

Managing Committee's Report

On behalf of the managing committee it gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report for the year 2008-09. The year that signaled a shift in gears in many ways – preparing for the Diamond Jubilee of the association and gearing up for the school's 150 years celebration 2013.

As we have received this year's SSC results, we are glad to state that year ending March 2009 the school achieved excellent performance with 92 Distinctions, 95 First Class, 32 Second Class, 7 Pass class and only 3 failures and the highest percentage of 96% by Pranav Deshpande.

The committee has been extremely active and has laid emphasis on putting in place some of the building blocks for these two big events. The committee now meets once a month on the second Friday of each month, as well as additional meetings for projects as and when required. Between July' 08 and March'09 a total of 9 scheduled meetings took place, 1 brainstorm session and 2 reunion meetings. All meetings had quorum and was well attended with over 75% attendance by members.

Over the year 47 new members have joined the St Stanislaus Ex Student Association.

As you may have noticed that the Alumni website is now being constantly updated and improved, it has definitely become the focal point of all communications and members are requested to log onto the site more often. This year onwards we hope to post all notices on the website with the intention of being eco-friendly, **saving costs** as well ease the coordination requirements.

St. Stanislaus Ex-students Association is one of the few alumni organizations around the world that can boast of celebrating its diamond Jubilee. Our annual Reunion, "Bond of Boys" 2010 will be held over two days on the 9th and 10th January 2010. The focus is to become 1. A vibrant organization that will attract and encourage alumni across age groups, social standing and religion to become members of SSES and contribute to their Alma Mater 2. To help their school maintain its high standards and values of the school thereby retaining its position as a leading educational institute in the city.

Over the year many activities were conducted and a brief synopsis of this is listed below:

Digitizing student records

We have in the year completed the digitizing of the student records from 1960 till date. You can visit the website on www.stanislites.org and register in case you have not already done so. Watch this space in the coming weeks...

School Website

We continue to maintain and support the school in running their website www.stanislausbandra.in

Accounts now computerized

This year we have also computerized our accounts on Tally for the first time and will continue this as a practice.

E-learning at St.Stanislaus:

SSESA along with the School has setup a pilot project with one of the world leaders in e-learning Fronter <http://com.fronter.info/>. We aim to encourage the use of e-learning tools in the school. These tools will help prepare the boys with skills for the 21st century.

Lonavala Picnic 2008

The annual picnic to Lonavla was successfully conducted on 29th to 31st May 2008 at the St. Stanislaus Villa. A total of 50 Stanislites along with their families attended the picnic. Thanks to Melville Rodricks and his team of volunteers for organizing the picnic.

114 Staff members covered under the Staff Healthcare Scheme

The premium of Rs 3.99 lakhs for this year's (2008-09) medical insurance covering the hospitalization expenses for the school staff (current and retired) and school workers has been collected and paid. In addition, seventeen school workers have also been covered under a personal accident insurance. 114 serving and retired staff were covered. Thanks to alumni Mahavir Chopra whose company Bonsai International negotiated a good deal in difficult circumstances. For the second year Bonsai International has not charged their fee for which we are grateful. Mr John Lohale (Marathi) at 89 is the oldest retired teacher to be covered. A total of 44 retired teachers and retired staff were covered this year.

Stanislaus Alumni vs St Mary's Alumni Football match

On the 15th of August 2008 the 2 teams played against each other reliving the erstwhile competitive spirit between the 2 great Jesuit institutions. It lived up to the expectations of fun and competition that exists between the 2 schools – this was followed up with a lunch and refreshments.

JAAI West Zone Congress - Ahmedabad

“Many Sparks, One Fire – A Fire that kindles other fires”

The West Zone Congress of the Federation of Jesuit Alumni Associations of India (JAAI) serves as a platform to meet, collaborate and strategise with other Jesuit Alumni Associations in the West Zone.

The Congress was held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat between October 1st and 2nd 2008 on the campuses of Loyola Hall and St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad. 227 delegates including 27 priests attended the Congress. Fifteen delegates from SSESA participated in the congress.

Stanislite, Fr. Francis de Melo SJ, former Provincial of Bombay Province gave the keynote address in which he emphasized the skills set required for today's fast growing India and how Jesuit schools needed to re-invent themselves. Fr. de Melo felt preparing students for today's globalized world called for intense creativity and the key was collaboration among Jesuit Schools and with Alumni.

