

**SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009/2010****Re-Union Celebrations and AGM, 2009**

The annual Re-Union Celebrations were held during the weekend of February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> 2009, at STC Gurutalawa. The cricket match, Old Boys vs. Present Boys started on time at 9am. The cricket match of 20 overs, once again had an exciting finish and ended with the Old Boys winning with only 3 balls to spare, and wicket in hand, turning the tables from last year.

Present boys were 154 for 6 wickets in 20 overs and the Old Boys chased them with a tight fight and won the match for 155 for 9 wickets in 19.3 overs.

- Man of the Match and Best Bowler(Present Boy) - Mast.W.M.M.N.Weerakoon (4 wkts and 18 runs)
- Best Batsman (Present Boy) - Mast.V.Wilfred, Captain of Present Boys (31 runs)
- Best Batsman (Old Boy) - Mr.Dushantha Dharmawardena
- Best Bowler (Old Boy) - Mr.R.Shanmugam

This time all Old Boys were very keen to watch the live match between Old & Present boys, thus I must specifically gratitude them accepting the fact of not playing softball cricket matches alongside the main match at the same time.

Mr.Ananda Gallearchchi presented a 35 Match Scorebook, commencing with this year's match and to be kept in the custody of the Headmaster. A Challenge Trophy in memory of Mr.E.L.Perera, a former Headmaster and 4 Cups and Certificates for all players were made available, by courtesy of Mr.Rienzie Fernando, Chairman, Roots Global (Pvt) Ltd. The Pavilion refurbished by courtesy of Mr.Nawaz Caffoor and Tube Well drinking water was available, through the compressor installed recently with the funds by Mr. Gerald de Alwis. Electricity supply available with the support by Mr.Gerald De Alwis, thus digital "Pa-pa-re" & DJ music were provided to supply required level of entertainment & energy to the whole crowd at the grounds.

The Old Boys returned to College after the match for the usual dip in the swimming pool and Present Boys won after a strong fight back by the Old Boys.

Special Lunch was arranged for the Old Boys for over 200, which was appreciated by majority who enjoyed a peaceful meal.

This time Old Boys won the basketball match (34-27), and they too make sure to hold the championship in the Volley Ball match by beating the Support Staff. Mr.Gerald de Alwis declared open the Astro Turf, at 5.00 pm by cutting a ribbon and bowling the first ball to Captain Mast.V. Wilfred of the Present Boys. Mr.B.H. Perera, a former teacher at Guru, who helped in getting the turf from the Cricket Board, where he is the Administration Manager.

The AGM commenced at 6:00pm, attended by a record of 183 Members. Presentation was arranged by the IT Department boys depicting the progress of the College from the early days. Since 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the OBA, we specially invited Mr. P S Duleepkumar, first Hony. Secretar of the OBA and founder Members Messrs.Bradman Weerakoon and Gerald De Alwis was an honour. The first Senior Vice President, Mr.S.K.Wickremasinghe and other founder members Messrs.Arthur Perera, Cecil and Leslie Habaragoda, Nawaz Caffoor were among those who could not attend.

For the first time in history, Live Band music provided at the Main Hall for Fellowship just after the AGM and many generations of Old Boys enjoyed very well. The Fellowship Dinner was attended by over 190 Members and invitees. Messrs.Bradman Weerakoon and P.Duleepkumar made after Speeches in the Dinning Hall.

Six staff members of the support staff were given cash gifts of Rs.6,000/= each for their long service.

A special STCG-OBA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary souvenir Item pack (T-Shirt, Cap, Sticker, Keytag & a Mug) for Rs.1,800/= was made available to facilitate few arrangements to make 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a special event. This is a special project funded by a group of Old Boys, and the profit was utilised to sponsor the Music Band, DJ music and few other entertainment arrangements.

Sunday Service at the chapel was followed by planting trees around the Dining Hall and Foster Hall, by Old Boys representing each decade to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the OBA. Messrs.P.S Duleepkumar, Mahen Ranasinghe, S. Rajmohan, Shervon Fernando, S. Balaramesh and Thirumurugamoorthi M. was selected.

