



“BROADCAST”

Newsletter of the Toronto Unit

Naparima Alumni Association of Canada

*Naparima Teachers' Training
St. Andrew's Theological
St. Augustine Girls'
Naparima Girls'
Naparima
Hillview
Iere*

Vol. XXXVII No. 1

Fall 2013

High Profile Performance



*Panache chosen to play for the Prime Ministers
of Canada and Trinidad and Tobago*



OUMARALLY, BABOOLAL

LAWYERS



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The Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (NAAC) was founded in Toronto in 1978 and includes graduates of Naparima College, Naparima Girls' High School, St. Augustine Girls' High School, Hillview College, Iere High School, Naparima Teachers' Training College and St. Andrew's Theological College. Among other things, it supports programmes at alma mater schools as well as a steelband programme in schools in the Toronto area.

All graduates coming to Ontario are invited to join the Association.

2013-14 NAAC Executive

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CONTENTS

President's Message	2	Meteorites & Mass Spectrometry	10-12
From the Editor's Desk... ..	2	T&T National Award for Service.....	13
Finance Report	3	NAAC Toronto Harbour Boat Cruise & Dinner.....	14-15
Notice of General Meeting.....	3	Missionary Mile.....	16-18
Membership Report	4	News From Naparima College	20-22
Social Report.....	4	Talking between the rooms	23
Communications Report.....	5	Book Review: Near Open Water	24-25
Bingo Report	5	Mail Bag.....	26
Steelband Report	6	Bursary Guidelines.....	27
High Profile Performance.....	8-9	Bursary Application	28

CREDITS

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President's Message

Here I am welcoming another NAAC Executive for the 2013 – 2014 year. The names should be familiar to everyone since these members have served in the past and I thank them for volunteering again. It may be too much to assume that the reason we are all back on the Board is because we've done a fine job in the past. Surely, we should be able to impose some form of mandatory retirement for anyone who has held a particular position since 2008!

At the first meeting of the new executive, Milton Moonah was appointed as our Liaison to the schools in Trinidad. He spends six months each year in south Trinidad.

I am reassured, when I read the news from the T & T schools, that NAAC's financial support plays some small part in their success. I thank our members and their friends who regularly attend our functions and donate items towards our other forms of fundraising.

This year marks NAAC's 35th Anniversary and although it is not one of the "big ones" in terms of anniversaries, we will definitely be raising a few glasses at our Annual Christmas Dinner & Dance on November 30, 2013.

Tickets are already in the hands of the members of the Executive, so book yours soon. Please note that the venue will be in **Scarborough** at the new Markham Convention Centre at Markham Road & Mc Nicoll Avenue. I expect Eastenders to turn out in great numbers.

Come on out when NAAC is administering bingo sessions and see how technology has changed the simple game of bingo. It is a far cry from the cardboard game cards and *corn grains* that we used as children. For the non-Trinis, read *corn kernels*. Now, there are individual electronic devices with fancy screens, etc. However, if you prefer to use a dabber you can still do so. There is no smoking allowed, so that image of a chain-smoking Luba Goy on CBC's *Royal Canadian Air Farce* is a thing of the past. See details on page 7.

Merle Ramdial

From the Editor's Desk...

In the last issue of *broadcast* we ran an interview with Patricia Moonilal that seemed to hit a chord with readers. Feedback was good, although many who commented did not know her. Thanks to Ramabai Espinet for that and for volunteering to conduct the interview with Christopher Charles on pg. 10.

I have known Chris since he was five years old and attending NAAC functions with his parents, Roderick and Vashti Charles. They should be very proud of their son's accomplishments.

The article "Mission Mile" submitted by Ken Rajkumar Maharaj (pg.16) paints a picture that is much more than the history that we know of the Canadian missionaries in Trinidad. Thanks Ken, and I appreciate the good job you do with archival material on your website.

About our cover, what else is there to say! NAAC is very proud of Panache and the members who performed that day. Rustin Oree has summarized comments made during and after the performance (pg. 8).

Thanks to Rajiv Persaud, of Bluetree Publishing & Design, for his help in all aspects of publishing this newsletter.

Merle Ramdial

— REMINDER —

NAAC MEMBERSHIP

*Please remember to renew your
NAAC Membership.*

*The membership year runs from
January to December.*

Finance Report

This report reflects the Association's financial information as at August 31, 2013. Annual Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014 will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Bingo Account

Bank of Nova Scotia \$15,769.00

General Account

Bank Of Nova Scotia \$18,288.00

TOTAL BANK ACCOUNTS \$34,057.00

NAAC INVESTMENTS

Bank of Nova Scotia – Term Deposit

-Balance at August 31, 2013 \$ 1,210.00

Investment Planning Counsel – Inter Pipeline Fund

*1600 Units – B.V. per unit \$10.00 \$16,000.00

(M.V. \$38,960.00)

*Dividends earned – Apr/13 – Aug/13 \$ 700.00

**Riocan Real Estate Inv T/U

(M.V. \$19,311.00) \$22,516.00

TOTAL INVESTMENTS \$40,426.00

*Market value of the Inter Pipeline Fund as at August, 2013 was \$24.35 per unit. This reflects an increase of 144% over book value. The fund continues to earn dividends at the rate of \$140 per month which translates to a return of 10.5% per annum on that investment.

**Market value of Riocan REIT as at August, 2013 was

\$23.55 per unit a decrease of 14% over book value. Dividends earned on this stock show a return of 5.2% per annum.

In September, 2013, the Association fulfilled its commitments to the schools in Trinidad in the amount of \$6,260.00. This is the sum of the following amounts to each of the five schools: NGHS, Iere, & SAGHS in the amount of \$1320 each, Naparima College in the amount of \$1120 and Hillview College in the amount of \$1180.

Our investment in a GIC in the amount of \$12,000 was cashed out, of which \$5000 was sent to the NGHS Building Fund last year and \$7000 was used to increase our holdings in Riocan Real Estate Trust Unit.

The event for the current fiscal year was a dinner cruise in the Toronto Harbour on September 14, 2013. This event was a pilot project and was attended by twenty seven members and friends. It is being considered as an event to be offered to the membership at large. Your feedback would be most welcome. This event was not considered a fundraiser but earned \$65 to our bottom line. Our biggest fundraiser is our Christmas dinner and dance which will be held on November 30, 2013. Net profit from this event is used to help fund the bursaries sent to the schools in Trinidad.

