



The Archangel

Newsletter of

The St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, Alumni Association (Colombo Branch)

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No. 54

WISH YOU A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

T. Mahenthiran re-elected President at the 66th AGM of Colombo Branch Chief Guest : Dr.W.S.Santharaj

The 66th AGM of the St.Michael's College, Batticaloa, Alumni Association (Colombo Branch) was held on Saturday, Oct.15, 2011 at 7.00 p.m. at Hotel Sapphire, Colombo 6 after a prayer meeting, instead of the usual mass, conducted by Rev. Fr. Paul Satkunanayagam SJ, at the Jesuit Chapel, Colombo 4. (Saturday evening masses, believed to be, in lieu of Sunday masses are frowned upon by the Archdiocese of Colombo)



L-R : Mrs. Ranjini Mahenthiran, Dr. Manoranjani, Dr Santharaj



L-R : I.T.Canagaretnam, F.R.Ragel, Dr.Santharaj, T.Mahenthiran, Fr.Paul Satkunanayagam

Past pupil Dr.W.S.Santharaj, Consultant Cardiologist, was the Chief Guest and Past pupil Dr. Manoranjani Santharaj, Consultant Anaesthetist, graced the occasion. Rev.Fr.Paul Satkunanayagam SJ, President, SMC, AA, was Guest of Honour.

The proceedings began with the lighting of the oil lamp and remembrance

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Golden Jubilee of Jesuit Province in Sri Lanka

The Jesuit Province in Sri Lanka celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year having received the status of a Province in Aug.1962.

The Province envisages 2011/12 to be the Jubilee year and was ceremonially inaugurated at the Eucharistic celebration presided over by Rt.Rev.Dr.Cletus Chandrasiri Perera, Bishop of Ratnapura on Aug.26,2011 at Fatima Retreat House, Lewella, Kandy - The Messenger.

More on this in the next issue of the Archangel.

Secretary F.R.Ragel is no more

We record with deep regret the sudden passing away of Colombo Branch Past Vice Patron, Past President and Secretary Francis Regis Ragel J.P., husband of Sheila, brother of late Norbert, father of Corina, Terril, Dale and Claude on 28.12.2011 at Bogantalawe while on holiday with family. The funeral took place on 30.12.2011 at Kalutara.

More on this in the next issue of the Archangel.

Eugene and Eugene Remembered with St.Eugene's Basketball Tournament and Fr.Eugene's Medal

In honour of St.Eugene, the founder of the Congregation of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI), the Eugene Association of Former Oblate Seminarians, had organised the St.Eugene five-a-side interclub basketball tournament and the third edition in which 20 men's and eight women's teams took part was worked off at the Police Park, Colombo - 04 on Oct.15 and 16, 2011. Moratuwa University was the Champion in the men's division and Track Masters retained the women's championship.

In keeping with the tradition of introducing novel concepts to the Sri Lankan Basketball fraternity, St. Eugene's Association inaugurated an award named the Fr.Herbert medal to reward outstanding contributors to the game's growth during this third year of the tournament. Previous awards were the Spirit of Basketball Award and the Best Player Trophy.

The maiden receipt of the 2011 accolade was Mr. Francis de Almeida, an eminent personality synonymous with basketball in Sri Lanka during the last 40 years. He was one time Secretary of the Sri Lanka Basketball Federation and National Coach for over 35 years.

Continued page No.03.



of the departed priests, lay teachers and colleagues. President Mahenthiran welcomed the guests and Senior Vice Patron I.T.Canagaretnam introduced the Chief Guest and added that the people of Batticaloa would welcome his services after retirement.

Fr.Paul in his address, said that the Jesuits who arrived in this country deliberately chose remote areas as their mission stations to build schools : St.Michael's at Batticaloa, St.Joseph's at Trincomalee and St. Aloysious' at Galle. Thus, SMC has been able to help bright students from not only Batticaloa but also its backwoods to become outstanding personalities like Dr. Santharaj, Angelo Patrick and I.T.Canagaretnam in the city of Colombo. Fathers Weber and Herbert coached talented young men to become sports stars at national level.

In conclusion he expressed his gratitude to I.T.Canagaretnam for helping him to come out when the wrong side of the law put him in.

Dr. Santharaj, in his address, said that he was grateful to the Jesuits for moulding him and for the good discipline at College which stood him in good stead in the university where you are on your own.