**Annual Prize Giving Ceremony**

The Annual Prize Giving was held on July 03, 2009. Mrs. Nirmalie Wickremasinghe the Principal of Ladies College was the Chief Guest. No suitable candidates were qualified for the Scholarships (Scholarship funds operated by the OBA). A Science Exhibition followed by the Prize Giving, which displayed the upcoming scientists/engineers from Guru. Messrs. Prabath Jayasundara, Lakshman Jayatilaka, Ananda Gallearchchi, Lincoln Fernando presented at the event.

### **The Executive Committee**

The Ex-Co held 10 Meetings in all, including one at Gurutalawa, compared to a minimum of 9 required under the Rules. Attendance at Meetings by Ex-Co Members is given below.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>No. of Meetings Attended (Excused/Absent)</b>	<b>Date Joined</b>	<b>Date Resigned</b>
Rev.Marc Billimoria	President/Headmaster	05 (05/00)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Mahen Ranasinghe	Senior Vice President	02 (08/00)	28 Feb 2009	21/09/2009
Mr.P. Jayasundara	Vice President/SVP	10 (00/00)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Christo Gonawela	Vice President	03 (05/02)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Thirumurugamoorthi M.	Vice President	09 (01/00)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Dinusha de Costa	Hony. Secretary	09 (01/00)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.P. Dhayabaran	Hony. Treasurer	07 (03/00)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.A.C.M. Rashid	Hony. Asst. Secretary	04 (03/03)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.W. Gunaseela	Hony. Asst. Treasurer	02 (03/05)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Nihal Wanniarachchi	Committee Member	07 (02/01)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Athula Kumaranayake	Committee Member	03 (05/02)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.K. Weerawardane	Committee Member	03 (05/02)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Chandana De Silva	Committee Member	03 (04/03)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Shervon Fernando	Committee Member	04 (05/01)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.S. Pietersz	Committee Member	02 (02/06)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.S. Balaramesh	Committee Member	06 (04/00)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr. S. Prabakaran	Committee Member	06 (03/01)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.E.S. Weerasinghe	Committee Member	05 (01/04)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.Omal Jayasinghe	Committee Member	00 (00/10)	28 Feb 2009	(ceased) Rule 9 (5)
Mr.M. Vinodh	Committee Member	05 (04/01)	28 Feb 2009	
Mr.S. Rajmohan	Committee Member	06 (02/02)	27 Mar 2009	
Mr.M.P.D. Perera	Committee Member	00 (03/07)	27 Mar 2009	(ceased) Rule 9 (5)
Mr.Palitha Rajapaksa	Committee Member	01 (03/06)	27 Mar 2009	(ceased) Rule 9 (5)
Mr.Ziard Sinnen	Committee Member	06 (02/02)	27 Mar 2009	
Mr.Thanura Fernando	Committee Member	03 (03/04)	27 Mar 2009	

There were few members who were inactive for longer periods are ceased from the ExCo as per Rule 9(5). These members were sent many notices (email, sms and even word of mouth messages), thus no proper response submitted. Therefore, all OBA members are hereby reminded and kindly requested to re-consider the capacity/caliber of new ExCo member appointments in future.

### **Participation in School Events**

Members of the OBA participated in a number of School events throughout the year, apart from the Prize Giving.

Guru Inter-House Swimming meet was held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at the College. The Chief Guest was Dr.Harsha Perera who captained the Guru Swimming Team in 1985.

A group of Old Boys departed all the way from Colombo, participated the Uva Thomian Cricket Encounter 2009 which was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2009. They joined cheering with the present boys and tried their best to boost up the team moral.

### **Thora Cricket Sixes Carnival 2009**

Thora Cricket Sixes was held on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 at NCC Grounds, Colombo 7 and a co-founder Mr.Bardmon Weerakoon was the chief guest. Special publicity was arranged from the TV/Radio Media through EFM & ETV by Mr.Ziard Sinnen who is the key person handled & coordinated the event. Many age groups were participated, specially the young generations representation was higher than the Senior OBA members. We must appreciate the work carried out by Ziard and his supportive members. Also our sincere gratitude offered to the NCC ground for their fullest support.

