



FEATURE

An Address from Our Alumni President 2006/07 Alumni's 30th Anniversary Celebrations Announced

Greetings to All,

A quick flip through the yellowing pages of my school magazines revealed that our Canossian Alumni Association celebrates its 30th birthday in 2007! It was then known as the St Anthony's Convent Ex-Pupils Association, officially registered with the Registrar of Societies on 5 August 1977.



Name change aside, our vision remains to enable all the alumni from the various institutions to remain connected in spirit and in deeds to reflect our shared heritage in the Canossian education system, within the framework of a vibrant and responsible organization.

The present Executive Committee was voted in at the AGM on 2

September 2006 and here, I would like to express our gratitude to the previous President, Susanna and her Ex-Co for all that they have done, especially in rolling out the newsletter.

An enriching reunion with my Class of 1981 mates last year (and a persuasive cousin!) nudged me into answering the call to be more involved in promoting this sense of belonging. I do hope that all of you will be similarly enthused to reach out and encourage more alumni to join the CAA. For a start, save and forward this newsletter to any old girls you are in touch with, who are not yet members!

“Our vision remains to enable all alumni to remain connected in spirit and in deeds to reflect our shared heritage in the Canossian education system”

Our current Ex-Co comprises a good mix of ladies to take charge of (1) Recreation and Mission and (2) Membership and Communications. As all of us work full-time, we welcome any members who want to contribute. Please drop us a line at info@canossialumni.com if you feel this ‘tug’ at your heartstrings. We will definitely follow-up.

One significant event to look out for would be Canossians Connect 2007 (aka CC07), which promises to be a fun-filled and nostalgic evening on 31 March 2007, commemorating our 30th anniversary. Mark that date, start getting your pals together and watch for further announcements!

Happy reading!

Janelene Leong



EDITORIAL

Hi,

Wearing the shoes as Editor of our very own Alumni newsletter for the first time has reinforced a personal belief - that people are inspired from within. In reading about the memories of Mr Quah and Soo Fern, I am reminded that it is our experiences and encounters with people that spur us onto greatness.

To this end, my vision for the newsletter is that it tells stories about the people and the lives that makes us proud to be Canossian graduates. Do write in with your ideas! This newsletter belongs to you.

Be inspired!

Vivien

contents

2	Introducing the 2006/07 Ex-Co	3	Events Galore
4	S K Quah - Sportsgirl Award	3	Canossians Connect 2007
		4	Re-united

The Ladies at the Helm The Executive Committee 2006/07

Who are these people leading us? Read about their fondest memories of school.

president

Janelene Leong (1981)

- General practitioner
- Performing in 'The Magic Rose', a mini-musical in Primary School.

secretary

Adeline Lee (1986)

- Marketing Executive Assistant to VP
- We were the first school in Singapore to have air conditioners!

treasurer

Chua Lee Beng (1984)

- Head of Department, Arts Education/CCA at SACPS
- How amazing the camaraderie was whenever Sports Day came around!

vice president

Esther Tan (1986)

- Global Account Manager
- Eating on the floor at the quadrangle during recess, and my favourite Yong Tau Foo stall.

assistant secretary

Joan Phua (1984)

- Piano Teacher
- The times that I was involved in the Students' Council organizing activities.

assistant treasurer

Kelly Hing (1984)

- Financial Business Analyst
- Sports Day at the National Stadium, standing at the grandstand and blowing bubbles. We were very competitive.



From L to R: Janelene, Esther, Adeline, Joan, Lee Beng, Kelly, Christina, Jezialle, Susan and Nelly.

committee members

Christina Lim (1959)

- Lactation Consultant
- The community living at the Boarding House where I learnt life skills.

Jezialle Wong (2002)

- Co-Curricular Activities Administrator at SACSS
- Preparing for SYF. Though it was tough, nevertheless, I enjoyed it.

Susan Tham (1991)

- PE Teacher in SACPS
- The 7-day St John's Island Camp for school team members; the human chain transporting food for 100 people.

Nelly Soh (1959)

- Tennis Coach
- Doing landscape sketching with my buddies during the weekends.

Erratum

In the July 2006 issue, it was reported that the new Vice Principal at SACSS, Ms Loh Sing Huay was from Balestier School. We would like to clarify that Ms Loh was transferred to SACSS from Balestier Hill Secondary School where she was Head of Department for Science. Apologies to Ms Loh!

The Canossian Alumni strives to connect our members to our Alma Mater by ensuring the continuity of the Canossian Spirit through strong and vibrant ties.

Canossian Connections is published by the Canossian Alumni Association

Please send correspondence to the Editor,
c/o St Anthony's Canossian Secondary School
1600 Bedok North Ave 4,
Singapore 469700
editor@canossianalumni.com
Fax: 64490162
www.canossianalumni.com

For internal circulation only.

A New Spiritual Director Sr Angela Ng shares her thoughts

Dear Alumni

Let me begin by expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Sr. Janet Wang, Susanna and the former Exco members for starting our "Canossian Express", running with your creativity and diligence. As we move forward let us not lose sight of our Canossian Mission so that like St Magdalene of Canossa, we can truly reach out to all our Alumni members with "Big Hearts".

Sr Angela



past alumni events
you supported

Juniors and Seniors Interact at Tennis Event

20 budding tennis players participated in a friendly tournament and party at the Co-Curricular Activities Branch on 23 July 2006. Gladys from the Class of 2005 shares, "The activity was a success as different age groups were engaged with each other".



