



*Good & True ...issue# 46...June, 2006*

## Just My Views



Neil Dalhouse

They said before his arrival, there was no real leadership at all, that the school was, simply put, going down the toilet. However, the day he stepped foot on campus that kind of talk ceased. He found student discipline to be badly lacking, but that soon changed, because before long, whoever didn't adhere would, simply, no longer be there. He found staff morale to be at its lowest point ever, so he changed that by making massive changes to the school system, and gave them objectives which motivated them beyond their beliefs. It was said that before he came, several students could be seen walking about campus during daily classes. After three months I am told, the only thing roaming the campus during classes was the odd mongrel dog taking a shortcut home. He changed the dust bowl look of school campus into a clean, highly maintained piece of property, the envy of all other headmasters in Kingston. And academically, after two years in office, he increased the number of students passing CXC Exams by 25%. Amazing!! Slowly, everyone's low opinion of the school was soon crushed. These are but a few of **Fred Kennedy's** major achievements, and sadly, as the school's Headmaster, (who could be easily be nicknamed Moses) will be stepping down from his post this summer. Fred's leadership, vision, and high energy force will be noticeably missed by those who worked closely with him. I am sure he will leave with mixed emotions - left brain ecstatic to be with his wife and family once again, right brain disappointed he won't be at the helm to witness the completion of his Five-Year Plan for the School, which is well on track to a very successful end. Personally, I can say that no one has ever made such positive dramatic changes to the school in such a short period of time, ever. Once in awhile, a real knight in shining armour rides through the school, leaving a legacy. This one will be hard to follow. On behalf of all old boys here in Ontario, we thank you sincerely for all you did during your tenure at #2 North Street, and hope that the good Lord showers you and your family with his blessings for years to come.

*I have a simple philosophy in life: Fill what's empty, empty what's full, and scratch wherever itches, whenever it itches, wherever your are, no matter who's looking.*



Lorna Bell

The Kiwanis Club of New Kingston held an evening of appreciation for **Lorna Bell, (Jackie's widow)** for her long-standing service to the Jamaica Special Olympics group. The event was held at the Terra Nova Hotel in Kingston, where a group of 150 people comprised of friends, family and well wishers got together to watch her receive an award for her dedication and service to so many the athletes over the years. Sorry I wasn't there Lorna, 'cause I would have cheered the loudest. Keep up the great work you do for others.

*A good friend said to his wife, "No, I don't hate your relatives. In fact, I like your mother-in-law better than mine."*

It is with sincere sadness that I mention **Ruby Jonssen**, mother of **Pat (Skedron) Smith**, who passed away recently. Ruby was very dear to Skedron; she was a mother whom he loved deeply. Eventually, Skedron and his family will come to grips with the fact that she has gone to a better place, a place where there is no pain, no sadness, a place where she will meet up and be happy with those who she lost years ago. May she rest in peace. While we mourn her loss, others rejoice at seeing her

once again.

*Mr. Watson lived alone on Emerald Road, just north of the Cathedral with his dear dog Rufus. The dog died and Mr. Watson went to the cathedral to see the priest in charge and asked, "Father, my dog Rufus whom I have loved for years, is dead. Could you say a Mass for him?" The priest replied, "No, we can't have services for an animal in the church, but there's a new denomination down the road - no telling what they believe, so maybe they'll do something for the animal. Mr. Watson then said, "I'll go to see them right now. Do you think \$5,000 is enough to donate for the service?" The priest answered back immediately, "Why didn't you tell me the dog was Catholic?"*

Congratulations to the organizers of the StGC dance in Florida. Heard it was a great success. Lots of old boys shuffled out of their hiding places to meet up with each other once again. **Dr. Richard (Ole') Kirkwood**, showed up and crooned out the national anthem, kicking the evening off, proving that the old Doctor can still belt one out. I knew you still have it in you, Kirkie!! Heard **Senator Dwight Nelson** made a speech for the event, and went back to the days when he and I were in school, and was jealous of my TC, and that it got me a lot of girls back then, and that he just didn't have what it took to get them himself. Senator Nelson said that today, my TC is no longer there and has turned into shiny skin, but that his hair, is still in tact. The Senator got a big chuckle from the crowd with that joke. But he never told them about the dance we went to back then, and when it was coming to a close, he told a nice Alpha girl that he wanted to phone her, and politely asked for her phone number. The girl responded that her number was in the phone book. Dwight then said, "but I don't know your name!", and the girl replied "it's in the phone book too!", and walked off, leaving him once again, envious of my TC.

*If FED EX was to merge with UPS, would they call the new company FED UP??*

**Robbie Vernon** gracefully stepped down from his position as President of the Ontario O/B Chapter, as his two year term of office came to a close at the AGM in March. No other president in our 22 year history did so much to promote the good name of our association as he did. He and his lovely wife Heather were at as many private, public, political, and alumni functions in Toronto as they could possibly fit into their busy schedule.(not to mention their visits to the Florida chapter events as well). Robbie shook hands with hundreds, (maybe thousands) gave out awards, made speeches at functions, and represented the association whenever he could during those two years. I am sure he will say he couldn't have done it without Heather, and I would truly believe that statement. Wait till he finds out the association executive are creating a special permanent position for him... Director, Public Relations. He-He!!