This was the first time that Guru OBA invited all the other Brother schools. There were 5 teams participated from STC Mt.Lavinia. Total 20 teams participated and the Champion team was STC Mt. Lavinia A/L 2001 and Runner up - STC Mt.Lavinia A/L 1989.

I suggest we continue these types of events annually to promote our Guru.

**Uva Thomian Encounter 2009**

The annual cricket encounter between STC Gurutalawa and Bandarawela, called the Uva Thomian encounter, held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2009.

S.Balaramesh donated T-shirts and Bottoms worth of Rs.34,800/= to the College players.

Uva Thomian Cricket Encounter 2009 played for SLA Ratnayake & Patrick Gunewardena Trophy, which was won by STC, Bandarawela beating Guru by 63 runs.

**Fellowship Dinner 2009**

After many difficulties Fellowship Dinner 2009 was decided to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009. After all it was a another successful event, which resulted a profit to OBA with the participation of over 140 members.

Special thanks offered to Mr.S.Rajmohan, who coordinated the event properly within very short period of time. The event's profit was highly contributed from the Mini Bar of Rs.34,200/=, which was handled by Mr.Athula Karunanayake.

Rev. John Puddefoot, the Warden of STC Mt.Lavinia was the Chief Guest and Rev.Marc Billimoria, President-STCG OBA/Headmaster of STC Gurutalawa and Mr.L.A.M. Chandrasekera, the Headmaster of STC Bandarawela also presented.

**STC Mt.Lavinia - Activities**

Induction of the new Warden at STC Mt. Lavinia, Rev. John Puddefoot was on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Cricket Sixes held at on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009 - Big Club Grounds organized by the Class of '90 followed by the traditional "Thomian Walk" with nearly 15 Guru Members participated. This time only one team registered representing Guru and it was mere misfortune that we got out from the first round.

**STC Gurutalawa - Activities**

Headmaster reported the improvements in the GCE O/L results of 2008. 58 students have passed G.C.E O/L examination and 28 students have secured admission for higher studies at STC Mt. Lavinia.

Appointment of the new Administration Manager, Mr.Ananda Gallearachchi from 1st of July 2009, who is an Old Boy of STCG & STCB, is a tremendous asset who has introduced proper accounting and control systems at Guru. He also has handled many promotional activities to support promoting the school to increase admissions.

**Special Chapel Service**

OBA, 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations was held with a Thanksgiving Service in the Chapel of the Transfiguration at STC Mt.Lavinia on Saturday, March 7, 2009, followed by Fellowship. Dr.Hayman Foundation launched by Rev. Fr. Marc Billimoria on the same day following a brief fellowship celebration. Funds received from Mrs.Hayman's will be used for College infrastructure development, staff welfare and scholarships.

**Membership Directory**

Latest Membership Directory was compiled & printed with many historical reminiscence, OBA present information and updated members details. It was a better product from the hard work by Mr.Thirumurugamoorthi Muthuvel who was acquired & compiled members details, college historical events data and most importantly the advertisements. We must show our gratitude to his hard work and also not forgetting Mr.Nihal Wanniarachchi & Mr.Cristo Gonawala for their initial data collection work and all others members who helped in many ways.

The first Directory was handed over to Mr.Bardmon Weerakoon on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2009, who was the chief guest at the Thora Cricket Sixes '09.

This was another great achievement by this ExCo team, which brought nearly Rs.500,000/= of total income to the OBA. The part of the profit was utilized to purchase a new Multimedia Projector and a White Screen worth Rs.156,760/= to the College which can use both Computerised presentations and show Movies.

**Swimming Pool**

College swimming pool is an icon which has brought many valuable things to Guru and it is the main attraction in the school. As you may aware that it has been a trouble spot over so many years with the filtration system, lack of funds for purchasing chemicals and lack of maintenance, etc. The whole system is too old to continue any further and it was spotted by few Old Boys who were interested to replace all equipment with a latest system.

They have donated Rs.2,000,000/= for the completion of the first phase of refurbishing of the Swimming Pool (Pump House, Water filter system).

**Education & Faculty Development**

Group of Old Boys have donated funds worth nearly Rs.60,000/= to purchase Magiboards (White Boards), Markers and other related accessories to the College class rooms.