Class of 1982 Reunion

Inspired by the Class of 1981 which celebrated their 40th birthday in grand style, the Class of 1982 gathered on 7 October 2006. Over 40 girls created a ruckus catching up with friends over dinner at the King's Hotel.

The Canossian Family and the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Partnership



Breakfast @ Verona is a monthly breakfast event for our Friends in Need. Since October 2005, B@V has been jointly organised by the Alumni, Canossaville Children's Home and the Society of St Vincent de Paul at St Stephen's Church. On 12 August 2006, our Friends in Need were treated to a special day of fun and games at the invitation of St Anthony's Canossian Primary to their Carnival. This partnership certainly brings the meaning of Canossian Family to a new level. To contribute to B@V, contact Christina at 93679293.

First Ever Alumni Golf Challenge

14 golf enthusiasts gathered at the Mandai Executive Golf Course on 29 October 2006 to pit their skills against each other in a 9-hole event. Open to all levels of golfers, a fun 3-putt penalty was introduced with proceeds going towards funding future CAA activities. The champion Esther Tan with 21 Stableford points. Congratulations Esther!



Have a class event to share?
Write to us at
info@canossianalumni.com.

AGM Appreciation

Thank you to all alumni who attended the AGM on 2 September 2006.

coming up ...
alumni events
to participate in

November 2006 Breakfast @ Verona - Senior Citizens Appreciation Day

Date: 18 November 2006
Time: 8:00 am
Venue: Canossaville Children's Home, 1 Sallim Road
Contact: Christina at 93679293
Email: geoksuanlim@yahoo.com.

Please note that there will be no B@V in December.

Social Tennis Workshop

Date: 28 January 2007
For more details, contact Nelly at 96266424 or email jimnel@singnet.com.sg.

Culinary Workshop

Date: 6 January 2007 Saturday
To find out what's cooking at our first ever culinary event, contact Nelly at 96266424 or email jimnel@singnet.com.sg.

others ...

canossian related activities

Canossaville Children's Home Gifts of Love Project

Your support to this fundraiser makes a difference to the children. Details on the flyer attached.

Alternatively, you can purchase specially designed coaching journals as inspirational gifts. For further information, call 6748 5777.

celebrations



Mark off 31 March 2007 now!

We want you!

Do you have a story to tell? Or an interesting historical nugget to share? Do you want to volunteer or to sponsor prizes and gifts? Email us now at info@canossianalumni.com.

To register for events, email info@canossianalumni.com or download forms from <http://www.canossianalumni.com/events> and fax 64490162.

The Difference One Life Makes

The courage and conviction of the late Chua Soo Fern re-unites school mates, teachers and Sisters after two decades.



Rest in peace

Chua Soo Fern

24 March 1971 -
4 October 2006

Soo Fern, as she was affectionately known to us, was our dear friend from the days at CCPS. We graduated from SAC in 1987.

On 24 August, Fern called to inform us that she was at stage four of an extremely rare form of lymphoma cancer. When we visited Fern in hospital, she showed no signs of self pity or anger. Instead, she urged us to pray for her as she strongly believed that God had His plans for her. Fern also expressed her desire to meet a certain "Sr Maria" again. Fern found Sr Maria to be a great influence in her life, in bringing her closer to God. In Fern's own words, "Sr Maria was the one who converted me." The last time Fern met Sr Maria was more than 25 years ago!

We began our search for Sr Maria. Together with the two contacts I had - Sr Louisa Lim, currently in Philippines and Sr Theresa Seow, currently in Rome; we roped in Srs Angela Ng, Mary Tan and Janet Wang to help locate Sr Maria. Tears flowed freely among those present when Fern finally met Sr Maria Riva at the hospital.

With many Sisters, teachers and alumni from the 1987 batch in contact, news of Fern's illness traveled as far as the USA and Canada. We kept each other spiritually close and prayed hard for Fern. A group of us even met up in the evening of 27 September 2006 in St Joseph's Church at Victoria Street to pray for Fern. Contribution of funds also poured in to aid Fern's rising medical bills.

Fern left us on 4 October 2006; leaving behind her husband, Vijay, an ageing mum and family members. Although we have lost a dear friend, we have gained reconciliation among friends and Sisters after losing touch for nearly two decades. Her smile and laughter will always be

remembered by all.

Thank you, Fern for bringing all of us closer together. Good bye, my dear friend.

The article is contributed by Angela Low from the Class of 1987.

Write to us!

Your Voice will be a regular column in future issues of Canossian Connections. We want to hear from you about the things that matter to you. This newsletter belongs to you. You will define its focus and the shape it takes. Start writing now! Email the Editor at editor@canossianalumni.com.

Alumni Membership

Did you know that with a one-time payment you become a member for life?

To join, surf on to www.canossianalumni.com

St Anthony's Canossian Secondary School

A Legacy Remembered

The S K Quah - Sportsgirl Award is Introduced



SCHOOLS

where it all really happens

It has been two years since the passing on of Mr Quah Siew Kow on 2 August 2004. For us Alumni, the lessons he taught us are as fresh as the morning dew which greeted us during PE lessons. The message of discipline and hardwork as values in life will always remain with us. These same lessons will be passed on to future generations of SAC students through the S K Quah - Sportsgirl Award.

St Anthony's Canossian Secondary School introduced the award to keep the memory of this man who through his 28 years of dedicated service formed many young girls into ladies of integrity and respect. Indeed, Mr Quah was a well respected gentleman, a legacy in our history books of Canossian education in Singapore.

For her outstanding leadership qualities, moral courage and positive attitude; Lorraine Peh Hui Ying received the award from Mrs Quah during Sports Carnival on 8 August 2006.