

**ST, JOHNS AND CHUNDIKULI GIRLS' COLLEGE ALUMNI**  
**SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008**

It is my privilege to present the Annual report for our Alumni. We strive to enhance the social bonds of the Alumni with their school mates along with their families and friends. I am proud to say that we have achieved our mission for the year under the leadership of Mr. Yoga Arulnamby and Mrs. Jaya Kulanathan as Co-chairpersons. Their dedication, compassion and forward thinking have helped us to move ahead. The help of our very dedicated committee members who worked so tirelessly and volunteered many hours towards the success of our association's events have shown their devotion to their Alma Matter.

I am delighted to say that we have also reached some of the financial goals this year. The committee was able to pledge \$2000 each to St. John's College and Chundikul Girls College.

**Executive committee meeting:** The meetings were held once every two months in the activity room of 83, Parkwood Village drive or at the Multi-Purpose room of 350, Alton Towers. My thanks go to Mrs. G.E.S. Chelliah and Mr.Yoga Arulnamby for arranging the venues for the meetings. We have had seven Committee meetings this year and a number of Sub-committee meetings.

**Membership:** I am happy to say that we had Seventy two paid members this year compared to last year's thirty five members. The life membership was taken by four *new* members *bringing the new total to 95*. My special thanks to Mrs. Kumuthini Thavarasalingam and Mr. Walter A.Dharmaraja for updating the addresses and phone numbers of the members list.

**TSSA Badminton Tournament:** We congratulate Master Dinesh Kulanathan and Ms. Narmatha Thavarasalingam , Mr.S.D.Kulnathan , Ms.Vani Mendy ( nee Kugavaratharjan) , Mr.S.Kugavartharjah , Mr.Arjun Sithamparapillai , who represented St. John's College and Chundikuli Girls College for achieving three titles and two titles respectively at the Tournament. Keep up the excellent work.

**Annual Cricket Match:** The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Central –St. John's cricket match was played on July 2, 2007 on the Sunny Brooke Cricket Grounds. The weather was glorious and the crowd was great. It was a great disappointment to all of us as our team put up a sub-par performance. The long weekend ( Canada Day) and lack of interest by our boys reduced the game to farce.

**The Constitution:** At the last AGM there was consensus among the members that our constitution was twenty years old and needed a study and amendments/additions if necessary. A constitution committee appointed with Mr. Jimmy Rajaratnam as the Chairman and the committee volunteered their valuable time for making the final draft ready. The draft constitution mailed out to all members for the study and will be presented in the twenty first AGM for approval. We thank the committee for the commendable task.

**Annul Picnic:** The fun filled picnic was organized on July 28<sup>th</sup> at Adam's Park attended by over one hundred people. Everybody participated in the activities and games. The food was in abundance, brought in by the people who attended the picnic. Thanks to Mrs. Devika Soundaranayagam for organizing the activities with the help of the sub committee.

**TSSA Sports day** was held on August 5, 2007 at Sir John A. McDonald sports ground. We were represented by Senior and Junior Netball teams. The senior team won the Championship. Thanks to Kumuthini Thavarasalingam, Jaya Kulanathan and Kamalini Muraleetharan for the training and motivation given to the players.

**Vani Vizha** was celebrated on October 13<sup>th</sup> at Senator O' Conner Collegiate. The venue was sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. A. Muraleetharan. The program was conducted by Pon Ganeshalingam. The event was attended by more than two hundred and fifty people. The program consisted of well choreographed dances, vocals, instruments, and speeches. Kamalini Muraleetharan, Thulasi Ragunathan and Shirani Vijendra organized this great event with the help of the sub committee. Prasatham prepared by the committee members were served at the end of the event.

**Memorial Service:** The memorial service for late Mr. S. Panchalingam was held on July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Parkwood United Church attended by more than one hundred and fifty people including two of his family members. The proceeding was conducted by Pon Ganeshalingam. Mr. Bernard Sinniah gave a tribute to him and Mr. T. Thavarasalingam gave the vote of thanks. Funds were collected at the service to be sent to Mrs. S. Panchalingam. She has now received the donation and has conveyed her appreciation to the Alumni.

**Film show:** The fund raising movie (Varallaru / God Father) was screened on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Woodside Square Theatre. The sale of tickets was very disappointing. We only made a profit of \$500. Our thanks go to Mr & Mrs Thavarasalingam for booking the Theatre and coordinating the ticket sales.

**Baila Night:** It took place on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the J. J. Swaghatt Convention Centre attended by Alumni and their friends and families. It was a great evening with fun and laughter. The Baila Night resurfaced this year by popular demand. The revelers were also entertained by the duo Jaya Kulanathan and Anton Balarajah dancing to the old MGR song. Thanks to Mrs. Devika Soundranayagam and Mr. Dinesh Vadivelu for coordinating this successful event.

**Carol Service:** The Carol service returned again with glory. We had two services this year. *The Miracle Night* was held on Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, Candle light worship service-Lessons and Hymns with seniors of the Alumni. *The Trumpet Shall Sound* which was held on November 24, 2007 at the Chinese Cultural centre. We saw an array of talented musicians from our schools and beyond. The service was a tremendous success; we had estimated 700 people attending the service. I want to extend our thanks to the Program Director Joel Joseph and his wife Sharmini Joseph for doing such a wonderful job. Our Thanks go to the sub committee led by S. Vignabalan for the dedication and hard work. Every one involved should give a pat on their shoulder.

**Eagle Night:** We enjoyed another successful evening organized by the hardworking committee. It was held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the J.J. Swagatt Convention Centre Hall. The event was attended by more than two hundred and sixty guests. They were entertained by the famous "Mega Tuners", the dance performance presented by Malisha Vignabalan, Sandya Vijendira, Thanuja Nalliah, Jaya Kulanathan, Girija Balakumar and Chandra Nalliah. Our thanks go to Girija for training the dancers. The guests were also treated to a bountiful Buffet. The amount of people on the dance floor is always a Tell tale sign. All in all it was the best ever dinner dance organized by the committee. Our thanks to the sub-committee led by P. Rajkumar for organizing this profitable a great event.

**Thanks:**

First and for most let me thank you all for the support you have given to us by participating in the events that we have organized.

Thanks to the sponsors and the advertisers who have helped us generously year after year and also the well wishers who contributed towards various events.

I would like to extend my thanks to our Editorial Board for publishing two News letters this year. They were Mr. T. Thavarasalingam, Mrs. Shirani Vijendira and Mr. Walter A. Dharmarajah and Mrs. Eileen Chinniah.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our Co-chairpersons Mr. Yoga Arulnamby and Mrs. Jaya Kulanathan for their support.

My special thanks to our Social Secretaries Mrs. Devika Soundaranaykam and Mr. Dinesh Vadivelu for being in the forefront at all of our events.

I also thank our dedicated Treasurer Mr. Walter A. Dharmarajah for overseeing the accounts and presenting reports in timely manner.

Last but not least, thanks to all the dedicated committee members and their spouses for their enthusiasm, support, new ideas and most of all, their time.

Thank you.

**Nithi Sukumar**  
**General Secretary**