted person with never a cutting word for a soul. Looking back on my life at the people I have known, I can’t think of another individual who has been a whirlwind matching him. How many people you know have jumped 60 feet from a schooner mast into a river, battled African killer bees to a draw, and rode a motorbike at 40 mph off a bridge into a trench? In my circle, I know only one – Gov. They just don’t make them like him anymore.

OBITUARIES

Alumnus (49-56) Donald Stephen Cheong-Leen died in May 2021 after enduring ill health in the last few years of his life which he bore stoically, uncomplainingly, and with great fortitude and courage while being nursed by Patricia, his very devoted wife. He was the brother of **alumnus (49-53) Patrick** and **alumnus (49-55) Philip**.

He was known affectionately in the family as “Anchai”. This nickname, it is believed, was derived by the corruption of the English word “Uncle” and the Chinese word “Chai” meaning son. The name was first used when, in 1943, the eldest sister Eula gave birth to her daughter Pauline, and Donald then became “uncle” at the age of 4. Hence, he was called Uncle Chai and, through usage, it became shortened to “Anchai”.

He was born in Hong Kong in 1939, just before the start of the Second World War in the Pacific. Although the Cheong-Leen family had planned to move to a safe haven in British Guiana to avoid the hostilities, it did not happen because the Allies had requisitioned all transportation for the war effort. So it was that the Cheong-Leen family had to walk for nearly four days, heading west into the interior of China to the city of Wai Chow. Donald, aged 3, was carried most uncomfortably in a wicker basket at the end of a bamboo pole by a porter, with Philip, aged 4, being similarly confined at the other end of the pole. You can’t help but feel somewhat sorry for the poor porter lugging two screaming infants at each end of his bamboo pole. During the journey, a thief snatched a bun from Philip’s hand, and Donald was asked to share his bun with him, which he did willingly and uncomplainingly, showing how generous he was even at this tender age of 3.

Donald’s primary school education was in Hong Kong, and his secondary school education was at St. Stanislaus College. He emigrated to London in 1957 to study accountancy in the city, following which he assisted and then joined his brother Patrick in founding and running the first Chinese Supermarket, called “The Cheong-Leen Supermarket”, in Central London. By the late 1980’s, his business acumen and pragmatic approach in solving problems were qualities which prepared him to start an import business of his own, called “Typhoon”, which became very successful due to his hard work, good judgement, courage, and integrity.

Donald was a quiet unassuming person by nature, with a cheeky sense of humour, yet always calm and collected. At the same time, he could be firm and resolute to the point of being stubborn but, in all his years, he never exchanged harsh words with his siblings. He was born in the Chinese year of the Rabbit, the fourth animal in the Chinese Zodiac year. People born in this year are said to be calm and peaceful, which describes perfectly Donald’s temperament and personality.

In 1969, Donald met his future wife, Patricia Kam, and they married in 1970. Theirs can only be described as a very happy marriage, and Pat, an excellent cook, even allowed him into her domain in the kitchen where he also excelled as a keen and enthusiastic chef. It was always a delight to be invited for a delicious meal prepared by them both. Pat was also very involved in the running of their business, and they travelled extensively to the Far East in the course of their work.

(Narrative provided by Philip Cheong-leen)

Alumnus (43-50) Vivian Patrick D'Andrade, 17 Mar. 1933 – 18 May 2021, passed away peacefully at 9:00 p.m. after a lengthy battle with cancer. He is survived by Maureen, his wife of 66 years, and his daughters Diane McGregor and Allison D'Andrade. Brother of Mavis Kirton, Yvonne Holder, and Clement D'Andrade. Loving grandfather of Edward Alexander, and doting great grandfather of Isabella.



Vivian is predeceased by his brothers Manoel D'Andrade, William D'Andrade, and his sister Julia D'Andrade ("Sister Amata"). Thanks to Randy Mugford at In Memoriam Funeral Services and a special thanks to Dr. Brodie, along with all the nursing staff from Providence Healthcare Palliative Unit for providing exceptional palliative care.