To prevent heart ailments, risk factors such as high blood pressure, smoking should be avoided or reduced by a change in life style. Should a suspected emergency heart problem arise, the patient should chew two aspirin tablets before proceeding to hospital was his professional advice.

He concluded with the revelation that doctors also suffer when carrying out surgical procedures like angioplasty.

The Revised Constitution of the Association was then passed with minor amendments.

The following Office Bearers for the year 2011/12 were elected

Patron	: Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Swampillai
Senior Vice Patron	: I. T. Canagaretnam
Vice Patrons	: Angelo Patrick, R. C. Perumal, Ranjit David, K.Thurairajaratnam, Kumar David
President	: T.Mahenthiran
Vice Presidents	: Dr. L. S. Thomas, J. C. Daniel, M. Suthaharan
Imm. Past President	: Alston Jeganathan
General Secretary	: F. R. Ragel
Asst. Secretary	: Julien Jeyaratnarajah
Treasurer	: S. Selvaruban
Asst. Treasurer	: Bradley Ockersz
Committee Members	: Ashley Rajadurai, Dr. S. Thirumal, S. Eilventhan, Mrs. Sumathy Asokan, Judixon Mariadasan, Bonny Joseph, Julien Pathmanathan, S. Sivakumar, S. Vithyanathan, G.J.W. Ockersz, S. Umasuthan, M.Pushpaharan, Dhananjeyan Wijendra, G. Thushyanthan, Bernard Edward
Auditor	: N. Sivanandarajah

Vice Patron K.Thurairajaratnam proposed the vote of thanks. Fellowship and dinner followed.

P.S.

We were proud to see the Chief Guest Dr. Santharaj sporting the Alumni Association tie, preserved over many years, in true Michaelite spirit and identifying himself with the rest of us. He also signed up as a life member. According to F.R.Ragel he attended one meeting sometime ago. We like to see him more often.

continued next column

Rev. Fr. Paul re-elected President at the SMC,AA, AGM

At the above AGM held on Oct.9, 2011 at Batticaloa, the following office bearers were elected for 2011/12

Patron	: Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Kingsley Swampillai
Vice Patron	: Mich. L. M. Manickarajah Mich. A. P. Xavier Mich. A. Noble Johnpillai
President	: Mich. Rev. Fr. Paul Satkunayanayagam S.J.
Vice President	: Mich. S. E. Jeyarajah Mich. Rev. Fr. A. A. Navaretnam Mich. S. Suthakar
Gen. Secretary	: Mich. A. A. G. Rajendram
Hon. Treasurer	: Mich. A. Robert
Ass. Secretary	: Mich. A. Jegan Rajaretnam
Sports/Social Secretary	: Mich. I. J. Sylvester
Education Secretary	: Mich. P. Punitharaj
Committee Members	: Mich. A. P. Edwar, Mich. A. Gunalan Mich. S. Shanmugakesan Mich. Felician Francis, Mich. E. C. Gabriel Mich. V. Pratheepan Mich. Rev. Fr. G. F. Rajendram S.J. Mich. Gonzaga Anuraj Mich. V. Parthipan
Editor	: Mich. Rev. Fr. Sritharan Sylvester
Audits	: Mich. T. Rajen : Mich. A. Karikalan

P.S. from column - 1

If you live in Colombo and if you suspect a heart problem, take heart, chew two aspirin tablets and rush to the National Hospital and your heart will be in the safe hands of our WSS,MD.

It was nice to meet and greet some of the alumni who were attending after a long break (non commercial): original old boy K.Shanmugarajah, Past President Dr.S.Sivasubramaniam, Past Secretary Winston Thangarajah, Past Auditor Bobby Arasaratnam, Basketball coach A.Javahir and many new young old boys, thanks to the efforts of dynamic Membership Development Chairman S.Vithyanathan.

Two persons who were at the last AGM are no more with us. This should not deter others from attending the next AGM.

Ten years ago 2001/2 the office bearers were as follows.