Respectfully submitted

Norma Ramsahai, Treasurer



NOTICE NAAC GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, November 9, 2013 • 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Knox Presbyterian Church

4156 Sheppard Avenue East , Scarborough, ON

Refreshments will be served at Noon

Membership Report

MEMBERS

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP now stands at 295

HONORARY MEMBERS	27
LIFE - REGULAR	154
LIFE - ASSOCIATE	39
ANNUAL-REGULAR	48
ANNUAL - ASSOCIATE	23
ANNUAL - STUDENT	4
TOTAL	295

It is encouraging to know that NAAC in its 35th year maintains a total membership of 295.

Many of our members now reside in the United Kingdom, the United States, Trinidad and Tobago and, of course, Canada.

Those who reside in the Greater Toronto Area look forward to the Christmas Dinner and Dance as friends join us at these dances and they commend us for continuing to keep 'the flame' alive. It's almost like a home-coming when we meet.

Members are always welcome to keep in touch with us through emails, telephone calls or through the good old method of letter writing! The committee looks forward to hearing from our members from far and wide with their good news, sad news or bad news.

Life members, we still consider that when you paid your membership fee, you showed deep interest in all the activities of our Alumni. You can continue to be involved by volunteering to help out in any of the following activities:

- learn to play the steel band or invite others to do so
- help out at the Bingo sessions-this is mainly on weekends
- invite friends and relatives to the dance
- help in the publication of the Broadcast
- offer your computer skills to enhance our website
- share your ideas with us to revitalise and keep our Alumni alive e.g. with the Social committee, plan an event in your respective areas.

We look forward to seeing you soon at our dance on Saturday, November 30th, 2013.

Cynthia Ramdeen

Chair, Membership Committee

Social Report

I accepted the role as Social Committee Chair at the first meeting of our new Executive, with the reassurance of continued great support from Wendy Rostant, past Chair as well as from the Executive, and I have not been disappointed.

Following up on a suggestion to go on a boat cruise to celebrate NAAC's 35th anniversary and because of pressing deadlines, we felt a dry run would be in order.

As a result, a few members of the Executive and some family members embarked on a 3 hour Toronto harbour dinner cruise on the Empress in mid-September. The feedback was mostly positive especially about the cruise, the atmosphere and the food, but most felt and suggested changes that would allow for a truly sociable and enjoyable experience for our NAAC members. Plans are now underway for a dinner and dance boat cruise Spring Fling event complete with steelband music, in May 2014. We'll keep you posted.

Our next event is the Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance on Saturday November 30th, 2013. Please see the invitation and details, including our new venue on the back page. We encourage you to call or e-mail any Executive member to reserve your tickets.

We are always brainstorming for ways for NAAC members to get together through a social/educational/celebratory event - **An Intergenerational Career Sharing Event**. But we need your input

NAAC has 295 members - talented, skilled, successful, productive members. Many of us are now retired from a great career but still volunteer in totally different fields ; many are now at the beginning or in the middle of our career paths and many are now learning about the career paths we may wish to follow. Within our NAAC group, in whichever generation we find ourselves, we have so much to share, celebrate and learn.

Would you attend? Would you be interested in sharing? Let us know, at the General Meeting in November or through e-mails or phone calls.

Angela Jutlah

Chair, Social Committee

Communications Report

Getting news from the schools for the Fall issue of *broadcast* is always a challenge. Classes have only been in session for a few weeks and any special programs and events like Speech Days and Commencement Exercises take place later on in October.

However, when there is good news, an email is all it takes. I received one from Ms Fairy Lalla, who retired from Naparima Girls' High School and is now Vice-Principal (Actg) of St. Andrew's Theological College (SATC). She shared the Order of the Thanksgiving Service that marked SATC's accreditation as a degree-granting institution. Congratulations and thank you Ms Lalla. I look forward to hearing more news of SATC.



*SATC Auditorium (L) and
(R) Girls' Dormitory & College Chapel*

Website:

Regular updating and maintenance of the site continues. An e-version of the Spring 2013 issue of *broadcast* is posted on the website at www.naactoronto.ca. If you have time to reminisce, you can also view back issues, in full colour, by clicking on the "Broadcast" button on the left of the homepage.

Again this year, Ras Shreeram volunteered to be on this committee and to be responsible for advertisements. We thank our advertisers and urge members to sample the offerings and to take note of the other services.

Merle Ramdial

Chair, Communications

Bingo Report

Bingo sessions are currently run at Ultimate Bingo Charity Association, at the new location 5601 Steeles Ave. W. in Toronto, Ontario. This is a much bigger, newer and improved facility and can accommodate over 400 patrons.

For the current fiscal period April 1st 2013 to August 31st 2013, NAAC was responsible for 12 bingo sessions. There was nil revenue earned for April and May since the hall operated at a loss. It is difficult to project our earnings for June, July & August 2013 given the current situation. In the last fiscal year we have seen revenue fall by 52% over the same period the previous year.

This decrease in revenue reflects to a certain extent bigger payout prizes, a slight decrease in attendance and increased overhead expenses. Hopefully this is only temporary and our revenue would increase. The hall administration has implemented strategies to increase attendance at the bingo sessions, one of which is to invite the members of the various charities running the bingos to their sessions. Such an invitation to our membership is in our current issue of the Broadcast.

We need revenue from bingo funds of approximately \$12K annually to financially manage our steelband and bursary programs at West Humber Collegiate Institute and Cedarbrae Collegiate to maintain the status quo. For this fiscal year, bingo revenue was used to pay honoraria to steelband instructors at West Humber Collegiate and Cedarbrae Collegiate, bursaries at WHCI and Cedarbrae Collegiate, plus covering 50% of the cost of steelpan tuning at WHCI and at Cedarbrae Collegiate.

Special thanks to all our volunteers and our team leaders, Ian/Merle Ramdial, and Norma Ramsahai for their help and commitment in running the bingo sessions. We look forward to your continued contribution and support. Currently we need another team leader at the helm and would appreciate volunteers.

Norma Ramsahai, Bingo Manager

Steelband Report

After-School Community Teaching Program:

Steelpan classes resumed at both the West Humber C.I. and Cedarbrae C.I. venues in September. Randolph Karamath will be teaching the classes at Cedarbrae every Monday and Al Foster will do the same at WHCI on Wednesdays. In the Beginner class at WHCI some basic music theory will be included in every session in an attempt to better prepare the graduates who strive to join the Panache steelband.