Alumnus (44-51) Jerome Aloysius Goveia died on 6th August, 2021, on his 88th year. Known as Jerry or “Banks Jerry”, he was the husband of the late Yvonne Goveia. He was the father of Guy, Andy (dec.), Alvaro, Sean, Jerry Max, and Alicea (dec.). He was the brother of Alfred (dec.), Claude (dec.), Juliet Richardson (dec.), Alvaro (dec.), Joe (dec.), Rosita Bornais, Bernice Walmesley, and Orlando. Father-in-law of Dawn and Shyka. Grandfather of Danielle, Andy Daley, Savannah, Alexandria, Ashe, Nile, and Nyah. Great



Grandfather of Sam. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, but he will live forever in our treasured memories.

(See separate article, “Banks Jerry”, in this issue for a personal remembrance by Dave Martins.)

COLLEGE NOTES

SAINTS STUDENTS ON GUYANA WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY TEAM

Clayza Bobb and **Abosaide Cadogan**, two students at St. Stanislaus College, were selected to represent the Guyana Women's National Hockey team at the Women's Indoor Pan American Cup which took place in Pennsylvania, USA, between 25th and 27th June. The team played against the top teams of the region: USA, Canada, Argentina, and Uruguay. There were no other teams from the Caribbean taking part. Unfortunately, the Guyana team was unable to beat the other four teams. However, the top goal scorer for the Guyana team was



Left: Abosaide Cadogan Right: Clayza Bobb

Abosaide, with two goals. To cover their incidental expenses during the tournament, the local Guyana Alumni Association and the Toronto Alumni Association provided a contribution of US \$500 to each of the two students. Congratulations must be offered to Robert and Philip Fernandes who have moulded the two students into the players they have become. Hockey was first introduced to the College in 1974, and among the first students to play was alumnus **Paul Archer**, a former President of the St. Stanislaus College Alumni

CLAYZA BOBB

This 16 year old St. Stanislaus College student is an outstanding track athlete. Clayza excels at running the 800m and 1500m, and has represented the school at both distances. It is the triple and long jump, however, that Clayza received her greatest success, making it all the way to the National Schools Championships in those two events.

After a brief stint at playing volleyball, Clayza discovered hockey and took a liking to the sport. She was one of the youngest players to compete on the school team when she started, but her potential was easily recognizable as her athletic ability made up for her underdeveloped skill at the time.

Clayza took the game seriously and improved rapidly to the point that, when the Guyana Hockey Board was selecting a squad to train for international competition back in late 2019, she was chosen among a few juniors who were not seriously being considered for a spot on the senior national team, but were good candidates for the future and who could benefit from training along with the seniors.



The COVID-19 pandemic postponed all competition in 2020, and the squad training was suspended for several months. When training resumed, it was apparent that

Clayza had been putting in extra personal work at home as she showed a marked improvement in her skill level.

When the Guyana national indoor hockey team was finally selected from the training squad, Clayza was a surprise inclusion for any who have not seen her play since the last competition. In the opinion of the national coach, Clayza has tremendous potential and the right attitude. She is a very coachable player who is intelligent and hard-working with good hand-eye co-ordination.

Clayza's father, a stevedore foreman at John Fernandes Ltd, is a strong supporter of his daughter's efforts and can often be seen at training, observing her progress. This is so often overlooked, but part of the success of a child in any area of interest can often be attributed to a dedicated parent or two who provide the environment, encouragement, and support for them to develop. This is a student with a bright future in field hockey.

ABOSAIDE CADOGAN

Abosaide Cadogan is a master athlete. If there ever was a suitable candidate for National Junior Sports Woman, she checks all the boxes. Abosaide's first success came through badminton where she became national under 13 champion in 2013 and medaled in regional competition for Guyana in singles and doubles competition over the next two years.

With her penchant for racket sports, Abosaide's father

brought her to the squash club to try her hand at a new sport when she was just 13. Abosaide's speed around the court was immediately noticeable and she was a natural with the racket. In short time, she became Guyana's junior champion in Under-15 and represented Guyana at this sport. After a few podium finishes just below the gold, Abosaide became the Under-17 Caribbean champion at squash in 2019.