Patron	: Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Swampillai
Vice Patrons	: I.T.Canagaretnam, Angelo Patrick, Dr.S.Sivasubramaniam,S.Arulanantham, Ranjith David
President	: K. Thurairajaratnam
Imm.Past President	: R.C.Perumal
Vice Presidents	: Kumar David, J.C.Daniel
Secretary	: F.R. Ragel
Asst. Secretary	: Ms. Sumathy Asokan
Treasurer	: M.Suthaharan
Committee	: Julian Jeyaratnarajah, Walter Dias, Titus Cooray, Gunam Philips, Sam Vakeesan, A.G.A. Rajadurai, Alston Jeganathan
Auditor	: Bobby Arasaratnam

A child's prayer: Dear God, please send clothes for all the ladies who appear on my father's computer

Dr.W. S. Santharaj - A Profile

Wijeyasingham Samuel Santharaj born on Aug.8, 1957 joined Grade 3 at SMC in 1965. At College he was a member of the Junior Cricket Team and Eastern Province Record Holder in Under 17 discus throw, cine projector operator for many years, Prefect and Mike of the Year 1974.

He entered the Medical Faculty of the University at Colombo from SMC in 1976 on Merit and obtained his MBBS in 1981 and MD in 1990 and was certified as a specialist in Cardiology in 1993.

After a five year stint as Resident Cardiologist, Institute of Cardiology, National Hospital, and foreign training in Invasive Cardiology at Belfast UK, Dr. Satharaj moved to Teaching Hospital, Ragama in 1999 as its first consultant cardiologist where he pioneered the establishment of a fully - fledged cardiology unit which became his passion and mission in addition to teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students.

After working for two years (2007-09) at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children he is now Consultant Cardiologist, National Hospital, Colombo.

He is a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, Fellow of the Ceylon College of Physicians, Fellow of Asia Pacific Society of Cardiology and was President of various professional bodies, national and regional.

He has several scientific papers and publications to his credit.

Dr. Manoranjani Santharaj

Dr. Manoranjani Santharaj had her education at Vincent Girls High School and SMC, Batticaloa from where she entered the University of Peradeniya in 1977.

She obtained her MBBS in 1982, MD (Anaesthesiology) in 1996 and after training in the UK was certified as Consultant in 1998. She is a fellow of the Royal College of Anaesthetists and worked as Consultant Anaesthetist at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, UK. She is a lecturer and examiner in anaesthesia at postgraduate level.

Dr. Mano is anesthesiologically adept and aesthetically inclined and enjoys swimming, aerobics and traveling.

Presently she is Consultant Anaesthetist, Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Dehiwala.

Life Members

The following are the Life Members of the Colombo Branch as at date according to available records.

Dr. L. S. Thomas, Jerry Joseph, Sam Vakeesan, Anton Godfrey, Angelo Patrick, Kumar David, Sivanandarajah, P.Sivagnanam, Sandanam Shankar, S. Selvaruban, Kingston Sivapragasam, T.Balakumar, B.X.R.Edward, S. Eiliventhan, S.Coomarasamy, Ms. Sumathy Asokan, T.Vijayakumar, Dr.S.Dilak Kumar, S.Sathiyendra, S.Kamalanathan, Quintus Kishanth Mariyadas, Thangavel Chailagoban, N.Aravindan, P.Jeeva Julian, I.T.Canagaretnam, R.C.Perumal, K.Thuraiarajatnam, Ranjit David, T.Mahendran, J.C.Daniel, M.Suthaharan, Julian Jeyaratnarajah, N.Sivanandaraja, Judixon Mariyadasn, J.A.Raveendrarajah, Bonny Joseph, S.Sivakumar, Winston Ockersz, Ashely Rajadurai, Gaston Stanislaus, Bradley Ockersz, Dr.W.S.Santharaj, Winston Thangarajah, Dr.K.Paranthamalingam, S.Tisavan, Kamalageethan, Dr.S.Sivasubramaniam.

If your name is not on this list, please contact Treasurer S.Selvaruban, 077-3315413 to enroll.

Life membership is only Rs.3,000.00

We Care for our School, Always

Committee Meeting 2011/12/ 01

The first meeting of the new Committee of Management for 2011/12 was held on Nov.10, 2011 at 11.00 a.m. at the Cosy Restaurant, Colombo - 06, President Mahenthiran chaired the meeting and 21 others attended with Past President Dr.S.Sivasubramaniam as Special Guest.

The President welcomed the members and introduced the new member S.Umasuthan

On a suggestion from the Chair it was agreed to remit Rs.4 lakhs to Rev.Fr.Paul Satkunanyagam SJ towards College colour washing.

The following sub-committee chairmen were appointed and empowered to select their members.