University of California, Irvine Consulting Project for SSES

The students of the Paul Merange School of Business, University of California, Irvine completed a consulting project for SSES. As part of their project to gain consulting experience with a real organization/team and put their knowledge of organizational behavior into practice. They conducted telephone interviews, online surveys and online survey follow-ups. They investigated the motivation of alumni or lack thereof and the challenges they face to contribute to the initiatives of the organization. Their report provide possible solutions to the existing challenges faced by alumni at large so as to increase the participation rate and in turn address the interests of the alumni, the school and the organization

Aptitude Test

The Aptitude testing and Career counseling for of our Class IX students was conducted by Mr RL Karandikar, President – Maharashtra Shikshan Vyavsay Margadarshan Sanghatana and his experienced team from Broadway Career Counseling Academy. On January 31, 2009 Mr Karandikar spoke on the importance of the Aptitude Tests for helping our children decide on their future career. The test were held on February 1st, 2009. Each boy along with his parents attended individual counselling on February 22nd 2009. A total of 187 boys were tested counseled.

First Aid awareness program:

SSES's First Aid Awareness Course for the Teachers of St. Stanislaus High School was held on Tuesday 16th October 2008 at the AV Room in the School. It had a very positive response from the teachers. Lasting almost two hours, the event was conducted by pediatric surgeon Dr. Bhalchandra Jayakar (Batch of 1987). His wife, Dr. Priti, a laproscopic surgeon also accompanied him. The extensive presentation covered a wide-range of issues from cuts, burns, fractures to dog bites, drowning and electric shocks

The students of Std VIII had a First Aid awareness cum training program on 12th November 2008 in the School AV room. The aim of the program was to equip the boys with knowledge and techniques while dealing with an emergency before professional help arrived. Besides the boys the school Sports Director and a few school workers also attended the session.

Meeting of JAAI West Zone Representatives

The Second Meeting of the West Zone Council of the Federation of Jesuit Alumni Associations of India (JAAI) was hosted by SSES and held on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at St Stanislaus's High School, Bandra, Mumbai. The meeting had wide representation from all the provinces that comprise the West Zone,

Gujarat - Surjit Singh Arora, Ravi Chhabra, Bhaumik Thakar (Treasurer)

Pune - Imtiaz Lokhandwala (President), C.M.Salve, Sanjiv Javale, Mr. Shelke

Bombay - Gerry Mascarenhas (Secretary), Brian Almeida

Jesuit Province Co-ordinators: Bombay Fr Lawrie Ferrao

Ex-Officio Governing Council members:

Gujarat Shapath Shah,

Pune Bobby Jacob,

Goa Colin Coelho,

Bombay John Neelankavil

Ex-Officio World Union Representative: Conrad Gonsalves

Uplaat English School

SSESA has been financially supporting the Uplaat English School, Talasari in Gujarat. A sum of Rs 1.25lakhs was contributed by Stanislites towards the operating expenses of the school. The children from the school visited Mumbai during their summer holidays and stayed at St. Stanislaus. Alumni, Mr. Conrad Gonsalves helped the children learn the basics of playing the electronic organ. A few members of the Managing Committee hosted a few children for Sunday lunch. It was truly an eye opener to hear the children converse in English. Thanks to alumni member Mr. Ronnie Mascarenhas for spearheading the fund collection drive for this project.

Bond of Boys 2009

The annual Stanislite reunion was held on the 17th of January 2009 on the school backyard lawns. The reunion was a great success with over 400 boys attending with their families. There were close to 50 retired Teachers and Principals. The reunion attracted Stanislites across age groups and batches. It was heartening to see so many young Stanislites attend in numbers with their batchmates. The highlight of the evening was the treasure hunt which allowed many Stanislites to take a nostalgic walk around the school. There was a back to school feel with boys playing marbles, tops and rink hockey. There was good food, dancing and great gifts that were won. Renowned singer Shaan (Shantanu Mukerjee) and actor Arbaaz Khan attended. T-shirts were sold at the event and a few remain for those still interested.

View pictures of Reunion 2008: <http://www.stanislites.org/alumni/bob2009>

LiveWire Learning – Demystifying Maths

Venkatesh Srinivasan (Alumni - Class of 1987) a post graduate from IIM Ahmedabad and former COO of Future Capital Holdings and his brother Vittal Srinivasan (Alumni - Class of 1994) with a post graduation in MS Electrical Eng.-Stanford University together with SSESA and the School have started the "*Stepup program*" for the Std IX and X boys of St Stanislaus High School. The main aim of this program is to equip the boys with key skills needed in the outside world such as math, business and an understanding of finance and money – without the focus on textbooks but on real world applications through projects, games and in-class work.

As you can see its been a year of action and we intend it to remain this way and look forward to contributions and volunteers to help in making this an even bigger year for the St Stanislaus Ex Students Association.

Looking forward to your active support – and seeing you back on our website

Brian Almeida
Hon. Secretary

Visit us at www.stanislites.org