**Membership**

We welcome all members who joined the OBA (*from 28/03/2009 to 16/02/2010*).

Messrs. S.S.Athukorala, M.G.M.Aboosalih, M.M.M.Amrin, A.M.G.Chamila Bandara, S.P.Chandrasoma, Kamal N. Cooray, M. De Croos, C.J. De Silva, D.N.S.P.K. Devasiri, D.M. Madusanka, P.R.L. Fernando, A.C. Faleel, P.B.P.R. Fernando, K.N.A. Fernando, M.T.D. Fernando, B.S. Fonseka, N.Gunasekar, A.U.H. Halpage, K.Y.G. Hattotuwa, R.Haputantri, W.Ismail, M.J. Imithiyaz, M.A.J. Illyas, K.Jaildeen, B.P.R.Jayasekara, S.Jayakanthan, M.L. Jayathilake, A.N.Jayathilake, C.P.K. Koholangoda, K.W.C.H.B. Ketakumbure, A.K. Ayub, T.S.Lexis, M.H. Mohamed Hanifa, N.Marikkar, S.M. Marikkar, Dr.Muthukumar, S.Mahanama, S. Mohanaraj, M.C.M. Naushard, N.S.Nanayakkara, P.R. Ranasinghe, R.D. Peiris, M.R.Rilwan, H.C.C. Rukshan, R.Ramiah, V.Rajalingam, M.B.M. Rizwan, M.A. Rafaideen, R.A. Ranasinghe, D.H.M. Silva, M.F.M. Shariff, M.A.A. Thilakasiri, H.P. Wickremarachchi, J.N.A. Wawegedara, C.T. Withana, D.P.S. Wijethunga, Robin, C.T. Withana, D.P.S.L. Wijethunga, Robin Winter, K.Yatawara, Yodendran.

**All Members are reminded & requested to let the Ex-Co have their e-mail addresses and update other contact details (if non-valid), for inexpensive communication, as the cost of posting Newsletters etc. is rather high.**

**The College Website - [www.stcguru.com](http://www.stcguru.com)**

College website is fully updated and running. Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka's contribution to maintain the College website is highly appreciated. It is required to publish College updates, latest projects and College developments continuously which are visible to all the worldwide Thomians to draw their attention towards Guru.

**Website of the 62 Group**

The website of 62 Group, [www.stcg62group.org](http://www.stcg62group.org) is very much active, thanks to Mr.Lakshman Jayatilaka and it is fully compiled with latest news of Thomians around the world.

**Generosity of the Old Boys**

Mr.Hubert Jayakody from Japan had donated Rs.300,000/= towards the Reconstruction of the Read Junior Roof.  
Mr.B.S.R. Fernando donated Rs.26,500/= (Rs.4,000/= at the Fellowship Dinner & Rs.22,500/= for the Education & Faculty Development).  
Chapman's family donated Rs.20,250/= for the infrastructure development of Guru.  
Mr. Ravindra Jayasekera donated a Notebook Computer (Model: DELL Inspiron 8600) to the College Computer Lab in October 2009.

**Our Regular Donors**

We are very grateful to the following, who have for the past few years contributed by Bankers order, monthly, quarterly or bi-annually - Received this year; Mr. S.K.Wickremasinghe Rs.6,000.00, Mr.Falil Caffoor Rs.3,600.00 and Mr. Sisira Nanayakkara Rs.1,500.00

**Conclusions**

2009/10 period of the OBA has been another good year with many achievements and improvements by the OBA. Were managed to uplift the College standards & infrastructures in many ways. It was always with the generosity and the commitment of our Guru Old Boys will always protect their Al ma mater. We believe in developments with the hard work & the teamwork for our unique Al ma mater, will leads us achieving any milestones in future too. Therefore, as a beginning let us focus increasing student numbers; word of mouth is a good way to canvass and support increasing student numbers.

For the College to survive such development has to take place within a short period and it is hoped that the new ExCo will continue the good work to meet this requirement. It is a challenge my friends, but yet achievable!

**ESTO PERPETUA**


Dinusha de Costa  
Hony. Secretary

February 16, 2009