



To all our Alumni —  
*Warmest wishes for a bright, healthy and prosperous 2016. A new year is a fresh start and new beginnings, so raise a toast! Celebrate your accomplishments and successes, and inspire others, especially those close to you, to achieve their dreams and goals.*



## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our annual Membership Dues are now due and payable. Please remit the sum of **\$25.00** to our address listed on page four. A Membership Renewal Form can be found on page five.

## GAMES EVENING

Please make a note to attend our annual Games Evening which will be held this year on **Friday, April 29th** from **7:00p.m.** at St. John the Divine Parish Hall 885 Scarborough Golf Club Road, Scarborough, Ontario. All proceeds from this event go to the St. Ann's and St. John Bosco Orphanages. Admission: \$10.00 per person/refreshments included.



## GOLDEN JUBILEE: GUYANA'S INDEPENDENCE

This historic event will be marked world wide as Guyana celebrates its 50th anniversary since achieving independence on May 26, 1966.

If you are considering a visit, now is the time as there will be lots of planned festivities and attractions. No doubt, Georgetown will be all spruced up and laying the red carpet for visitors. This is the year to reflect on Guyana's past and your personal journey while you lived there. And, though we no longer reside there, many of us still maintain an innate sense of patriotism for the land of our birth.

## 2016 UPCOMING EVENTS

- Annual General Meeting
- Games Evening
- Casino Trip
- Last Lap Lime
- Annual Reunion Brunch
- Pre-Christmas Party

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## CASINO TRIP

We had another successful Casino trip. This time 52 people went to Rama on Tuesday, December 1. On the way, we shared lots of jokes, had some goodies, water and juice, and held two \$50.00 draws. We were seated in a reserved section of *Couchiching Court* to have a traditional turkey dinner, hot apple cider and candy canes. We all enjoyed it.

If you are interested in going on our next trip, be sure to ask one of our committee members to arrange to have your name and e-mail address or telephone number put on our list.

We were able to provide the association with a profit of \$870.00.

**Anne (Dummett) Castanheiro**



### *From the Editor's Desk:*

The year 2016 is a **Lunar New Year**, also known as the Spring Festival and, based on the Chinese Zodiac, it is the year of the Fire Monkey, which occurs once every 60 years, a year filled with superstitions, folklore, traditions and good luck. It is also a **Leap Year**. Leap Years are needed to keep our modern day Gregorian calendar in alignment with the Earth's revolutions around the sun. The Gregorian calendar has only 365 days in a year, so if we did not add a day on February 29 nearly every 4 years, we would lose almost six hours off our calendar every year. After only 100 years, our calendar would be off by approximately 24 days! This happened in the Julian calendar which was in use until the Gregorian was introduced.

It was the Roman general, Julius Caesar who invented Leap Years in the Roman empire over 2000 years ago. But the Julian calendar had only one rule: any year evenly divisible by 4 would be a leap year. This resulted in too many leap years, but was not corrected until the introduction of the Gregorian calendar more than 1500 years later.

Two of the most popular traditions world wide are women being allowed to propose to men on February 29th, and in many European countries a woman being given twelve pairs of gloves, if her marriage proposal is refused, the intention being that the woman can wear the gloves to hide her embarrassment of not wearing an engagement ring. Moreover, babies born on February 29th are invited to join the *Honour Society of Leap Year Babies*.

On a religious note : Pope Francis has declared 2016 as the “**Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy**” and the “**Divine Year of Mercy**.” The Risen Lord had appeared to Sister Mary Faustina who was born in Warsaw, Poland on August 25, 1905, and entered the Convent of the Blessed Sacrament.. Jesus appeared to her in several visions and asked her to spread the message of Divine Mercy, whereby Catholics will pray the “**Chaplet of Divine Mercy**”, especially at three o'clock in the afternoon, the hour when Jesus died and the Hour of Great Mercy. Jesus promised that whatever we ask for in this hour we will receive when we pray the Chaplet, if it is according to God's will, and He told Sister Faustina that He wanted the Church to celebrate the “Feast of the Divine Mercy” on the first Sunday after Easter. On that day or eight days before or after the Feast of Divine Mercy, those who go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins.. It was after Sister Faustina's death in 1938, and thanks to the help of Pope John Paul II that the Divine Mercy has spread throughout the world. Sister Faustina was canonized as a Saint on April 30, 2000.

This new year, in addition to upholding the customary New Year resolutions, first, give thanks to God for the gift of Life; put aside your hurts and complaints and acknowledge the good that you already have in your life, for life is too short. Make the right choices to avoid any regrets. If life throws a curve ball at you, keep batting and don't give up, and in adversity roll with the punches, face the challenges and be strong. Remember, at the end of the tunnel, there is always light! Be aware of your life's purpose! If you have not done so already, take the time to send your family and friends well wishes of good fortune, good health and much happiness. Surprise them with your warmth and, as the Chinese like to phrase it, a wish for double happiness.