The beginners' class at WHCI has gotten off to a slow start but we expect to see an increase in enrolment by the third week of September. We will use a format similar to the one last year where beginners from last year will be able to learn more of Panache's repertoire. New beginners will be integrated into the program and mentored by band members.

School Partnership Program:

NAAC plans to continue its support for the day

school steelband program at both Cedarbrae C.I. and West Humber C.I. by providing bursaries and awards to students and sharing in the cost of tuning pans. Cedarbrae C. I. has already chosen recipients for the NAAC Bursaries and Steelband award. These will be presented at commencement later in October. Winners of the bursaries are Jaime Barrow and Anica Samlal with the Steelband award going to Shannon Singh. Congratulations !

Panache: Since the general meeting of November 2012, Panache has performed at 12 gigs and the band already has 8 gigs scheduled for the coming season. The band will be welcoming several members from the classes held last year.

Larry Large
Steelband Liaison

NOTICE: Steelband Classes • 2013/2014 Season

West Humber Collegiate Institute

Start Date: September 18, 2013

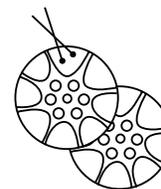
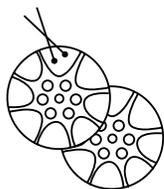
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Instructor:

Al Foster

Contact Larry Large: 905-813-6015

email: llarge@rogers.com



Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute

Start Date: September 16, 2013

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Instructor:

Randolph Karamath

Tel: 416-283-4152

email: ramachez@hotmail.com

Dear Members & Friends of NAAC
Come out to Play Bingo at ULTIMATE BINGO Hall

and

Help NAAC at the same time.

*A portion of the profits generated from Bingo sessions
 help NAAC to fund its programs in Toronto*

NAAC will be managing the bingos on the dates below:

October 20 • November 10 • December 15

Times on each date: 1:00 pm and/or 4:00 pm

Check out the Hall at:

www.ultimatebingo.ca

Hall address: 5601 Steeles Avenue West, Toronto

(East of Weston Road)

Call Norma at 416-283-0675 or

Merle at 905-844-1254 for more info



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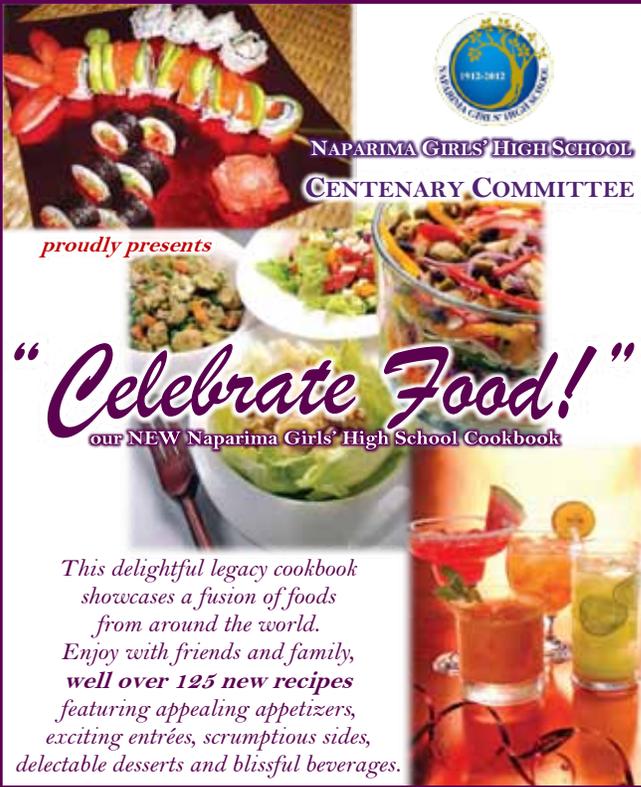
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High Profile Performance

Panache chosen to play for the Prime Ministers of Canada and Trinidad and Tobago

“Liz and Sheila both said that it was very exciting and that they enjoyed the night”.

“While this experience was still fresh in your mind, would you write an article about this gig?”

This was Merle’s request of me (and justification) on May 9, a full 2 weeks after the gig. For me, (these days) “still fresh” is the next day, 2 days at most so, when Merle asked me to write something about the performance for the next issue of “broadcast” it was, in my mind, “same old, same old”. What more can I write, about yet another fantastic Panache performance, that I haven’t already written?

This one was a little different, though: two Prime Ministers in attendance; the tight security; the “we will lock you in a room until we’re ready for you”; only players allowed in the room; you’ll have to leave the room when you’re finished playing (no listening to speeches for us); the \$6 pop and \$16 sandwich wrap; etc.

Well, not only did we play, listen to speeches, have people dancing in the aisles, dancing in their seat, etc, but also had a semi-private photo-op with the PMs.

If this was a different type of gig, it hit me...why not have a different type of reporting? Let the members of the band and the audience tell about their experiences.

The comments that follow more than adequately tell the story. The most gratifying comments to me were how welcome the “rookies” felt as part of the band. It was a given that the audience will love us; that they would love the repertoire; that we would look good and play better. But the feeling of camaraderie that came out in the comments was priceless.



Office of the Prime Minister
Trinidad and Tobago

So, here are the comments:

Not too many pannists can say that they played for the Prime Ministers of both Canada and Trinidad & Tobago... ***Winston Poon***

Please accept my heartfelt thanks. The ambience created was terrific and it was a magical night... ***Daniel Grenier, our contact at the PMO***

It was my pleasure to recommend your band, because of its diversity which gives a true representation of TnT at such an event... ***Jai Ojah-Maharaj, Toronto radio personality***

I was pleasantly surprised when I heard this beautiful music coming from the corner of the room. It completely lifted my spirits and I am so happy I decided to attend because I wouldn’t have missed it for anything. It was like the sun suddenly appeared... ***a T&T national on his way from Vancouver to Port-of-Spain, anxious to get home because he wasn’t enjoying the cold weather***

It was an honour to be connected with Panache... ***Suzanne George, security-breaching parent (just kidding, she got the OK to be with us)***

(Continued on next page)

High Profile Performance *(Continued from previous page)*

I felt proud and honoured to be a part of Panache...**Sandy Pelechaty**

As I looked around, I couldn't help but feel proud to be part of such a diverse band and thought to myself this is exactly what Canada, as well as Trinidad and Tobago, represent!...**Michele Comeau**

It was a great experience for me, being a new member of the tenor section, to have the opportunity to play at such an event...**Pam Rambharack**

Events like this show the team effort required, and when it works like this it shows our commitment to each other and the band. It is an honour to be part of such a group...**Glenda Mohammed**

