



# SAINTS

# NEWS &

A bi-monthly newsletter of St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto

March/April 2002

Volume 8 Number 2

## From The President

### The Wall of Fame

*The usual content of this column dictates that it be written in a serious tone. Once in a while, I get the opportunity to deviate from this policy. The following story is an example of a chance to break with tradition. The language is deliberately non-businesslike, the story lighthearted and fun, and the style informal. You, our readers need to know that we are normal (editorial licence) everyday people. Our invitations to participate, to come to our meetings and to consider joining our association in an official capacity are sincere. I hope the tone of this article allows you to finally realize that although we are serious in our commitment to the college, we have fun doing what we do. Once again, I invite you to come out and spend an informal evening or two with us, whilst*

This is a story about perseverance, the kind of story our parents and teachers told us to motivate us when we were younger. The kind of story we heard when we needed that final push to achieve that elusive math pass. There is one small difference...this story isn't the figment of anyone's imagination. It is in fact very real.

The committee members are always kicking around ideas. We are continually exploring new avenues for keeping our members involved and interested in the college's welfare. As you begin to attend our meetings, you will realize that this is what we do...chat. Of course we make plans, of course we set policy, of course we invest and donate funds, of course we repair infrastructure. But essentially, we gaff! We sit around a table and try in a very relaxed and informal way to reinvent the wheel. I don't think we will ever be successful, as the current shape of the wheel seems to admirably justify the reasoning behind its rather ingenious original design. It works! But, once in a while, we come up with a nice looking set of rims, a set that when added to the wheel, makes the whole car look and feel better. A set that makes you glad you bought the car in the first place.

A long time ago in a place far away, (actually, it was in 1996 in a basement in Scarborough), we needed to come up with a way to raise funds for the college (nothing new), and to improve security for the students and teachers. We also needed to have all our members participate in the project, and to ensure that upon completion, those that participated would

always be remembered as having contributed. We wanted you to be able to point with pride and say, "I attended SAINTS. I came back and did that, and there is the proof. There is my name!"

Rupert De Castro, our least vocal, most unassuming and least opinionated executive member came up with the idea of the "Wall of Fame". We would build a wall around the perimeter of the college, and on the inside of the bricks would be marble plaques, bearing the names of every member who contributed to the project. This way, we would accomplish the mandate of raising funds, enhancing security and preserving the names of every member who contributed. Simple? We thought so too!

Seven years have passed since we all blindly but enthusiastically embraced this concept (Rupert has a way of doing this to us!). Seven years of designs, of permits and of surveyors' reports. Seven years of jokes. . .you've heard them all... "they started building that wall when the Dead sea was only sick". Seven years of serious and endless communication with Guyana. Seven years of the Toronto, Barbados and Guyana chapters raising funds. Seven years of red tape and frustration and most of all perseverance. seven years of some of our own executives losing faith and of Creole Johnny writing "stuff". (Who is this guy anyway?) Seven years of Joe Reis tirelessly raising funds. Seven years of negotiating with engineers and the bureaucracy. We have seen them come and we have seen them go, and through it all, our dream never died.

Well, just like the one in China, our wall will be finished at last! In August, to be exact. (That's August of 2002, for those of you who still doubt). Unlike the one in the Orient, you won't be able to see ours from outer space, but already there are rumours. Apparently, if Bee Wee is barely skimming the mango trees on its approach to Cheddie Jagan International on a perfectly clear day, you will be able to catch a glimpse of this magnificent structure you helped erect.

On a serious note, there are a lot of dedicated believers to thank...Rupert and Joe for their unwavering faith, the Toronto, Guyana and Barbados chapters and their entire memberships, Albert Rodrigues in Guyana, all of you reading this and countless others. I can't do that here, space will not permit. Subsequent issues will cover this in due course whilst detailing the chronology of the project.

*continued on page 9*

# SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

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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 and other aid to the College, 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 Catholic clergy in 1980.

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## DeskTop Publishing

Composition is for the most part, an effort of slow diligence and steady perseverance, to which the mind is dragged by necessity or resolution.

~ DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON

**DTP**, as it has come to be known arrived rather unceremoniously in 1985. This fascinating technology has literally revolutionized the printed page. At last, I thought, my search for creative expression through the written word was finally over. Now, I mused, I could give my work a fresh,

### As I See It

unique, attractive face, as a consequence of the

Electronic Revolution.

However, all the exciting electronic 'bells and whistles' can only improve the packaging, and provide hours of tireless entertainment for the user. It does not a writer make! Yet, through the window of my newly acquired monitor, I could see endless possibilities. I felt assured that my journalistic knowledge could find full expression through the Personal Computer.

My top priority was to master this adversary; artificial intelligence. The continuous pace at which this new technology moves is a constant challenge to the serious writer. But, perseverance in its application will inevitably become an obsession and then an addiction.

Writers function at a different level of subjective thought. I revelled in the belief that I no longer needed a typist, a secretary, a filing clerk, a copyfitter, a graphic designer, not even an editor. My presumption caused me to question whether I needed even a publisher. The PC gave me the strength to conquer unexplored areas in my quest for journalistic independence. Call me a dreamer, if you wish, but I'm living the dream. My reward is in having created for myself, my own "comfort zone."

I am already happily there, and that's all that matters to me! ☐



editorsaints@aol.com

## Events Calendar 2002

The **GOLF TOURNAMENT** will be held at **Rolling Hills Golf Club Championship Course** on **July 6 at 1:30 p.m.** shotgun start.

**SAINTS vs QUEENS:** These old rivals will be meeting once again in a friendly **soccer** match in **July**. Further details will be announced later.

**CENTRAL vs SAINTS: August.** This **cricket** match will be held in Guelph. More information later.

**QUEENS vs SAINTS:** A lot of pride is involved in this **cricket** match between these two teams in **September**. Come out and see some famous "old timers" doing their thing, as they struggle for bragging rights

**CARIBJAM:** Is there any place else you'd rather be on Friday, **August 2**, than at **Thornhill Community Centre, 7577 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill** for Caribjam?

**LAST LAP LIME** will, as usual, be held at the famous **Tam-Heather Country Club, 730 Military Trail, Scarborough** on Monday **August 5**. The entrance fee is \$5 for everyone including teenagers. Musical entertainment and parking are free.

The **FALL DANCE** will be held at **Thornhill Community Centre, 7577 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill** on Saturday, **October 19**. Further details will be announced in future issues of Saints News & Views ☐



## Change of Address

**C**urrently, there are a number of members of our Association who have moved, but have not notified us of their new address. This means that they are not receiving our newsletter or information concerning our fund-raising events. If you are moving, please send us your new address.

If you have not yet paid your membership dues for 2002, you may consider remitting your cheque for \$25 to the Association at 4544 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, M1S 1V2



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**SAINTS**  
**Annual**  
**Fund-raising**

**SPRING**  
**DINNER**  
**DANCE**

**Date:** Saturday, April 13, 2002

**Time:** 7:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

**Place:** West Rouge Community Centre  
270 Rouge Hill Drive  
Scarborough

**Dress:** Casual Elegance

**Admission:** \$20 per person, including  
dinner to be served from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

(Lawrence Avenue, east of Port Union Rd, runs  
into Rouge Hill Drive)

Music by:  
**DJ "Bake"**



**Door prizes to be won!**

Tickets available from members  
of the Executive Committee



**Special Thanks**

The Association would like to thank Mr. Vibert Vieira for his generous donation of more than 150 books to the College. Anyone wishing to donate items that can be used by the College, may contact any Executive member of the Association.

# St. Stanislaus Kostka, S.J. 1550 - 1568

St. Stanislaus died as a Jesuit novice when he was 18. He was a Polish nobleman whose family estate was at Mazovia. He attended the Jesuit school in Vienna which was founded for educating the nobility. His older brother badgered and physically abuse him while they attended school.

During this time while his health deteriorated, Stanislaus had visions of St. Barbara and the Blessed Virgin. He determined to enter the Jesuits and so walked 450 miles from Vienna to Augsburg to plead with St. Peter Canisius to allow him to enter. Canisius sent him to Francis Borgia in Rome. Borgia admitted him to the Jesuits.

