

SAINTS NEWS & VIEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. STANISLAUS
COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TORONTO



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On the Web at:
WWW.TORONTOSAINTS.COM

As the West Indies hosts the 2007 World Cup of Cricket Tournament, The Toronto Association celebrates:

The contribution of Saints Alumni to West Indies and Guyana cricket

Cricket fever will be gripping the Eastern Caribbean and Guyana in March and April this year when the region hosts Cricket's World Cup, the most significant event of its kind ever undertaken in that part of the world.

I thought that it would be apropos to reflect on the contribution some of our alumni have made to the history of West Indies and, of course, Guyana cricket.

My research indicates that the following alumni represented the West Indies and also Guyana:

Cyril Christiani	1934 - 1939	vs England
Robert Christiani	1948 - 1954	vs England
Leslie Wight	1953	vs India
Clifford McWatt	1954	vs England
Ivor Mendonca	1962	vs India
Sven (Charlie) Stayers	1962	vs India
Steven Camacho	1968 - 1970	vs England & Australia

The list of alumni who represented British Guiana/Guyana only is as follows:

Peter Bayley	Lennie Thomas	Peter Wight	Travis Dowling
Bertie Christiani	Neville Thomas	Brian Patoir	Tyrel Tull
Johnny Christiani	George Camacho	David Martins	
Harry Christiani	Arnold Wight	Geoff Murray	
Bernie Thomas	Norman Wight	Timur Mohamed	

Structure of the Tournament

The preliminary matches will be a round robin system.

The opening match will be contested on Tuesday, 13th March between Pakistan and the hosts, West Indies, in Jamaica while the opening ceremonies will also be held in Jamaica on March 11th.

The two teams with the most points in each group will then participate in the SUPER EIGHT STAGE with matches to be played in Antigua & Barbuda, Grenada, Guyana, and Barbados.

The first semi-final is due to be played in Jamaica on April 24th and the second semi-final will be played in St. Lucia on April 25th. The Final will be played in Barbados on Saturday, April 28th.

New stadiums have been built at Trelawny in Jamaica, Providence in Guyana, Warner Park in St. Kitts, and St. John's in Antigua.

Extensive renovations have also been carried out to the facilities at Sabina Park in Jamaica, Queen's Park Oval in Trinidad, Kensington Oval in Barbados, Beausejour Stadium in St. Lucia, and Queen's Park in Grenada.

Australia are the favourites by virtue of an impressive record in recent O.D.I.s (one day internationals) but anything can happen in a one-day 50-over match; therefore, do not dismiss the chances of South Africa, Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, New Zealand, England or, yes, the West Indies.

West Indies have a reputation for playing entertaining cricket and, as a result, have been dubbed "CALYPSO cricketers". Unfortunately, within recent times, they have been performing like "Collapso cricketers". Let us hope that the former step on the field of play when the tournament starts.

Whatever happens, we can be assured of attractive, entertaining cricket from mid-March to April 28th.

A great amount of planning and hard work have gone into the preparation for this historic tournament. We wish the organizers well in this momentous undertaking.

Joe Castanheiro

P.S. For details on viewing live coverage of these matches, see Page 2, **Watch it Live.**

Alumni in the news

Guyanese receives royal decoration on St. Maarten

PHILIPSBURG--Guyanese born playwright, Ian Valz, was among eleven persons who received a royal decoration in commemoration of the Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix on Friday, April 28, 2006. Of the eleven persons honoured, six were decorated as Knights of the Order of Oranje-Nassau and five as Members of the Order of Oranje-Nassau.

The recipients meet the criteria of “exceptional voluntary and personal service or achievements,” stated Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards who presented the royal decorations during a ceremony at his residence Friday evening in honour of Her Majesty the Queen’s birthday.

Decorated as Knights were (Ian) Valz, Cassandra Gibbs, Lisandra Havertong, Jean Illidge, Merlyn Schaminee-Miguel, Sidney Sorton, and Kenneth Lopes. Decorated as Members were Glorine Richardson, Maximiliaan Phelipa, Kenneth Lopes, James Marlin, and Maxime Reid.

Valz left Guyana to come to St. Maarten twenty years ago to play a major role in the area of culture. He trained the



Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards presents the knighthood on behalf of Queen Beatrix , to Sir Ian Valz.

youths in the area of theatre and drama and kept them busy in a positive way. He is also known for his enormous efforts for the schools and teachers, and development of adult theatre. He received international acknowledgement for his play “Masquerade.”