Even though it was a long day it was well worth it. The band received many compliments especially from the T&T nationals who were visiting ...**Sheila/Indra Satram**

I will always treasure this gig. It truly was very special...**Sandy**

It was a great night!! It was truly an experience that I will not forget. ...**Michele**

I understand PM Harper's office staff were quite impressed with you all...**Jai**

I enjoyed our time before the gig. It was nice just to sit and not be rushed. It made me think of how far I had come in the band and how many friendships I had developed...**Sandy**

Congrats to all for a job well done. I knew you all were quite capable...**Jai**

Panache band members exuded professionalism, confidence and a high degree of skill in the way they carried themselves throughout the evening...**Suzanne**

I enjoyed watching the room evolve from us being there first to a full house...**Sandy**

It never fails to impress me how well Panache raises the bar with regards to these types of performances. I regard them as significant achievements for the band not only of musicianship but also of organization and logistics. It was very pleasing indeed seeing the audience's response and appreciation for our performance ...
Sheila

The best part of the gig was the honour of playing and the importance of who we were playing for...**Kendal, youngest member of the band**

And finally...

let it be known that every single one of us, appreciated immensely the fantastic job that Winston did coordinating this gig.

Meteorites & Mass Spectrometry

An interview with Christopher Charles by Ramabai Espinet

RE: Hello Christopher. You have been very much in the news with your recent public lecture at the Toronto Public Library in the series of talks organized by noted scientist, Professor Ray Jayawardhana, and published in U of T News, May 17, 2013. Yours is a dazzling success story and we congratulate you on your achievements. We all rejoice in the success of the next generation, especially since you are a past recipient of a NAAC bursary. However, your path is distinct and unique. You have chosen “the road less travelled” and have really challenged yourself. Tell us about your scholarly achievements and how you arrived at the career path you have chosen.

CC: My degrees were obtained from the University of Toronto. Hon.B.Sc. (Astrophysics) 1997; M.Sc. (Geology & Physics, 2005); Ph.D. (Geology & Physics, 2013). I am now a MITACS Post Doctoral Fellow at the University of Ottawa. I develop new instruments for accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) and apply these instruments to the study of stable and radioactive atoms in meteorites (space rocks) and other geologic/ environmental and even medical samples. Looking back, I suppose this is a “road less travelled.” The only factor that ever drove me was to do something interesting and stimulating. I knew I always enjoyed working with my hands in a practical lab setting, and I was never exactly drawn to only one subject – I always found everything interesting. My work now is highly interdisciplinary and I literally need to be part plumber, electrician, physicist, geologist,



engineer, chemist and meteoriticist.

RE: Tell us about your connection to Naparima - family, Naparima/ Presbyterian roots?

CC: My parents, Vashti and Roderick Charles, are my connection to Naparima. My mother

went to St. Joseph’s Convent High School in San Fernando while my father went to Naparima College in South Trinidad. After moving to Toronto many years ago my parents continued attending Naparima functions around the GTA. When I was born they took me to NAAC events until I was a teenager. I now attend NAAC special events (e.g. the Xmas dances) with my parents and my own family - my five-year old daughter Ashelyn and my wife Tanya. Ashelyn especially loves dancing to the Steel Band!

RE: You mention in the U of T interview that you were really inspired when you took a student tour of the labs there as a teenager. Can you share something about that moment of inspiration which gave purpose to your direction?

CC: I first visited the IsoTrace Laboratory at UofT as a grade 9 student during an open house. I was awestruck about visiting the university, which seemed very “grown up”. In particular, I remember walking down that long hallway to the main accelerator room in the Physics building and having a feeling I was about to see something very impressive. Indeed that was the case, and I was speechless upon seeing the IsoTrace

(Continued on page 11)

Christopher Charles Interview

(Continued from page 10)

3 million-Volt accelerator – under St. George Street! The IsoTrace lab made an immediate impression and I thought the AMS was just the coolest machine I'd ever seen. The ability to count individual atoms, one at a time, was something that really spoke to my imagination. Years later during my bachelor's degree I did a research project on the AMS to measure rare atoms in meteorites. This was my first real exposure to mass spectrometry, meteorites and research.

For my master's degree I switched departments (from Physics to Earth Sciences) and continued with the theme of meteorites but instead used a different style of "thermal ionization" mass spectrometry to study meteorites from a geologist's point-of-view. For my doctorate I again continued in the Earth Sciences Department on meteorites and thermal ionization mass spectrometry, but studied how to determine their ages by measuring uranium and lead isotopes in different mineral phases.

I tended to procrastinate during my doctoral years, as all students do, and often to the dismay of my advisor. However my procrastination usually involved exploring various scientific topics of interest. In one spurt of procrastination I tried another experiment on the IsoTrace AMS that had no relevance to my main thesis at all – I did this only as an interesting "side" project! Although the experiment did not quite work it showed promise. After completing my doctorate I was hired by IsoTrace as a Post Doctoral Fellow (my current post) to essentially pursue that "side" project. So you never know where opportunities will come from

and procrastination can sometimes be a good thing! Throughout all this, I had a number of Professors who were very supportive and devoted to exploring ideas simply for the joy of learning. Overall, I found it very helpful to switch fields of study (from physics to geology) since different disciplines often have very different philosophies and approaches.

RE: Your recent talk at the **Toronto Public Library** in the **Series: Our Planet In-Focus** was described as one where the audience will discover : "Space Rocks." Apart from the delightful pun, explain what you spoke about and why it was important to the general public.

CC: The TPL talk was about work I did during my doctorate to study the interiors of meteorites using "medical" micro X-ray computed tomography (CT). CT produces full 3D renderings of the interiors of solid objects that actually allow one to see inside an object without cutting it open. This amazing technology was developed for medical folks who study tumors in mice, among other uses. However the same can be done for valuable space rocks – meteorites! I used a medical CT scanner to study the shapes and structural features of different millimeter-sized mineral phases called chondrules inside a meteorite found in the desert of North West Africa. Chondrules are among the very first solids



(Continued on page 12)

Christopher Charles Interview

(Continued from page 11)

formed in the early Solar System over 4.56 billion years ago, shortly after the Sun formed. However their full significance is poorly understood and fiercely debated. I discovered complex 3D shapes and internal structures in some chondrules, which have an interesting story to tell about the chemical and physical conditions during the very earliest stages of Solar System and planet formation. I am still continuing on with this research as another “side” project!

