



QCOSA NEWS

The Queen's College Old Students' Association Newsletter

~The Guyana Chapter~

September 2003

Dear Old Student,

The Christmas term at QC has commenced in a new-look complex with the formal commissioning of the new Administrative Block/Auditorium. Attendees at the commissioning and passers-by have been suitably impressed at the new structure. *See details in this issue.*

We have received numerous requests for the inclusion of a regular column by Dr. Makepeace Richmond. QCOSA News sought to get Dr. Richmond to consent to this arrangement but could not extract any promise from him.

He has pointed out that since he "opened the batting", other old students should come to the crease and make a contribution.

There is merit in his response and so we invite readers to submit material to us for inclusion in future issues of QCOSA News. Tell us about your days at QC, your impression of the alma mater today or news about the progress of yourself or other old students over the years.

Send your contributions to vidushi@lawyer.com.



The Editor

• INTERNATIONAL QCOSA

The Queen's College of Guyana Alumni, Florida Chapter will be hosting this year's 4-days 2003 ICQC Reunion, which will be held in South Florida from Friday October 10, 2003 to Monday October 13, 2003.

QCOSA News urges you to work this reunion into your travel plans since it will be a fantastic opportunity to meet long-lost friends as well as to make new ones and of course, it will be a lot of fun. Three Executive Members from the Guyana Chapter will also be attending, and look forward to building bridges with all of you. They are the President, Laurie Lewis, Secretary, Sharon Singh and Treasurer, Raymond Khalil.

The Florida Chapter submitted the following tentative itinerary:-

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| Friday 10 th October | - | 6:00 – 9:00p.m. – Welcome Reception at the Ramada Plaza Hotel
Poolside by the Tiki Bar. |
| Saturday 11 th October | - | 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – ICQC AGM Meeting
12:00 p.m. – Luncheon / Guest Speaker : Lance Gibbs
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. – AGM resumes |
| Sunday 12 th October | - | 8:00 p.m. – Miami Carnival at Hollywood Rotary Club – Guyanese style
10:30 a.m. – Guyanese flavoured Brunch at Miami's newest theme park,
the Parrot Jungle Island / Piano Recital performed by world renowned
pianist (and QC old student) Ray Luck. |
| Monday 13 th October | - | Columbus Day
11:00 a.m – 5:00 p.m. – Family Day at Florida State Park.
BBQue, cricket match, dominoes and a lot of ol' time gaffing. |

Florida Chapter indicated that a block of rooms has been reserved at the Ramada Plaza, under the name of ICQC.

For the entire 4 days of festivities, the total package price is US\$90.00. Individual tickets can also be purchased for the following :-

Sunday Carnival - \$10.00 Saturday Night Fete - \$50.00 Brunch in Jungle - \$30.00

Please make cheques payable to "Queen's College of Guyana Alumni, Florida Chapter" and mail to Queen's College of Guyana Alumni Association, 6915 Taft Street, Hollywood, FL 33024. For further information, e-mail Rod at rawestmaas@aol.com Tel : 305 400 7231 or check the website for further details at www.qcalumnifl.org.

- **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Please be reminded that the statutory meetings of the Guyana Chapter are held on the first Thursday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at Queen's College.

Remember also that old students who plan visits home during this particular period will be especially welcome to attend.... we will be delighted to meet with all old students!

- **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Guyana Chapter of QCOSA was held on Saturday, March 29, 2003 at Queen's College. The Executive for this new year, 2003-2004 was elected. The following are the new office bearers:-

President	Laurie Lewis
1 st Vice President	Conrad Plummer
2 nd Vice President	Prabha Persaud (Ms.)
Secretary	Sharon Singh (Ms.)
Treasurer	Raymond Khalil
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer	Teni Housty
Public Relations Officer	Vidushi Persaud (Ms.)
Sports Officer	Stephen Gomes
Committee Members :	Onya Sam (Ms.)
	Rohan Jabour
	Mark Kirton
	James Holder
	Tony Geer
	Natasha Archer (Ms.)
	Leslie Liu Han

- **SOCIAL EVENTS**

- ✓ **Games Night**

QCOSA's Friday Games Night resumed on August, 22, 2003 after a break. This relaxing evening at the Police Officers Mess, Eve Leary was organised by QC Old Student, Stephen Gomes.

The tropical downpour did not dampen the spirits of those who attended. There was lots to drink and eat (including traditional black pudding and souse).

- ✓ **Bar-b-Que**

QCOSA will run off a take-away Bar-B-Que on Sunday 19th October, 2003 at NBIC's Sports Club. (Waterloo Street), between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. In addition to the BBQ, there will be curry and roti/puri/rice, channa, souse and black-putting available for sale. Tickets will be available from any Executive member shortly. We look forward to your support!

- ✓ **Housefeed 2003**

The Guyana Chapter of QCOSA is pleased to announce that Housefeed this year is definitely on and will be bigger and better than ever. Thirst Park has once again opened up its grounds to events, and as such, keep Saturday 6th December, 2003 as YOUR night to come out with the family and friends to Housefeed. Further details on this major social event will be given to you in subsequent issues of QCOSA News.