Acknowledgement

The above news item on Saints alumnus, Ian Valz, was taken from the local Saint Maarten newspaper. Ian attended St. Stanislaus during the period 1970—1975.

On April 14, 2007, in Baldwin, New York, a celebration in honor of his knighthood is being planned by his class

mates, Ed Isaacs, Dr Clyde Anthony, Stephen Budhu and Mark Bannister, during his time at Saints. You may visit website www.gttime.ezreunions.com for more information and photos related to this event.

We are indebted to Mark Bannister for providing the information used in this article.

Watch it live!

You can follow the Cricket World Cup tournament via live telecast as follows:

Contact either Bell or Rogers and ask for the Cricket Plus Channel.

Bell Express Vu (GTA & across Canada)

Rogers Cable (GTA)

Prices quoted per ATN source:

- Complete package (All games) -\$179.99
- From April 1/07 to end - 99.00
- Finals only - 79.99

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WE NEED YOU!
JOIN YOUR ASSOCIATION TODAY
SEE PAGE 8 FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership

Membership dues were received from several alumni after the deadline for printing of the December Issue of the News & Views. For this reason, the names of these alumni were not included in the December List of Members.

The Association welcomes, and wishes to acknowledge, as Year 2006 members, the following alumni:

From Canada

Edward Driver, Douglas Menezes, Colin Nurse, Michael Teixeira, and Vibert Vieira.

From the United States

Bernard Friemann, and Peter Rodrigues

International

Christopher Cho-Young

So far this year, the following have already committed to paid membership:

CANADA (62)	Hilary De Cambra	Gerard Gomes	Bunty Phillips	Brian Devers
Bernard Arokium	Rupert De Castro	Trevor Gomes	Ramon Rego	Vic Gonsalves
Leonard Arokium	Thomas DeCastro	Neil Gonsalves	Romeo Resaul	Edward Gouveia
Michael Barrington	Alvaro De Freitas	Gerry Gouveia	Raphael Rodrigues	Ken Jordan
David Bourne	Frank Delph	Hugh Hazlewood	Cecil Seymour	Peter Rodrigues
Teddy Boyce	Clive Devers	Paul Hazlewood	Arthur Veerasammy	John Sparrock
Paul Camacho	Roger Devers	Des Jardine	Warner Veerasammy	
Wilfred Carr	Terrence Devers	Clayton Jeffrey	Vibert Vieira	INTERNATIONAL (8)
Joseph Castanheiro	Neville Devonish	John King	Howard Welshman	Philip Cheong-leen
Antony Chapman	Frederick Dias	Vibert Lampkin	Godfrey Whyte	Richard De Caires
Errol Chapman	Ronald D'Ornellas	Gerard Martins	David Wong	Stephen De Castro
Bob Chee-a-tow	Carlton Faria	Herman McCowan	John Yip	Tony Gomes
Ivan Choo	Paul Farnum	Michael Mendes de Franca		Leyland Grant
Malcolm Cole	Frank Fernandes	Stan Niccols	U.S.A. (9)	John Jardim
Ken Cumberbatch	Raymond Fernandes	Clarence Nichols	Fr. Andrew Chan-a-sue	Neville Jordan
Eddie Da Silva	Julian Fisher	Tony O'Dowd	Brian Chin	Lennox Yhap
Tyrone DeAbreu	Sonny Francis	Malcolm Pequenezza	Vincent Correia	

We express a hearty “THANK YOU” to all these alumni mentioned above for their past and current support.

In the past when we contacted some of you about becoming paid-up members, you made comments to the effect that the current College isn't the same as the one which you attended, and that you no longer feel any connection to it any more. This is absolutely TRUE! The College is NOT the same. You can imagine MY great surprise (and shock!) when I visited it in November 2005 for the first time in forty-six years! The school had changed almost beyond recognition and not for the better! That visit made me all the more determined to help the current school.

I have had a successful later academic and working life mainly because of the training and skills drilled into me by the teaching staff of my days there. I am very grateful for this. I feel that I do owe the school a lot because of this. The current students are beset by many cares and worries, including their physical environment and the quality of in-

struction. Many of these problems can be addressed by the application of financial aid since in Guyana, national poverty is one of the main contributors to the lack of obtaining a good education. Therefore, I have volunteered my time and service to trying to improve the educational environment of the students at the College. In the words of the late Howard Bryce, former President of the Toronto Association, “I do it for the children!”