RE: Would you describe your present work and, in particular, the engagement with students that you find so uplifting. Dedication, encouragement and a passionate involvement in students’ projects are the hallmarks of your teaching. Tell us some more about this.

CC: My current Post Doctoral work at IsoTrace involves building a new instrument to separate isotopic mass interferences in AMS. Isotopes (atoms with different masses) can be used as tracers for many different geologic, environmental and medical processes. However a given isotope you wish to measure will often have another isotope (of the same mass) that tends to obscure or overlap during an analysis. This is a difficult problem since typical mass spectrometry cannot discriminate between two isotopes of the same mass. The new instrument at IsoTrace, which will be installed at the University of Ottawa next year, has the ability to suppress “isobaric” mass interferences using an ion gas-reaction device

integrated into the accelerator. This technique should be useful for measuring very low concentrations of isotopes in a range of natural samples.

Teaching has been my single most rewarding experience at U of T. There is no better feeling than when students approach you after class, in the hallway, or at office hours and express a genuine interest and curiosity in what you just taught. This year I’ve had a few students who switched their major to geology after taking my introductory geology course. That makes it all worth it. The greatest privilege a university researcher can have is to be that person who helps students think through interesting and tough ideas that might spark a lifetime career interest. Thus with teaching comes a great responsibility to your students.

I definitely involve students in research as much as possible, the sooner the better. Research in a university environment is the best way for students to find what they like or dislike and where their strengths and weaknesses lie. This is because research demands long, hard work and thought, so a student will come to see if they either love or hate a given project. Being part of a research group teaches important life lessons including independence and responsibility, and gives a strong sense of belonging, purpose and confidence to a student. For me to take on a student in my research all I want to see is a genuine interest and drive. I’ll do the rest!

RE: Thank you, Christopher, for a thoughtful and inspiring interview. We wish you all success in your future work and your career.



NAAC Canadian Bursary 2013

The Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (Toronto) is pleased to announce its 22nd annual Canadian Bursary Program. A minimum of two bursaries, each valued at \$500 will be offered to successful applicants. See Pages 27 & 28 for Guidelines & Application.

T&T National Award for Service

In 2000, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago presented NAAC the T&T National Award for Service, the T&T Medal of Merit (Silver). This award acknowledged the bursary program and the contributions that NAAC made to our family of schools in Trinidad, as well as to the schools in Toronto. This was an honour since it was the first time that an overseas organization had received the award.

The award has been kept in storage because NAAC has no place to display it. The executive decided with approval at the AGM held May 2012, to send a letter to Dr. Vidhya Gyan Tota-Maharaj, the Consul General, to request wall space in the new building to display the award. Dr. Tota-Maharaj responded favourably. The executive then had the award professionally retouched and it was personally delivered to her at the Consulate in May 2013. NAAC has a signed agreement that the award will remain on display at the Consulate. In the event that the award has to be removed from the Consulate, it will be returned to NAAC.



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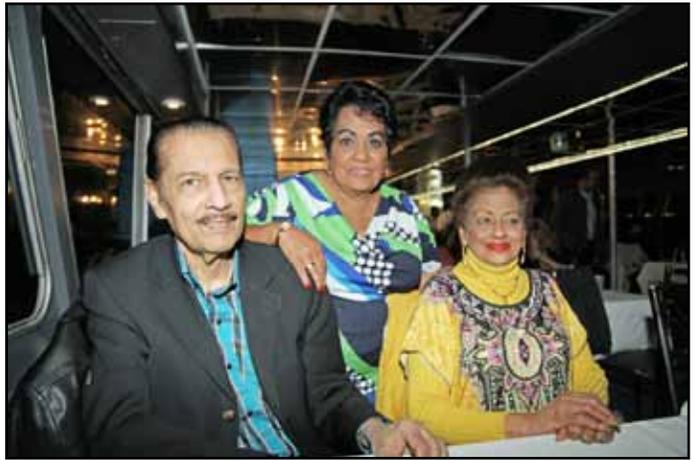
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*Photos:
G.D. Teelucksingh*

NAAC Toronto Harbour Boat Cruise & Dinner



Photos: G.D. Teelucksingh

Missionary Mile

by Ken Rajkumar Maharaj

Feeling like a butterfly-collector on a random quest to some untravelled summer haunt, Rev Kenneth Grant saddled his horse, and set out cross-country in verdant sunlit territory, seeking converts to his new Canadian Mission School. It was a beautiful tropical morning after days of heavy rains. As he approached a rural home along the muddy trail, he was pleased to espy two impish young boys, perched on a fence looking at him. The brown-skinned, black-haired lads had no shirts, and their feet were caked with mud; they gazed at the well-dressed rider with ready grins and lively faces. Two excellent candidates for the Sunday school class, thought the Reverend, falling into butterfly mode.

His horse plodded by a clump of bushes at the entrance to the boys' home, momentarily hiding them from view – and when he came to their entry-way, Rev. Grant was astonished to see that the boys had disappeared in the open yard, as if by magic.

“Good morning!” he called at the entrance gap. No answer, only the clucking of a couple of hens under the raised home, and the quiet chomping of a goat tethered to the railings.

No one seemed at home. The yard, and the space under the house, were clear and empty. Where were the two boys? They had read his intent to communicate, and vanished.

Rev. Grant tentatively nudged his horse into the entrance way and called again. No answer. His horse hrrumphed and turned his head slightly; and Rev. Grant, who had many younger brothers and horses on his native farm in Nova Scotia, immediately knew where the boys were. He dismounted and walked over to a half-barrel standing by the edge of the yard, rapped on it and lifted it – to reveal one crouched, grinning urchin.

The boy was ready to dash away, but Rev. Grant was laughing, too; so he stayed as the boy picked up another half-barrel to reveal his brother.

He asked their names, and they answered hesitantly.

“Do you go to school?” he asked. They did not answer, not knowing what he meant.

From the bushy field behind the house, the boys' father emerged, carrying a bundle of sugar-canes, a bag of freshly-picked oranges, and his cutlass. Like other men of his community that Rev. Grant had met, he wore plain cotton clothes, and sported a thick dark beard. The boys ran to his side and it was his turn to stare at the clean, neatly-clad visitor.

“I would like to invite your boys to come to my manse in town on Sunday,” Rev. Grant said. ”They can come every Sunday. We have other children like them. We teach them stories from the Christian bible, and give them some treats to eat too.”

“My boys do not go to school”, said their father haltingly. “They will soon help me in the cane-fields. That is our life. They have no proper clothes for the town. We are Hindus, not Christian.”