- **GENERAL NEWS**

- The Guyana Chapter of QCOSA, at the urgent request of the Head-Mistress, purchased and supplied two (2) HP Laser Jet Printers to the school so as to facilitate the effective participation of the Information Technology Students in both the CXC and the CAPE Examinations. This was made possible, thanks to the substantial donation from the U.K. Chapter.
- Yet another batch of Upper Sixth Formers have graduated from Queen's College. The Graduation exercise was held on July 09, 2003.
- Ian Wishart of the UK Chapter has put together a CD of over 200 old and more contemporary photographs of Georgetown. The various scenes are identified by labeled captions. These CDs are available at a nominal price of £5 plus postage. QCOSA News urges you to acquire this CD which will prove to be a collector's item. Send your cheque payable to "Queen's College Association (UK)" and addressed to Ian Wishart at 2 Prince Consort Drive, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5SB, England. Proceeds from the sale of these CDs will go to the UK Chapter of QCOSA.
- QC's Administrator Jim Holder, who attended QC from 1948 to 1954, discovered the school bell of Queen's College which dates back to 1918 amongst the building's ruins after the November 1997 fire. The bell was restored and mounted on a base with an accompanying plaque and is now sited in the new auditorium. Good show, Jim!
- QCOSA News extends congratulations and best wishes to the New York Chapter's office bearers for 2003-2004, who were elected at their recent AGM. We look forward to our continuing good relationship with the team from the Big Apple!
- The Guyana Chapter had a very productive 2 hour meeting with the Head-Mistress on Tuesday 30th September, 2003 at which time, various issues were discussed, which will be put into effect and discussed in subsequent issues and after consultation with the various Chapters at the upcoming ICQC Meeting. However, an immediate decision taken, is that QCOSA agreed, in conjunction with the PTA to furnish the staff at Queen's College with facilities for coffee.

- **EXAM RESULTS**

Queen's College has done it yet AGAIN. 17 year old Vishaal Persaud has topped the country at the General Certificate of Education Advanced Level examinations, achieving straight A's in four subjects. And that's not all.... Queen's College student, Daniel Ram is the Caribbean's most outstanding entrant at the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations. Daniel Ram has also won the awards for the Most outstanding Candidate in the Humanities and the Most Outstanding Candidate in the Sciences. Congratulations to all the QC Top Performers who continue to demonstrate that our alma mater remains the premiere school in Guyana!

- **WEBSITES**

As reported in the last newsletter, a QCOSA (Guyana) website is presently under construction, in our efforts to expand membership and provide information flow amongst old students. The site can be accessed at www.qcosa.org. The main page of the site is up but links to the other pages are not yet in place : access to all connections will be available shortly. Your comments on this new venture will be appreciated.

Congratulations to the recently formed Florida Chapter, on the launching of their website at www.qcolumnifl.org.

- **Opening of NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK**

At long last, the New Administrative Block/Auditorium was opened at Queen's College on Friday 19th September, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. Headmistress Wendel Roberts chaired the proceedings which included a number of cultural items performed by the present students of the school.

"Nostalgic Remarks" were made by President of the Guyana Chapter of QCOSA, Laurie Lewis, who also conveyed best wishes on behalf of all overseas Chapters.

President Bharat Jagdeo delivered the main address and acknowledged that Queen's College has a tradition in leadership and quality!

Other speakers included President of the PTA, Mike James, Minister of Education, Henry Jeffrey and Chairman of the Board of Governors, Ronald Ally who gave an overview of the development of the auditorium and expressed his appreciation to other Board Members, in particular Dia Persaud, Roy Field-Ridley and Frank DeAbreu for the success of the venture.

The Vote of Thanks was innovatively moved collectively by three old-students and past Head-Prefects of Queen's College, Amlata Persaud, Jonelle Reynolds, Shemel Fanfair.

QCOSA News also wishes to acknowledge the presence of Arrey John of the Toronto Chapter at this function. The Editor enjoyed the brief chat with Arrey and looks forward to future visits by him and other overseas based old students to our Chapter.

- **CONDOLENCES**

Sympathy is extended to our Treasurer, Raymond Khalil, and his family, on the passing of his father-in-law in August 2003.

It is with sadness, that we report the death of Jimmy Matheson. He attended Queen's College from 1960-1967. He passed away on September 23, 2003 in Hammersmith Hospital, London. Jimmy Matheson was a former Ambassador to the European Union. After moving to England, he was very active and supportive of the QC Association and served as Honorary Secretary for a period of time.

It is with further sadness, we report the recent death of Roger Ovid Sandy Wilson. He passed away on Monday 29th September, 2003 only a month short of his 46th birthday. Roger Wilson attended Queen's College between 1970-1976. He was a life member of the Association.

- **VALEDICTIONS**

We extend heartiest congratulations to our Vice-President, Conrad Plummer, on successfully completing his studies for his MBA Degree.

Congratulations also to our young executive member, Anil Narain, who has recently left Guyana to pursue further studies in business administration at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York. We wish him all the best and thank him for initiating the website, and for organising Games Night during his short time with us at QCOSA.

We repeat our request for submission from readers of items of interest, comments on our newsletter and names and e-mail addresses of old students for inclusion in our circulation database.

(The Editor can be reached at vidushi@lawyer.com)