With some of her squash teammates

Continued on page 11

Aboaside Cadogan

(Continued from page 8)

also being hockey players, they encouraged Aboaside to try this sport which allowed her the freedom to capitalize on her top end speed. Aboaside had been excelling on the track all through school with her best events being the 100m, 200m, 400m, and 800m, with the latter two events taking her all the way to the National Schools Athletics Championships. Once in the open hockey field, Aboaside proved difficult to catch and, with her superb timing of the ball, become the country's top goal scorer in almost every junior hockey tournament for the past three years. Along with several Most Goals awards, Aboaside has collected a number of Most Valuable Player

awards during her hockey exploits in the junior division. In addition to great success touring Trinidad with her club side, where Aboaside's team won junior tournaments on the island for three years in a row, Aboaside caught the eye of the national selectors, and she made her senior debut in 2019 for Guyana at the age of 16.

Aboaside is now a key player on the Guyana national team which relies heavily on her for their goal-scoring especially. This multi-talented athlete has now reached a level in two sporting disciplines, squash and hockey, which may be able to capture the attention of college coaches.



Centre: Aboaside Cadogan

SAINTS STUDENT IS TOP GUYANA U-18 CHESS PLAYER

Saints student, **Keron Sandiford**, was the top Guyana U-18 player when the qualifying round of the FIDE Online Rapid Chess World Cup competition ended on 21st August. The International Chess Federation holds this tournament which is played on-line. The player's venue needs an internet service of at least 5MB download/upload, and the player may use only one Desktop or Laptop PC. Mobile phones, tablets, smart watches, pens, or any other electronic devices, excluding one camera, are not allowed in player's room which has to be clearly lighted and visible from the camera connected in Zoom; the device the player is using has to be put in such a position that the greater part of the room can be seen. The room's door also has to be seen. During any stage of the tournament, players will be required to join a Zoom call, sharing their screens and

activating their cameras. Arbiters will communicate with the players through the Zoom chat and vocal communications, so the players will be required to pay attention to any Zoom notification. Players also may call an arbiter during the game, reporting any problem, and the Arbiters will communicate with the players through the Zoom chat and vocal communications.

In the Open U-18 category, there were 145 players, 3 of whom were Guyanese. The average score was 1,969, and Keron scored 1,529, the top Guyanese, finishing in 92nd position with four wins from the 10 rounds. His wins came in rounds three, five, seven, and ten. The winner was Suleymanli Aydin of Azerbaijan with a score of 2,536 from 8½ wins in 10 rounds.



DUE TO MY ISOLATION. I FINISHED 3 BOOKS YESTERDAY. AND BELIEVE ME. THAT'S A LOT OF COLOURING.

I tried donating blood today...NEVER AGAIN!!! Too many stupid questions. Who's blood is it? Where did you get it from? Why is it in a bucket?



Don't let them take the temperature on your forehead as you enter the supermarket, its a government plot to erase your memory. I went for a bottle of milk and a loaf of bread and came home with a case of beer and 12 bottles of wine!

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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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COMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Cost
Sat. 16 Oct., 2021	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)	CANCELLED
Fri. 31 Dec., 2021	New Year's Eve Gala	tba	CANCELLED
Sat. 23 Apr., 2022 (tentative)	Spring Dance	West Rouge Community Centre 270 Rouge Hill Drive, Toronto (Hwy 401/Hwy 2/Port Union Road)	<i>tba</i>
Sat. 9 Jul., 2022 (tentative)	Golf Tournament	Lebovic Golf Club, 14020 Leslie St, Aurora, ON L4G 7C2 (W. of Hwy 404, N. of Bloomington Road)	\$300 (3 drinks, and snacks on-course)
Fri. 29 Jul., 2022 (tentative)	Caribjam	tba	<i>tba</i>
Sat. 15 Oct., 2022 (tentative)	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>

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