We take this opportunity to encourage those of you who have not yet become paid-up members to do so and to help us become even more successful in improving the lot of the students today, and in “**Making Saints #1**” as it used to be in “our days”.

BUNTY PHILLIPS

Asst. Treasurer

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The Inter Office Envelope

Revised ©2006 Ilene Madrigal

I never really gave them much thought before - the Interoffice Envelope. You know - the one that circulates around the office with the dire warning "Do Not Throw Away Until All Lines Have Been Used." I probably wouldn't have thought much about the lowly envelope if it hadn't been for my cubicle neighbour pointing out all the names written on the one I delivered to his desk this morning. Now the very idea that we were discussing this issue is probably closely related to the time spent in cubicles without any direct sunlight - but that topic is for another day. Anyway, his statement made me wonder just what stories the envelope would tell about its journey around the office.

So I just picked one up and held it for a few moments to see what it would tell me. The one I chose out of the stack was actually quite battered and worn. It had 51 lines - for those counting - and some of those lines had labels over them indicating that that particular line had been used more than once. I was wondering what it was thinking - there were only four lines left blank. Its lip was slightly torn and doubled back, the sides had several tears, and someone had taken the time to put a little tape on the bottom rip. The envelope was definitely nearing the end of its usefulness. I thought of all the documents it had carried and how it had traveled about without questioning why - strictly for the purpose of serving others; and I began to reflect on who might be the one that decided to "throw away" this particular envelope.

Now I like new things - pristine. In the past before this epiphany about envelopes, I have been known to pass up an envelope as battered and torn as this one in favor of a new one - especially if I thought the recipient was somebody important in the company. Now in reality, unless this recipient had a personality like mine, they probably didn't give a flying flip about the envelope - they were just interested in the contents and didn't even give the envelope a passing thought. It wasn't about the envelope at all - but what the envelope could do for them.

I began to wonder if any of us have ever really thought about what would happen if we came to work one morning and there were no Interoffice Envelopes. Think about all the documents that are circulated in one day throughout a large corporate office - many of them bearing the distinction of being CONFIDENTIAL - and, on this particular day, they lie naked and exposed to the elements and prying eyes, all because there were no Interoffice Envelopes. Now doesn't that just make you look at the importance of these lowly servants with new eyes?

Hummm. And what does this say about us as people going about life unaware of the value of our fellow human beings and perhaps of our own value? Do we pick and choose our friends, employees, mates because of how others might view us? Do we pass by someone of great usefulness just because their edges are a bit frayed and their lines are almost used up? Do we use others for our own benefit without ever appreciating their importance? Do we toss them aside before all their lines are used in favour of someone younger - more esthetically pleasing? Do we ever take time to explore the journey of our fellow humans - learn from their experiences - appreciate their value? Or do we all need to wear a sign that begs, "Do Not Throw Me Away Until All My Lines Have Been Used" - just to remind each other how important our fellow human beings really are, and that although many of us may no longer be housed in that pristine new package, we all still have a few lines left?

Sort of makes you think, doesn't it - you know - about what is important. In reality, we are all just a bunch of Interoffice Envelopes - serving others - gradually running out of lines. Makes me want to be more appreciative of my fellow man - and, yes, I agree, I need to get out my cubicle more often!

The above article was taken from 'My Daily Insights', an online newsletter by *AsaManThinket.net*

The author, Ilene Madrigal, along with Jesse, the father of her children, has enjoyed a lifetime of projects, owning and operating a denture clinic, raising Labrador Retrievers and Arabian horses, farming, and operating a commercial fish farm while raising a family of five delightful children.

WE NEED YOUR HELP – FOR JUST 3 HOURS

Increasingly over the years, we have had to hire people to do jobs our volunteers would normally do. Why? We cannot get enough of you guys/girls (Saints Alumni) to do the work.

- Examples:
- We pay \$200-400 to decorate a hall.
 - We pay \$100 to each (SIP-trained) barman per event.
 - We pay \$100 to each bar ticket salesperson

This of course reduces our profits from each event, leaving us with less funds to help Saints.

We are appealing to you (yes, you!) Saints old boys/girls to volunteer for just 3 hours for any one or more of our functions, to contribute in any way your talents/inclinations take you. We do not ask anyone to do anything he/she

does not want to do. We want you to contribute, how, where, and when you want. Perhaps your spouse (and/or other family members) also would be interested in helping e.g. with the decorating.