But to himself, he was impressed with the stranger's friendly and informal manner, and flattered by his apparent interest in his sons' well-being.

Rev. Grant explained, “My wife helps me in the work of our Mission. We are from Canada. That is very far away across the sea. But my wife has arranged with other women in our towns to make children's clothes, and send them by ship to our manse here. There will be some clothes we can give to your boys. They will learn new things in our Sunday School that will help them, and they do not have to be Christian if you do not choose.”

(Continued on page 17)

Missionary Mile

(Continued from page 16)

“I am Ramsingh,” said the boys’ father. “I will talk to their mother about this. Perhaps they will come.”

In fact, the boys’ mother with two younger children had silently observed and listened to the entire encounter through a gap in the walls of the house. She wondered if she could ever learn to make children’s clothes.

“Perhaps,” offered Ramsingh, “you would like some fresh oranges to take away with you?”

Rev. Grant beamed, and thanked Ramsingh. He felt the meeting had gone well.

“Would you know of other children of their age, who might accompany them?” he asked.

Ramsingh hesitated. “There is a family who live in a trace beyond,” he said gesturing to the fields. “But, Sahib, with the rains, you could not reach them. The way to their house is deep in mud. The horse cannot go, and your fine riding boots would be filled with mud.”

“If you have the time to lead me,” said Rev Grant, “I should like to try. I will at least learn where to find them another time.”

Ramsingh led the way, picking his bare footsteps in mud and grass patches through the overgrown path, followed by Rev. Grant on horseback, followed by the two boys. A bright yellow bird, the keskidee, cried a warning ahead of the little procession, flying from bush to bush.

“Qu’est-ce qu’il dit! Qu’est-ce qu’il dit!” called the keskidee.

Down a long slope to a small running brook with grassy edges, where the horse forded while those on foot crossed on an old damp tree-trunk felled across the stream; along the banks where the boys quickly plucked tiny purple berries from a bush; under a large mango tree; deeper down the dells to wet flats, where the rice waved in acres, and home-made marchands of staves for

beating the grain stood apart – until, there on the other side of a swampy reach they could descry a humble dwelling amongst the trees: a hut with walls of mud plastered on split branches, thatched with the stalks of reaped rice.

“You see, Sahib,” said Ramsingh. “The mud will be too deep for the horse between us and the house. And we will sink to our knees to go forward.”

Rev. Grant saw what he meant. The sun went momentarily behind a round cloud; the cloud’s shadow raced over the rice-fields and then bright sunlight poured down again.

“There is another way, Sahib, since we have come this far,” continued Ramsingh thoughtfully. “I could take you on my back through the mud – if you would not be insulted”.

“Surely not!” said Rev. Grant. “I would not ask such a thing!”

“You would not ask. But I offer,” agreed Ramsingh evenly. “That is, if you do not mind. I am not so handsome as your horse.”

Was there a glimmer of a smile in Ramsingh’s eyes? Rev. Grant felt it was an imposition for him to be taken on Ramsingh’s back across fifty feet of bad road; but he was not sure if he would give offence in refusing. Yet it would be simple and practical. And as they looked at one another, they suddenly both laughed.

And so it was that Mrs Dooley and her children, peering through her window from within, observed the most remarkable spectacle they had ever seen in their front yard. Over the sea of rice, framed by fringes of forest on either side or her yard, the sun seemed to be exploding behind a cloud, sending broad swaths of light earthward; and beneath this sky, directly in front her window, stood her neighbour Ramsingh, muddied to his thighs and bearing on his back a white man immaculately dressed with a sparkling

(Continued on page 18)

Missionary Mile

(Continued from page 17)

white collar and an explorer's cork-hat.

"You should not let this man ride you like a mule," Mrs Dooley whispered to Ramsingh in distress, before they left her. "Hear the keskidee. They only want to make use of us."

"No, Mrs Dooley," Ramsingh replied. "It was I who offered to lift him through the mud. And he wants to make a future for the children."

"The year was 1870," a much older Rev. Grant reminisced to his rapt congregation in Pictou county. "We began our mission in small personal ways, persuading one convert at a time, and we continued in a partnership with our new friends: we carried them, and they carried us."

"I hesitated greatly, when my school friend from Pictou Academy and classmate at Divinity College in Halifax, Reverend John Morton invited me to leave these quiet pastures, and share in this great missionary adventure. You, my loyal

home congregation had just constructed this very church. I had just married here. It seemed remote, dare I say wild, to leave you for a lifetime mission in a little-known outpost of empire. But we were called to a particular need. It was a time for such missions.

"Today, forty years later the Canadian Mission still continues as one of the most successful of our Church, and one of the best of foreign ventures in the short history of our young nation."

The Canadian Mission to Trinidad by the Presbyterian Church of Canada was begun in 1868 by two young ministers from Nova Scotia. Largely self-supporting for most of its existence, the initial outlay was given almost entirely by two anonymous families in Ottawa. The Mission was closed in 1975, having founded two major churches, seven high schools, a theological college, a teacher's training college, a women's institute, and seventy-three elementary schools.

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Naparima Girls' on top with 40

by Sue-Ann Wayow sue-ann.wayow@trinidadexpress.com

Story Updated: Sep 20, 2013

NAPARIMA Girls' High School in San Fernando has topped the nation's list of scholarship winners for 2013.

The announcement was made by Education Minister Dr Tim Gopeesingh yesterday during the post-Cabinet meeting in Port of Spain. The scholarships were awarded based on the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE).

Naparima Girls' High School received 40 national scholarships that included four open and 36 additional scholarships.

School's principal Carolyn Bally-Gosine when told of the news yesterday was very joyous even though she did not know the details.

She said, "I am really pleased. I know the teachers and pupils worked really hard. Parents would have done whatever they needed to do and I am just so proud of these girls. This is very exciting news. I would like to find out who the pupils are. I didn't expect us to get so many."

The schools topping the scholarship list were Naparima Girls' High School, St Joseph Convent, Port of Spain, St Augustine Girls' High School, Hillview College in Tunapuna, and Naparima College, San Fernando.

Principal of Naparima College Dr Michael Dowlath also said he was excited about the school's results. He said, "The boys worked really hard. Given the variety of scholarships, more boys could get scholarships."

The school received six open and 26 additional scholarships. Dowlath said the percentage of pupils getting scholarships was one third of the group that wrote CAPE.

He gave a reason for the school's success.