To all our Alumni members—resolve to make 2016 an amazing year and the best year of your life!

*Margaret (Man-Son-Hing) Levy*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Annual General Meeting of our Association** will take place this year on Sunday April 24th from 2.00pm at St. John the Divine Parish Hall, 885 Scarborough Golf Club Road, Scarborough, Ontario.

We invite and urge our members to attend this event as it gives you the opportunity to listen to a report on our activities, finances and proposed projects for the School, and allows time for members to ask questions. At this time nominations can be submitted for Directors of our Chapter.

Nominees submitted to sit on the Committee for the 2016/2017 year are elected at the AGM. Please submit your recommendations no later than March 18th, 2016 to our address listed on page four.

**Please note** that only financial (paid up) members will be allowed to vote.

### REPORT ON PRE-CHRISTMAS PARTY 2015

Another successful pre-Christmas party was held on November 21, 2015, attended by a sold-out gathering, at Sts. Peter and Paul Banquet Hall. We extend sincere thanks to our patrons **and our Sponsors** for their continuous support; this helps us, in turn, to fund projects for our alma mater and the students who presently walk the corridors of St. Rose's High School.

Many people have already ordered their tickets for the next party, to be held on **November 26, 2016** at Sts. Peter & Paul Banquet Hall; and this encourages us to ensure that we will produce a quality event. For many, St. Rose's dance kicks off the Christmas season and gets them into the spirit. We take nothing for granted and are constantly looking for ways in which to improve this popular “shindig”. Mark your calendars, and order your tickets early!



### ST. ROSE'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Dear Alumni:

As some of you know, we are hoping to form a Circle of Friends, each of whom would be willing to regularly visit or speak on the phone with other alumni who are more or less shut in and would welcome such interaction. In 2014, I spent a few months housebound, following some surgery that went dramatically wrong. I went into hospital for a simple knee replacement and ended up with a nasty broken femur during the operation. During that time, I developed a fine appreciation of what it meant to be shut in, out of circulation, dependent on others, for an extended period of time. I will be forever grateful to my family and friends who visited and connected with me, with something close to religious zeal. They made the whole ordeal seem more like being on vacation. Their presence and the happy pills prescribed made the whole business seem more like a mere inconvenience.

I have thought, many a day, how terribly lonely and disconnected I would have felt, had it not been for the regular phone calls and visits I received. It would have been truly awful. It is with this in mind that I am pleading for our able bodied alumni to come forward and join the St. Rose's Circle of Friends. To date, we have had responses from four people. Please, please give some serious thought to volunteering. I would be so very thrilled to hear from you.

Sincerely,

*Cecelia (Dolphin) Upton*

[ceceliau@gmail.com](mailto:ceceliau@gmail.com)

Tel: 416-262-3001

### ST. ROSE'S HIGH SCHOOL FACTS

- 1933— All children, regardless of religious persuasion, race or language were accepted at St. Rose's.
- 1935— First steps to establish a gymnasium began.
- 1941— Students and teachers were no longer required to wear stockings.
- 1941— Bicycle stands were provided to accommodate the increased number of bicycles being ridden to school.
- 1953— The boarding school was closed. Work began on a new structure to accommodate more students.
- 1954— The Marian Wing was completed and officially opened on May 4th.
- 1967 — The new Physics and Chemistry labs were built.
- 1969— Three additional classrooms were built above labs.
- 1975— Young men were accepted as students at St. Rose's.
- 1976— St. Rose's and all other schools became state controlled.
- 2005— The Board of Governors was appointed

**FOR RENT**

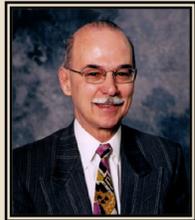
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A. Rupert De Castro, CPA, CMA  
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### GUYANA'S NATIONAL ANTHEM

"Dear Land of Guyana, of Rivers and Plains", the National Anthem of Guyana was selected a month before Independence in 1966. The lyrics were written by Archibald Leonard Luker, and the music was composed by Robert Cyril Gladstone Potter.

Robert Cyril Gladstone Potter also composed the music to "My Guiana Eldorado" and "Way Down in Demerara".

Archibald Leonard Luker was an Anglican priest who submitted the entry under his pen-name L. L. Archibald. Rev. Luker was in charge of the All Saints' Church in New Amsterdam.