Fund Raising - S.Sivakumar; Sports & Recreation- J.C.Daniel; Membership Development - S. Vithyanathan; College and Parent Body Co-ordinator - Alston Jeganathan; Christmas Party - Kumar David.

Fund Raising Chairman S. Sivakumar handed over to President Mahenthiran, 2000 stainless steel key tags, embossed with the College crest, for sale to present and past students and well wishers at Rs.100/= each and the proceeds to be credited to the Colombo Branch Fund. S.Sivakumar launched the sale and Dr.Sivasubramaniam bought the first key tag and became the owner of the most expensive key tag.

Thanks S. Sivakumar. Thanks Dr. S. Sivasubramaniam.



Standing L-R :T.Mahenthiran, S.Sivakumar, Dr.S.Sivasubramaniam, F.R.Ragel, S.Selvaruban

Fellowship and lunch hosted by T. Mahenthiran, K. Thuraiarajatnam and Bradley Ockersz followed.

Continued from page no.01.

The presentation of the Fr.Eugene Herbert Medal was appropriately made by Rev. Fr. Jeyaraj Rasiah S.J., Provincial of the Jesuits in Sri Lanka as Rev.Fr.Eugene Hebert S.J, was a priest of the Congregation of Jesuits.

"Rev.Fr.E.J.Hebert S.J., was an American Jesuit priest, who formed the all conquering champion basketball teams from St.Michael's College, Batticaloa, who dominated schools basketball for decades. The recipient of the inaugural 'Fr.Hebert Medal' is one time his rival coach Francis de Almeida." *The Island Oct. 15.2011*

Eugene Herbert Memorial Invitation Basketball Tournament

Not to be outdone, the Colombo Branch, under the Chairmanship of J.C.Daniel in association with the SMC, Alumni Association at Batticaloa is organising the above annual interclub tournament for 8 teams with islandwide participation to be held at Batticaloa on Apr. 27,28 and 29.

Let's all put our shoulders to the wheel to make it the best tournament in the east, better than the very successful Invitation Peace Basketball Tournament 2004.

Editor's Mail

Dear Sir,

First of all let me thank the generosity and the affection towards me in sending The Archangel regularly.

On behalf of late Emmanuel's family, I sincerely thank the effort and enthusiasm you have taken to include our beloved father's obituary notice in the Archangel Issue No. 53.

I also take this opportunity to thank the members of the committee of management of SMC, AA (Colombo Branch) who paid their last respects to our departed father at the funeral parlor and laid a wreath.

May the almighty God shower His blessings and grant you good health.

I wish all the success for your future endeavors too.

E.Godfrey Anton Colombo - 03. 12.11.2011

Dear Mr. Perumal,

This email is to thank you for sending my father, Mr K Sabaretnam, a copy of The Archangel which he appreciates greatly. However, I would like to draw your attention to page 03, second column (under the heading, An Appreciation by Mr Ignatius Canagaretnam) fifth paragraph where it needs to be corrected that it was my father's vision and determination in initially establishing the Batticaloa University Development Society (BUDS) in the UK in which our family also played a prominent part together with Appa. I feel very strongly about informing you of this and would appreciate it amended.

Sincerely, Dr. Tharani Sabaretnam, Sydney, Australia.

Dear Sir,

Outstanding Australian.....

I am deeply grateful and don't deserve all this.

Thanks be to God and His grace that leads and sustains us. God's blessings to you as you reach out to our people with news to encourage them on their journey and service. Michalites Night was held on Saturday night and it was well done and a great success, thanks to Pious and the team.

Rev. John Jegasothy Sydney 14.11.2011

படுவான்கரை பிரதேச வறிய மாணவர்களுக்கு மட்டும்க்கேல் கல்லூரியின் அவுஸ்திரேலிய கிளை பழைய மாணவர் சங்கம் நிதியுதவி

படுவான்கரை பிரதேசத்தில் போர் மற்றும் வெள்ள அனர்த்தம் காரணமாக பாதிக்கப்பட்டு வறுமை நிலைமையில் கல்வி நடவடிக்கையில் ஈடுபட்டுவரும் மாணவர்களுக்கு கற்றல் உபகரணங்களை கொள்முதல் செய்ய மட்டக்களப்பு புனித மிக்கல் கல்லூரியின் அவுஸ்திரேலிய கிளை பழைய மாணவர் சங்கத்தினால் ஒரு தொகை நிதி பாடசாலைகளுக்கு பகிர்ந்தளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

கொக்கட்டிச்சோலை பிரதேசத்தில் யுத்தம் மற்றும் வெள்ள அனர்த்தம் காரணமாக பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்காக கற்றல் உபகரணங்கள் வழங்குவதற்கான நிதி பகிர்ந்தளிக்கும் நிகழ்வு கொக்கட்டிச்சோலை இராம கிருஷ்ண வித்தியாலத்தில் இடம்பெற்றது.