After 10 months of novitiate, he died of no apparent reason on August 15, 1568. He was the first Jesuit to be beatified in 1605. He was canonized by Benedict XIII on December 13, 1726. He is the patron of Jesuit novices




## A Schoolgirl's Diary

I arise today  
Through the strength of heaven:  
Light of sun, radiance of moon,  
Splendour of fire, speed of lightning  
Swiftiness of wind, depth of sea,  
Stability of earth, firmness of rock.

~ SAINT PATRICK

5TH-CENTURY PATRON SAINT OF IRELAND



## Guyana Quiz

**Significant events in any country's history have a direct bearing on its economic, cultural, spiritual and social development as a nation. Do you know what significant event occurred in Guyana on these historical dates?**

1. 1831	6. August 1, 1838
2. 1833	7. 1844
3. 1835	8. 1847
4. 1837	9. 1853.
5. February 9, 1838	10. 1866

**ANSWERS**

1. Berbice, Demerara, Essequibo united as British Guiana, with Sir Benjamin D'Urban as first Governor.	5. Colony divided by ordinance into 3 counties of Demerara, Essequibo and Berbice.
2. Act of Abolition of Negro slavery passed by British Parliament.	6. Full and unqualified liberation of the Negroes.
3. 429 immigrants arrived from Madeira under the Bounty system. Captains were paid or every labourer they introduced.	7. Queen's College founded.
4. Sir Richard Schomborg discovered the Essequibo	8. Work begins on Georgetown-Mahaica Railway, the first in South America.
	9. First Chinese immigrants, 262 men, arrive.
	10. St. Stanislaus founded.

## The Guyanese Idiom

By Howard Bryce

**C**reolese has endured in spite of its critics and detractors, simply as a dialect that has no sentence structure or grammatical refinements, but has a rhythm that's different in urban and rural areas. Do you recall these proverbs?

- ~ Every skin teeth ent a laugh
- ~ Neva de day canoe bore punt
- ~ Tief from tief mek God laugh
- ~ Blood thicker than water
- ~ Bullshit does baffle brains
- ~ Cheat nevah prosper
- ~ Chip doan fall far from de block

- ~ Cow dead, he ownah cry, carrin crow laff
- ~ Eat labba an drink creek watah, you caan' lef dis Guiana
- ~ Empty bag caan' stan up
- ~ Every mouldy biscuit gat he own cheese
- ~ Eye nah see, heart nah bu(r)n
- ~ Han wash han mek han come clean

# Contest Winner

Congratulations  
Mr. Richard James

**T**hanks for the interest shown by the members in submitting their entries to this contest. Congratulations to our winner, Mr. Richard James of 1 Gillbank Crescent, Toronto who has won 2 tickets to our Spring dance on April 13th., by correctly identifying the most students in the photograph below.



Photo submitted by Leslie Choo-Wing

**Back Row (L to R)** ~ Albert Hamilton, Orlando Gouveia, Richard James, D'arcy Hatmin, Raymond Mandal, Leslie Birch-Smith, Michael Mendes de Franca, Terrence Campbell, Philip Gomes.  
**Middle Row (L to R)** ~ Leslie Green, Jolyon King, Denis De Freitas, Dallas Williams, Gregory De Castro, Carl Sylvester, Horace Nurse, Patrick Dargan, Rayman Ally, Michael Zitman, Joseph Jardine.  
**Front Row (L to R)** ~ Brian De Freitas, Raymond Rebeiro, Leslie Choo-wing, Michael Heydorn (Teacher), Horace Persaud, Hilary Rebeiro, Vibert Pereira, Michael Singh.

# Cricket Lovely Cricket: CENTRAL Prevails

*Some of our members will wonder why we're publishing this article now. Unfortunately, Saints News & Views had a lapse in publishing last summer. The Association offers its apologies for not having done this before now, and looks forward to seeing many more members at the upcoming cricket matches this summer.*

**By J. A. Castanheiro**  
Sports Editor

**T**he setting once again was the picturesque Bharat Oval nestled within chip shot distance of the Grand River in the peaceful hamlet of Inverhaugh, just outside of Guelph.