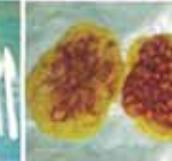
"We have started early on to facilitate the pupils in the subjects that they would want for their careers. We also do a lot of career guidance in Forms Two and Three so our boys are highly motivated. A lot of the success comes from what happens early on."

He said the five Presbyterian schools that received scholarships made up one third of all the scholarships awarded which was 143.

Those schools are Naparima Girls' High School, St Augustine Girls' High School, Naparima College, Hillview College and Iere High School, which received four.

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News From Naparima College

NAPARIMA COLLEGE

The Administration and Staff of Naparima College continue to maximize their collective carrying capacities to ensure that all our students are presented with opportunities to become self-actualized and to develop a sense of social responsibility. We continue to remain focused on the vision of our founding fathers as we look forward to the celebration of our 120th Anniversary in February 2014. During the academic year of 2012/2013, Naparima College successfully advanced its standing as Trinidad and Tobago's leading secondary school for boys. At the core of delivering holistic education, we continue to produce graduates who are spiritually, intellectually, athletically and academically enriched. It is our belief that having a safe and reliable setting is essential to promoting traditions of excellence.

1ST ANNUAL LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT SHOWCASE

On a more creative note, the study and appreciation of Language Arts was given new life when Naparima College recently hosted its first annual Language Arts Department Showcase (LADS) at the school gymnasium on Paradise Hill, San Fernando. The creativity of the students was on full display through several media, including an art display, food festival and a live concert, focusing on Trinidad and Tobago's 50th Anniversary of Independence and the multiculturalism of Trinidad and Tobago.



SPIRITED PERFORMANCE (Photo at Right): These pupils give a spirited performance of Errol John's Moon on a Rainbow Shawl during the first annual Language Arts Department Showcase hosted by Naparima College.

Scuba Diving

Performance, Achievement, Implementation serve as a vital medium for continuously improving the quality and quantity of co- and extra curricular activities. Naparima College continues to intensify our heritage of excellence in Naparima College strengthens and our students continue to bolster with increasing opportunities to grow successfully. One of the most recent extra curricular clubs is the Scuba Diving Club.

Naparima's Teachers During Diving Training Session In Tobago During Professional Development Day 2013



STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY 2013 IN TOBAGO

Naparima College staff and stakeholders engaged in developing their strategic plan for 2013/15 and exploring the use of “cloud computing” in teaching and learning at the secondary school level.



Stakeholders Of Naparima College At Professional Development Day

PAST AND PRESENT ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS MEET

This special gathering was the ‘brainchild’ of Mrs. Gale Yuk Low (HOD Business). This historical meeting included the past and present Masters and Administrators of Naparima College. This historic activity took place in the AV Room at 4pm on Saturday 14th September 2013 and it was a resounding success. Many memories were shared. It will now be an annual event.



SAGHS Tops National Scholarships

by Gail Alexander Trinidad Guardian , Friday, September 20, 2013

St Augustine Girls' High School has been awarded the highest number of open scholarships in the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (Cape), according to results given yesterday by Education Minister Dr Tim Gopeesingh. Speaking at yesterday's post-cabinet media briefing, at the Office of the Prime Minister, St Clair, Gopeesingh also singled out for comment Hillview College, Tunapuna; Holy Faith Convent, Couva; and St Joseph's Convent, Port-of-Spain as top achieving schools. Gopeesingh said the President's Medal Award winners—Abhinav Karan of Presentation College, Chaguanas and Shelmiah Peterkin of St Joseph's Convent, St Joseph—were announced last week by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar.

According to the CXC Examining Board's results, Gopeesingh said, 93 per cent of students obtaining scholarship places received grades One to Five and 66 per cent received Grades One to Three. This year, Gopeesingh said, 40 out of the 134 secondary schools were awarded scholarships. Out of those 40, 11 government secondary schools have been awarded scholarships, Gopeesingh said, adding this was a further improvement over last year's results where three government secondary schools received scholarships. "It means the government secondary schools are doing better and better and this augurs well for T&T's education system," he said. Gopeesingh said a larger number of students have been able to get scholarships since government increased the number of scholarships from 376 in 2012 to 428 this year. "This is due to an improvement in academic performance by Cape students. We've moved from approximately 86 per cent of students achieving Grades One to Five in Cape to approximately 93 per cent receiving Grades One to Five," Gopeesingh added. "Out of the 3,500 students who write Cape, we're now giving out 428

scholarships, close to about 12 per cent students—receiving open or additional scholarships. We've ensured the amount of scholarships offered is commensurate with the improvement in students' performance," he said.

The increases in scholarships come at a cost of approximately \$58 million per year, he said. He said 162 more students have been able to get scholarships thanks to an increase in places over the years since 2009. Gopeesingh said over the four years the People's Partnership administration has awarded 1,487 scholarships: 272 open and 1,215 additional scholarships. He said scholarships have been awarded in a large number of subjects including business, general studies, mathematics, technical and modern studies. On other matters Gopeesingh said he was disappointed he has not yet received the report of the probe into the leak of SEA exam results. He said the Marabella primary school which didn't open on time for the new term, is now open after \$600,000 worth of repairs. Aranguez Primary School is almost completed too, he said.

Condolences

Condolences are extended to ...

- Joan Chin and her family
on the death of her mother
Mee Kim Wong
at age 98.

Talking between the rooms

(For Lynette, 1947-2004)

*And so, as Kinsmen, met a Night -
We talked between the Rooms -
Until the Moss had reached our lips -
And covered up - our names -
—Emily Dickinson (c1862)*

At the foot of the mountain, we sat
An open concrete porch - an iron table
Hours we sat there
You, clutching the thin
Metal bars of your walker
Drinking nothing, attempting a
Mask for pain, for worse
Offering beer, senseless sweetmeats
Crab-backs, sorrel, a jade ring
The rubble of the night's bottles in one corner
A wild array of green plants stuck in pots, jars, any patch
Waving at the junkyard: Circe's garden, you said
Laughing - an upturned trunk, statuary, a marble slab
My friend, when did you grow old?

Once a lovely woman you, secure
In the splendor of your armor
Shining hair, teeth, bangles
A voice of variegated tones
Invented, signaling difference
From that appointed life
Some found them false—those tones—
Signaling your wild, determined
Flight from those lies -like happily
Ever after- already mapped for you
Your rebel soul, your heedless beauty
Flying from a deadly smallness
All that we knew then - and our people
My friend, did you lose your way?