அவுஸ்திரேலிய கிளை பழைய மாணவர் சங்கத்தினால் 5.5 இலட்சம் ரூபா அதிபர் அகிலேஸ்வரன் ஊடாக பகிர்ந்தளிக்கப்பட்டன.....

14.11.2011, தமிழ்நின் tamilwin.com இல் படங்களுடன் வெளியான செய்தியின் தலையங்கமும், செய்தியின் ஒரு பகுதியும் மேலே.

Sent by T.Sivakumar Sydney, Australia.

திறனாய்வாளர் கே.எஸ். சீவகுமாரனுக்கு பாராட்டும் கௌரவமும்

இலக்கியத்துறையில் அரை நூற்றாண்டுகளுக்கு மேல் பணியாற்றிவரும் திறனாய்வாளரும், ஊடகவியலாளருமான கே.எஸ்.சீவகுமாரனின் பவளவிழாவை முன்னிட்டு உலக சிற்றிதழ்கள் சங்க ஏற்பாட்டில் பாராட்டும், கௌரவமும் அளிக்கும் நிகழ்வு 05.11.2011 மாலை 5 மணிக்கு கொழும்புத் தமிழ்ச்சங்க விநோதன் மண்டபத்தில் நடைபெற்றது.

விரகேசரி

The Archangel goes online

As a test run Archangel 53 was e-mailed to J.C.Daniel. He called back to say that it was very clear and nice to read on the computer.

Encouraged, the Archangel was forwarded to all alumni here and abroad whose addresses were available.

Comments : Archangel, Online, that's progress -Dr.S.Sivasubramaniam

Congratulation ! the newsletter was superb. Please keep up the good work Best regards - Bradley Ockersz

Excellent, good writing style - Angelo Patrick

The Archangel is getting better and better - M.Suthaharan

From where do you get all the news? Only you can do it. I can only play cricket - Daniel Thiyagarajah.

Archangel No.54, online is in colour. Next will be in 3D! Online is faster, clearer, in colour and can be forwarded to others at no cost but no shelf life.

If you are not already receiving and if you wish receive the Archangel online please make an e-mail request to the Editor. Thanks.

Ranjini Mahenthiran bids farewell

We record with regret the premature passing away of Ranjini Mahenthiran nee Chitravelu, wife of Colombo Branch President T.Mahenthiran, (Retired Assistant Commissioner of Excise) and sister of late Padmini, Suhirtha, Vanaja, Subashini and Gowri on Dec.03, 2011 in Colombo. Cremation took place on Dec.05,2011 at the Hindu section, General Cemetery, Colombo.

A large number of Colombo Branch members paid their respects, laid a floral tribute and attended the funeral.

Mahenthiran wishes to thank all those who attended the funeral, laid floral tributes, helped and stood by him in his hour of grief. A notice to this effect appeared in the Sunday Observer of 18.12.2011

Ranjini born on April 23, 1948 had her education at Vincent Girls High School and Government College, Batticaloa. After marriage and moving to Colombo, she was President of the Vincent Girls High School, OGA, Colombo Branch and Secretary and later President of the Inner Wheel Club of Colombo South.

She was a regular guest at all major functions of the Colombo Branch.

Christmas Get-together 2011

The above Get to-gether scheduled for 11.12.11 was put off in view of the one above.

The Year that was 2011

1. We had four unusual dates; 1.1.11, 11.1.11, 1.11.11 and 11.11.11
2. Take the last two digits of the year in which you were born, 45 if it is 1945. To this ie. 45, add the age you were in 2011. You will get 111. This was true for you, me and all of us in 2011.
3. The year we lost two of our near and dear ones; F.R.Ragel and Ms.Ranjini Mahenthiran.
4. The year saw the Aquisition of Under Performing Enterprises Bill passed. Childless couples beware! You are in danger of being taken over for underperforming!. Bye for now.

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