It was another gorgeous day as the captains spun the toss. The SAINTS skipper called correctly and elected to take first strike on a perfect batting wicket and a very fast outfield. **Mark Dummett** and newcomer, **Aleem Ghanny** opened the innings for SAINTS and proceeded cautiously until Dummett lost his wicket with the score on 28. **D'Ornellas** joined Ghanny who settled in and treated us to some exquisite onside play. D'Ornellas started confidently, but after striking three boundaries, he was bowled by **Bharat Singh** for 15 with the score on 53. **Clive Lee** joined Ghanny who continued to attack the tight CENTRAL bowling which included **Nicholas de Groot** who represented Canada in the recent I.C.C. Trophy.

Ghanny was eventually out for 69 with the score on 112 after 30 overs. A useful 25 from **Robin Rambarran** enabled SAINTS to reach 157 after the allotted 40 overs.

CENTRAL started shakily as their opener **Toolie Ghanny** was caught off the bowling of the wily **Hazlewood** for the dreaded "duck" (0). They lost their second wicket with the total on 39, but a stubborn 4<sup>th</sup> wicket partnership of 64 steered CENTRAL to victory. There were some anxious moments when the middle order collapsed as 3 wickets fell for 15 runs. However, they finally surpassed SAINTS' total by scoring the winning run in the 33<sup>rd</sup> over. Bowling for SAINTS, **Clive Lee** took 3 for 23, **Hazlewood** 2 for 25 and **Castanheiro** 2 for 6. Congratulations to CENTRAL.

After the presentation of the Dias trophy to **Ed Moore**, CENTRAL's Skipper, the fun part of the proceedings began with beers and curry and roti. Another memorable day of competition, camaraderie and reminiscing was enjoyed by all ☐



## Letters from Readers

**S**aints News & Views welcomes letters from our readers, whether it's a complaint, an issue that is of concern to you, or a response to a published letter or article. All letters must be signed. Saints News & Views reserves the right to edit letters for length and libelous statements.

Letters should be addressed to: The Editor, Saints News & Views, 6 Hector Court, Brampton, Ontario, L6S 1P1

## Incomplete Projects

**T**he President has reiterated his determination to complete the three remaining projects he spoke about in previous issues of Saints News & Views.

While there are still many hurdles to clear, plans have been implemented for the Wall of Fame and the Website. He is currently drafting proposals for Succession Planning, which he hopes to introduce soon.

We look forward to the completion of the Wall of Fame. Later this year, some members of the Executive Board hope to visit Guyana for the dedication ceremony sometime in August or September ☐



## How Tings Back Home?

By Creole Johnny

**M**an, ah en no wha fuh sey. Al ah no is wha ah reed in de Stabrook Nuze. De big ting now is dat de P.M. and de Prez fall out ova de koss ah electricity. De paypa sey dat de P.M. lef de wuk, but de P.M. en mek no publik statement yet. If yu see de confushun round de Publik Bildins, is all dem people dat wukkin at Walkers & Riders wan no wha goin on.

De nex ting is dat de amerikan ambassa sumting or odda, tellin de people how de ekonomy gun improov wen dey dun bill de rode tuh Brezil. Da won mek me laff, bekaz dey bin builin da rode since ah wuz a smallboy, and Creole jus turn 66. He talkin bout how sum free trade agreement betwene we an Brezil gun help we. Wel, al ah got to sey to dat is dis, wen ah go tuh Stabrook markit tuh buy me hassa and rice to mek me kurry, dey doan gimme nuttin free. If ah tel yuh how much hassa koss, wattah gun kum to yuh eye.

But we still deh hey, nuh. At lease Creole had a good tyme jumpin up lass Sattaday to de Mashramani fete. Man if yuk see al dem nice, nice woman flouncin round an showin wha dey got, yuh woold kum back to de ole kuntry rite away. Yuh boun fuh no dat Guyaneze faimuss fuh battin back de liquors rite? Man if yuh see dem drinkin up, dey happy like pig in s---. Dem en wurryin bout nuttin.

# Random Thoughts About . . .

## Mother Nature

I am kindred spirit with Mother Nature.  
With bare feet touching earth,  
nature's lonely solitude in peaceful tone  
speaks to me; soothes my weariness.

Universal energy, source of my strength.  
Soft winds touching me gently  
reminding me of this.  
Dewy blades of grass,  
glistening in early morning rays,  
embrace my senses.  
Silent messages, through my hands  
as I till the soil,  
speak my appreciation for its abundance.  
A feeling of well-being overwhelms me.