“A penny saved is a penny earned”. With an adequate number of volunteers, we may save as much as \$1000.00 per event. We do not “take ourselves too seriously”; we enjoy what we do and make sure we have fun doing it. Also, with luck, you may even get a “free” beer at our meetings.

Please contact any member of the Executive to volunteer your services and, in anticipation, we thank you for doing so.

“The goodness that thou mayest do this day, do it; and Delay it not till tomorrow” Geoffrey Chaucer.

SAINTS EXECUTIVE

Challenge from the Antigua and Barbuda Association

They are not many in numbers but do they ever make up for it in spirit! The Antigua and Barbuda Alumni Association was inaugurated in April 2006 and, in this short time, not even a year, their contribution to Saints has been far out of proportion to their numbers. There are, after all, less than two dozen in number!

At a function hosted by Robin and Rosanna Shaw last December, this group donated a Wall of Fame plaque in the name of the Antigua and Barbuda Association and challenged the other associations to do likewise. In response, the Toronto Association has also donated a plaque in the name of our Association.

Not only is this group ‘keeping the traditions alive’, they are on the way to establishing a new tradition of what a small group can achieve.

Congratulations !



Robin Shaw (seated Right), president of the Antigua and Barbuda Alumni Association presents a cheque to Art Veerasammy, President of the Toronto Association, for a Wall of Fame plaque. Seated left is Roger Devers, Secretary of the Toronto Association. Standing, left to right, are Des Jardine, Bunty Phillips, and Joe Reis, all members of the Toronto Association

From our readers

Dear Arthur,

I cannot recall, probably due to advancing age, whether we were in the same form other than to say that I left Saints in 1956 (Form 5) as I could not afford to stay on beyond my scholarship termination. Anyway, like most ex-Saints boys, I managed to achieve a professional qualification when I came to England to study Accountancy.

I have been receiving, via Carl Ramalho, the newsletters which, I must admit, puts my memory to great tests, in remembering both the names as well as the faces that go with the names. However, I have made myself a promise that, in the near future, I intend to look up those names and hopefully some spark of memory will return. For the present, my traveling is somewhat restricted due to home attachments (family pet which I cannot face myself to put in a kennel) since also I would not want to spend just a few weeks looking up old acquaintances. But maybe soon, without wishing

See **Tony**, on Page 8

WHY DON'T YOU (SAINTS OLD BOY/GIRL) HELP SAINTS?

A. Rupert De Castro, CMA (Saints: 1954-1959)

What is your reason for not helping the school that helped you get where you are today? And there are thousands of you.

LET ME GIVE YOU MINE:

In September of 1954 at the age of 12, I left Golden Grove on the East Coast Demerara to begin my five years at St. Stanislaus College. I stayed in Georgetown for the first year with my Aunt Roonie and her family who treated me very well from day one.

Saints was a whole new world to me. I was ill-equipped for the move. Within months of arriving at Saints, I drew the nickname "Country" because I did not speak "Georgetown" English (smile). Remember this was 1954.

I struggled with the adjustment. I was an introverted, quiet, stubborn loner with a "hot" temper. I was really not good at any of the subjects I was taking. I forget my position in term examinations, but it was more to the bottom of form 2B for each of the 3 terms.

By the end of the first year, I learned that, if a B form boy gets into the Top 3 of the class, he gets promoted to the A form. Fr. Scannell was the Headmaster at the time.

My circumstances changed in form 3B. I started traveling to Saints by train from Golden Grove on a daily basis. This entailed getting up at 6 o'clock to catch the 6:30 train to Georgetown, and getting back home at 5pm. I would then have a bite to eat and go to my old man's shop to work until 6:30pm. I would then go home to study by kerosene lamp and in time, gas lamp (smile); and then to bed. This routine repeated itself daily during schooldays.

As I was more comfortable with this arrangement, I developed a desire to "do better" at school, and "buckled down" to some serious work. The result was I ended up being 3rd in class. Then the "crap hit the fan". Father Scannell, in his wisdom, decided to promote my first, second, and FOURTH place classmates to 3A. My mother and I were told by Fr. Scannell that he believed my performance was a "flash in the pan". Boy was I mad!!!

How does a 13 year old boy fight the system especially

when both my parents were committed to the Church? I was lost. I simply retreated into myself and never really worked hard in high school from then on.