### ADVERTISE NOW IN OUR NEWSLETTER.

For more information, please contact our Newsletter Editor at [srhto-ronto@yahoo.ca](mailto:srhto-ronto@yahoo.ca)



**Mailing Address:**

St. Rose's Alumni Association  
19 Robertsfield Crescent,  
Scarborough, ON M1R 2X1  
Phone: 416-449-8203

**WEBSITE ADDRESS**

[www.strosesalumnitoronto.org](http://www.strosesalumnitoronto.org)

**Your 2015—2016**

**Executive Committee**

- Jennifer (Dummett) Welshman, Interim President
- Sheila (Georges) DeGannes Past President
- Beverly (Rowe) Jones, Secretary
- Penny Lee, Treasurer

**DIRECTORS**

- Rita (Glasgow) Bacchus
- Cheryl (Surrey) Braz
- Desiree (de Abreu) Buckley
- Anne (Dummett) Castanheiro
- Joanne (Ross) Davis
- Cheryl (D'Ornellas) Devers
- Terry Kim Katchay
- Dean Massiah
- Carol (Harris) Munroe
- Tessa (King) Ng-See-Quan
- Shanta (Naraine) Persaud
- Shaaron (Rohlehr) Pollard
- Suzette Zaum

*A New Year is not about  
changing the dates but  
direction;  
it's not about changing  
the calendar but commit-  
ment;  
it's not about changing  
the actions but attitude.  
May each and every day  
of yours be renewed with  
lots of happiness and  
love.*

**CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO:**

—Alumna **Linda (Kennard) Harrison** and her husband, Peter, on the birth of their grandson, Alessandro Markus Harrison, born on December 13, 2015. Great Aunts, **Alumnae Cynthia (Kennard) Currie, Cheryl (Kennard) Kornet and Greta (Kennard) Kornet** and mother, Victoria are all very proud.

—Alumna **Elizabeth (Pereira) King** on the birth of her grandson, Austin Adam Lynch King on August 15, 2015. Her son Adam, and his wife Tracee, are the proud parents.

**OUR SYMPATHIES GO OUT TO:**

—The family of **Alumna Daphne Elaine (Wrong) Hamilton** who passed away on October 30, 2015 in Markham, Ontario, Canada. Daphne attended St. Rose's between 1939 and 1950 (approx.) and was one of our older alumnae who attended our Annual Reunions in Toronto.

—**Alumna Fauzya Moore** whose father, Dr. Robert James "Bobby" Moore died on November 3, 2015, in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Moore was formerly Master at Queen's College in Guyana, Dean of History at the University of Guyana, and High Commissioner of Guyana to Canada.

—**Alumnae Cynthia (Kennard) Currie, Cheryl (Kennard) Doyle, Linda (Kennard) Harrison and Greta (Kennard) Kornet** whose mother, Indrani Mabel Kennard passed away on November 21, 2015, in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. She was 92 years old.

—**Alumnae Anne (Dummett) Castanheiro and Jennifer (Dummett) Welshman** on the passing of their brother, Maurice Dummett on December 10, 2015, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

—**Alumna Pixie (de Lima) Gomes** whose brother, John De Lima died in Venezuela on December 11, 2015.

—**Alumnae Alison Friemann and Cynthia Friemann** whose mother, Alumna **Gloria (King) Persaud** passed away on December 12, 2015 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Gloria was also the sister of Alumna **Moiria (King) Fletcher**.

—**Alumna Nadine (Ramalho) Feijoo** whose husband, Almindo Feijoo deAzevedo passed away on January 6, 2016, in Newmarket, Ontario, Canada He was the brother in law of Alumnae **Barbara (Ramalho) Rodrigues and Rose Ann (Ramalho) Stalteri**.

—**Alumnae Celine (da Silva) Gonsalves, Sister Jacqueline da Silva, O.S.U. and Mary Ann (da Silva) Seide** on the passing of their brother, Flavio da Silva on January 9, 2016, in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. He would have been 91 years old in February, and was the husband of Alumna **June Holder** (deceased), and also the brother of Alumna **Joan (da Silva) De Barros** (deceased), and brother-in-law of Alumnae **Bridget "Pinkey" (Fernandes) da Silva, Shirley (Holder) de Goes and Wendy (Holder) Buchan**.

—**Alumna Rosemunde (Rose Abdull) Woo** whose father, Dr. Hafiez Albert Abdull passed away in his 92nd year on January 11, 2016, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Rose is a current member of the "Serviam" Choir.

—**Alumna Donna Lam** whose mother, Barbara Beverley (deGroot) Lam passed away on January 22, 2016, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

**May Perpetual Light shine upon them, and may their souls rest in Peace.**

**Be merciful to them, O Lord. Amen.**



**ST. ROSE'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (Toronto)**



**Your Annual Membership Contribution of \$25.00 is payable on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.**

**Cheques should be written to: St. Rose's Alumni Association (Toronto)**  
**and mailed to: 19 Robertsfield Crescent**  
**Scarborough, Ontario**  
**M1R 2X1**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(If different from last year's or not on the mailing List)

**School House:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Graduation Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(please advise if you would prefer to receive your Newsletter by email)**

**Membership Contribution: \$25.00**

**Enclosed is my Cheque for:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_