Time stands still.  
I am consumed in contentment,  
absorbed by my surroundings.  
The cacaphony, shrouded by a canopy  
of variegated foliage,  
arrests my attention.  
I am filled with fascination and  
wonderment at the mystery,  
"Dust thou art . . ."

I am the beginning and the end,  
and though all  
seems well momentarily,  
Rape of the land I cannot condone,  
and my beauty  
begs for appreciation,  
for I am Mother Nature.

~ hilary de cambra





Rather, I prefer to remain lightheaded a little while longer, and detail some of our plans instead. We will be in Guyana for an opening ceremony. The tentative time seems to be around September 9<sup>th</sup>, but this is yet to be confirmed. We plan to meet the Guyana and Barbados chapters there, and we proudly invite you all to attend the unveiling ceremony with us. After all, without your generosity, this would still only be a concept. We are targeting September, because we would like to speak with the students when they are in class. It will be a great opportunity to find out their needs and wants, to ask if we make a difference, and if not, how can we? It will be a great opportunity to meet the teachers, to meet the Guyana chapter and their membership, and to once again walk into the classrooms that hold many cherished memories and secrets for us all.

It will be a perfect opportunity for you to view the "Wall" and to know that you are the reason it is there, to look

at your name and know that in a small way, you have given back a little to the institution that gave you so much. It will probably be the only opportunity you will ever have to be a "SAINTS boy" one more time. Come with us. We will be a little serious and a little silly. You can help us bump Howard Bryce and Maurice Serrao one more time for "old time sake". You can accompany Des Jardine on a tour of the Ferula Room, where he will show you his photograph on the wall, a proud testimonial to a frequent "visitor". We will sip a little and dance a little, laugh a little and remember a lot! Come with us.

Each contributor will receive a call shortly, as we have to verify all name spellings, the years you attended the college and the year you graduated. We will also furnish details of the trip. I sincerely hope that I will see you all in school in September.

**Paul Abdool**  
**President**

## The Mailbag

**Hi Leslie,**

**A note of appreciation** - though belated; thanks for the follow-up, sending me a copy of the November/December, 2001 newsletter.

It was particularly useful, since it mentioned the death of Godfrey Persaud back in September, 2001.

I have not been in touch with his brother, Horace for quite some time and I was not aware of Godfrey's death.

Thanks again, looking forward to future issues.

**Dave Adams**  
**Markham**

**Hi Buntz,**

**It was certainly a pleasure** receiving the *Saints News & Views*. I have always enjoyed reading it and was very sorry when it stopped. However, it is back and was excellently done.

Best regards,

**Vibert Vieira**  
**Ajax**

**Hi Francis,**

**I am a fully paid-up member** and have been for many years. I realize that most, if not all publications do not accept anonymity with submitted articles. I could not presume that whatever I submitted would be published.

Excuse me for not being specific as to the type of article that I was proposing to submit, but I just thought that I too could help out by contributing an article to *Saints News & Views*, as you requested. Perhaps I will reconsider another submission at a later date.

Good luck with the continued success of *Saints News & Views*.

**G-Man**  
**Earth**

**Hi Hilary,**

**Congrats** on getting the Jan/Feb issue out and I am glad you have an e-mail address, so expect letters from me now & then.

Please note my home address, where future issues of *Saints News & Views* should be sent. Lot 7, Coral Drive West, Coraland, Haggatt Hall, St. Michael, Barbados.

Slight erratum in your flattering article entitled "Barbadian Connection." I was not a member of the Board of Management at Harrison College, but just a member of staff. My major extra curricular activity was that of Group Scout Master from the time I joined the staff in 1981.

Please let me know what is happening about "Torontosaints.com." What has now taken its place? I hope you have been able to get some alternative.

Raymond Rasul will be in Barbados March 6-16. I will be meeting him and taking him to Stanley Greaves Exhibition of paintings, where the Hon. Minister Mia Mottley will give the opening address.

So long for now. Keep in touch.

**Ken**  
**St. Michael,**  
**Barbados**

**(We are still trying to replace Torontosaints.com with a new website)**