Most people would suggest this treatment gives me ample reason for not doing anything to help Saints. However, the same school that treated me in this manner also taught me discipline, taught me fair play and, most of all, taught me that, no matter how terrible things are in my own circumstances, I must always try to help the less fortunate.

Today, I hold no malice toward Fr. Scannell and/or Saints. If anything, later on in life, his action drove me to "make something of myself" (smile). I have been with the St. Stanislaus College Alumni Association Toronto when the Association was being formed, and I will be with it until..... My late good friend, Howard Bryce, said it best, "I do it for the children."

With the appointment of a Board of Governors being competently led by its Chair, Chris Fernandes, I see an unbelievable opportunity for us all to help Saints. None of us should have any excuses for not "pitching in". Come on, guys/girls, wherever you are in the world – HELP. Help because you owe it to Saints. Think: where would you be today without your Saints education?

TAKE THE FIRST STEP. JOIN YOUR ASSOCIATION. SEE PAGE 8 FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION.

P.S. I use the words "being competently led" to describe Chris's performance BECAUSE: any guy/girl who brings in a construction project (admittedly with the help of others) that was estimated to cost \$100,000.00+ CAD initially, for \$38,000.00 CAD is indeed very competent.

Chris did this with the "WALL OF FAME" project, which endears me to him for life. (smile)

Century 21

A. Rupert De Castro, CMA
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Reunion of Saints First Eleven cricketers

It was 50 years ago, more or less, that these gentlemen donned their whites and represented Saints on the cricket field. We have no record of the number of runs they made or how many wickets they took in Northcote Cup and Jacob Cup matches. More importantly, they continued the proud tradition of cricket during their time at Saints.

Our thanks to Joe and Anne Castanheiro for hosting the function which brought them together, and to Howard Welshman for recording the event.



Left to Right: Terry De Abreu, Tony Gonsalves, Vibert Mahanger, Joe Castanheiro, Ron Dias, and Ken Hahnfeld. Taken December 2006.

ASSOCIATION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS IN 2007

Event	Date	Location	Details
SPRING DANCE	Saturday April 28	West Rouge Community Centre 270 Rouge Hills Drive, Toronto (Hwy 401/ Hwy #2/ Port Union Road)	7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Semi-formal dress Dinner served at 8:00 p.m. \$40.00 - ALL INCLUSIVE
ALUMNI SOCIAL	Sunday May 6	St. John the Divine Hall 885 Scarborough Golf Club Road East of Hwy. 48, South of Ellesmere	Cocktails and "finger-food" 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bring another Alumnus!
CARIBJAM	Friday August 3	Thornhill Community Centre 7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill (Bayview and John Sts.)	8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Food bar available \$40.00
LAST LAP LIME	Monday August 6	Woodbridge Fair Grounds 100 Porter Avenue, Woodbridge (Kipling and Hwy #7)	11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Advance ticket : \$10.00 On day : \$20.00; IF NOT SOLD OUT (children under 12 : free)
<i>CULTURAL SHOW</i>	? September	<i>tba</i>	
NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE	Monday December 31	Thornhill Community Centre 7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill (Bayview and John Sts.)	7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

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Saint Maarten Paper,

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.

Tony, continued from Page 5

ill will upon the dear animal. To other matters, I have enclosed a money order for \$325, being \$25 for membership and \$300 in respect of a Supporting Donor.

Here in the UK John Yip facilitates in getting us together when he comes to visit his Mum and we (Neville Jordon, Compton Talbot, Leyland Grant, Donald Cheong-Leen etc) normally meet up somewhere in London to have a drink and remember our old school days.

Hopefully we and the other Canadian members will continue to communicate with each other and, if you can pass on my email address, some of my old mates may wish to drop me a line. It is tgomes@talktalk.net.

Wishing you all that is good for 2007 and the future.

With kind regards,

Tony Gomes

Editor's Note: Anthony Gomes retired in 1997, and now lives in Widdington, a small village in Essex, England.

He was Chief Accountant at Ranks Hovis McDougal Plc., in Windsor, Berks, England.

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, Toronto, Ontario, M1S 1V2. You may contact the Secretary, Roger Devers, by phone at Home at 905-277-3226 or at Work at 905-270-2811. You may also contact us by email at admin@torontosaints.com.

Alumni Association Membership Form

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

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