*If you think you need a vacation but you are not sure, just take a look at your passport picture, it will help you make up your mind very quickly.*

**Danny HoLung** stepped in to fill the void Robbie left. As new president, this young whipper-snapper will dispel any thoughts that the presidency of the Ontario Chapter can only be run properly by older guys. Dan the-Man has stepped into an important leadership role, knowing he has the confidence and support of his entire executive. Here's to you Dan, may St. George himself be with you through your tenure as president, and help you cut us a path of glory where none have gone before. Just one piece of advice for you though, if at first you do succeed, try not to look too astonished, eh?

*We all know your wife has the last word in any argument, right? Anything you say after that, without a doubt, is the beginning of a new argument.*

Heck! I stepped down off the board myself too, after 22 years. Why? I felt it time to have a younger old boy take my place. So, young **Fred Russell** got voted in to replace me. Fred is a determined kind of guy, and I am positive he will do a great job. I have a piece of advice for you too Fred, always look out for number one, and don't step into number two either. (If any of you out there want to see who's on the new board of directors, visit [www.stgctoronto.com](http://www.stgctoronto.com) then click "Your Executive").

Congratulations to **Melanie** and **Jessica**, daughters of our 1st Vice President, president Elect **Chris Chin** and his lovely wife **Charmaine**, Once again they took part in the Marie Ann Longlade School of Dance's Spring Melody where all of the students have the opportunity to perform before a live audience. The

performance took place at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts on June 1st, 2nd & 3rd. This year the School, at which the girls have been dancing for the past 8 years, celebrated the 41st Anniversary of the Spring Melody. Great job girls!



Jessica Chin



Melanie Chin

*No matter how big or small, you can't fold a piece of paper in half 8 times. Try it if you think I am joking.*

\* \* \*

*Renowned story teller, Paul Harvey tells the story of Mrs. Paul, choir Director and her daughter Marylyn, church pianist, had never been late for choir practice. Practice was always Wednesday evening, 7:30 p.m.*

*It's Wednesday evening March 1, 1950, 7:00 p.m. and Mrs. Paul shouts upstairs to her daughter to get ready to go to practice. At 7:15 p.m. there is no sign of her daughter. Mrs. Paul goes upstairs to check, and finds her daughter asleep, and as a result both are late for practice. There are eighteen members in the West Side Baptist Church choir, and an unbelievable thing happens on March 1st., as they were all late for practice.*

*Ladona Vandergrift, sophomore, had problems with homework and was late. Royena Estes and sister, Sadie were ready on time but their car wouldn't start, so they called Ladona for a ride. All 3 were late because of Ladona's problems with her homework. Mrs. Schuster another choir member, was detained at her mother's house and she too, was late. Herb Keif spent time writing an important letter, forgetting what the time was, and he too was late. Joyce Black said she was freezing that night, and stayed home to keep warm for as long as she could, and ended up being late. Because Harvey Ahl's wife was out of town, a friend invited himself and his two small sons to dinner, and that caused him to be late. Dorothy, friend of Lucy Jones, had to wait for Lucy, who refused to leave early as she wanted to hear the end of a radio show she was listening to, so they both were late. Pastor Klempel and his wife were late as his wrist watch told him the wrong time. The remaining choir members also had equally valid excuses for being late. Result, no one was in the church at 7:30 p.m. that evening*

**AND NOW THE REST OF THE STORY:**

*At 7:30 p.m., a gas leak was ignited by the fireplace, and blew the choir loft, and the entire West Side Baptist Church to smithereens. No one was hurt. What were the chances of that happening? I have no idea, and can only suggest you ask Fr. Blatchford.*

*Being at the wrong place at the right time sometimes does have its advantages, doesn't it?*

A gaaannneeeee!!!!

*Neil Dalhouse*

## 2006 Scholarship Winner



*Dr. Louis Lee & Aaron Haddad*

Meet Aaron Haddad our 2006 Scholarship Winner. Each year at our annual Family Dinner, the StGC Old Boy's (Ontario) Chapter scholarship is given to a son or daughter of an old boy here in Ontario. The winner is selected from a panel of old boys who are not part of the executive. Our distinguished Georgian panel for 2006 was comprised of: **Dr. Louis Lee, Dr. Huntley Munroe and Dr. Herbert Ho Ping Kong.**

The scholarship is not necessarily granted to the person with the highest grades. Community involvement and potential contribution to society are also factors.

Many of our past award winners have gone on to be successes in the community.

**Dr. Louis Lee** made the presentation at our family dinner this year and the proud winner

**Aaron Haddad** will I am sure join the list of children of Georgian's who will make worthwhile contributions to the Canadian community ..

Aaron is now a second year student at Queens University pursuing an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree, specializing in English Language and Literature and International Development studies. He is an avid writer and has done social work with the mentally disabled as well as coached at the high school and soccer League levels.

Aaron wants to use his strong leadership, interpersonal and communication skills in a career teaching English as a second Language, and sees himself through his daily exchanges with students encouraging cross cultural respect and understanding in this richly ethnically diverse country.

He put it so well himself " I thank the St. George's Old Boys Association for providing me with yet another opportunity to advance my personal development. As a second generation Jamaican- Canadian I have had the privilege of being able to grow up in a young, ever-diversifying Canada while maintaining a strong connection to my Jamaica roots. I am confident that by retaining and promoting the best of both cultures, I can positively influence various spheres of human community, be that at the local, national or international level."

Aaron we are sure you will.

*Robbie Vernon*



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