Dead at fifty and still good-looking—
What you wished for
Floating downstream from
The rock pool - those careless days
Running down the mountain at a pace
Not even memory can summon now
Pell-mell and still so languid
Time enough for wrangling with
Life's questions – those long nights of
Rum and wine and argument, nights
Waiting for the dawn – lighting up
Aripo, Morne Wash, San Antonio
No cancer, collapsed joints, failing lungs
My friend, how did it end, and so quickly?

When it reached me- the news of your death
I shouted, “No! No! No...
Wanting it to vanish - that finality
That message from your place of no return
Understanding only then your urgent call
Our final conversation
How like old times – saying this to anyone
Who cared to listen - I was even
Going out, but sat instead
Sitting and talking, moving easily
With you across the seas of our voices
Talking between our distant tidal shores
Through the Atlantic - the rooms of our waking
My friend, did you already know?

You left me a trunk full of letters
Written while travelling, never posted
Now lost in the packing, they say
I will never see them. My friend
We started from the same ground
These days, those bonds are holy
Locked behind the family walls
Glimpsing freedom through dangerous
Routes, the meanness of time, our parents:
Their hopes; our siblings: their disdain
Neruda and Millay and the Beat Poets
Your own poems of despair - faded
Cabbage roses, sun-stained paper—
My friend, who built us those walls?

We earn our lives, our deaths, and
All told, yours was as good as any
There was a man - a kind man, with
A plain, practical set of mind -
It was the end; you knew it
You said - Hold me - and he did
You laid your head on his shoulder
I would have wished for you nothing
Less; you, I know, wished nothing
More, the substance of life
Ebbing, your faint frame sheltering
The crook of his shoulder - a solid wall
That day we talked through rooms of water
My friend, did you say goodbye?

Ramabai Espinet

Book Review:

Near Open Water - Keith Jardim

A review by Frank Birbalsingh

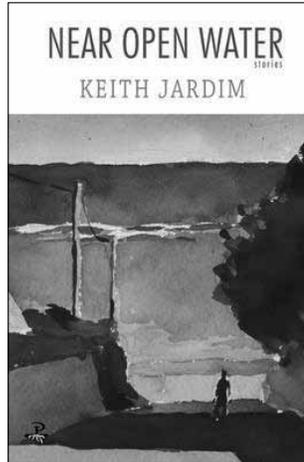
Keith Jardim, *Near Open Water*

Leeds, Peepal Tree Press Ltd.

2001, pp.168

Keith Jardim's *Near Open Water* consists of twelve stories that depict life in the contemporary Caribbean through events based, usually in Trinidad, or in another unnamed fictional island like it. A Ph.D. graduate of the creative Writing program of the University of Houston in the US, Jardim now teaches in Kuwait; but his earliest experience is connected to Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago, and his stories generally deal with the Caribbean or South America. His stories have appeared in numerous journals such as *Kyk-Over-Al*, *Wasafiri*, and the *Journal of Caribbean Literatures*.

"In the Atlantic Field," the opening story in *Near Open Water*, exhibits Jardim's expertise in creative writing through crisp, precise, closely observed and professionally drawn portraits that marvellously evoke the seascape/landscape of the Caribbean in all its tropical beauty, grandeur and glory. No names are given and not much happens in this first story. It makes for a spare and taut narrative about a boy and his mother who drive down to the beach where he goes off to play by himself. Briefly, in passing, the boy observes a young woman, probably a tourist. Upon re-joining his mother, he notices that her dress is torn and her skin bruised which causes her to beat him, and he runs off again. Such casual happenings may appear aimless or innocent, but partly because of a strong erotic current that runs through the whole story, and indeed most of the volume, they take on powerful suggestiveness of dark deeds in an idyllic environment of sun, sea and sand.



If dark deeds are hidden or not clearly visible in the condensed, taut text of the first story they can scarcely be missed in the second - "The Marches of Blue" - which is more expansive about the feudalistic social structure of an island where a boy narrator - Nicholas - lives with his grandmother and people of a different class and race, for instance, George the gardener, and an old village woman Albertine. To young Nicholas, his mixed surroundings appear mysterious or confusing, but his grandmother instinctively fobs off any questions that he asks. Nicholas's grandmother appears embittered by the decline of her class and gradual withering of social structures around her: "Since independence ... the island had lost any real sense of discipline and responsibility." (p.18) She seems more resigned than angry: "age dries up things in you, even poetry, like this damned island. Damned because everything that has ever happened here over the last 500 years was never meant to happen, was a mistake, wrong."(p.41) This sense of disillusionment seems widespread since Albertine is just as explicit about it: "So much of them wrap up in that drug business with the government and selling land for the hotels and tourism to all them world-class crook."(p.24)

In Jardim's third story - "The Visitors"- more details of dark deeds and disillusionment are exposed when two armed officers from the island's Defence Force apply brutal violence in interrogating Trevor, a young man whose family is in the shipping business, on mere suspicion that he is a revolutionary. This is the contemporary Caribbean that Jardim presents: a typically post-colonial or Third World society where suspicion and violence reign because some politically weak leader is nervous about insurrection in his own state. Meanwhile, news from the wider world is little better reflecting insecurity and impending disaster: "weather disasters, failing economies, war, famine, revolution, environmental destruction, and

(Continued on next page)

Book Review: *Near Open Water*

(Continued on next page)

the resurgence of diseases thought to be extinct.” (p.50) Upheaval seems universal, afflicting both the developed and undeveloped world, rich and poor, Whites as well as Blacks. A black maid who refers to her white employer as “Old Bitch” in the next story “The White People Maid” is as bitter as Nicholas’s grandmother in her morbid, caustic appraisal of Trinidad: “I cry for this whole blasted island... I cry for my mother early death; I cry for “Old Bitch” how she so lonely and how she can’t get a man again; I cry for the poor children it have in this island – the richest country in the Caribbean – and I cry for the future and the past. And I cry for myself, for the education I never get.” (p.71)

Other stories in *Near Open Water* elaborate on this Naipaulian theme of chaos and corruption in post-colonial societies, but in the title story the author is enthused by the solitude and bounty of the pre-Columbian Caribbean: “What we had were gods of our choosing. God of the blue, the sea, the air, the green mountains, the sand.” (p.148) Jardim produces no evidence that indigenous Caribbean people or their landscape was free of violence, corruption or disillusionment. Naipaul, for instance, confesses at the end of *In a Free State* that it is hard to believe in such primal innocence, and one of the narrators in “Near Open Water” seems to agree: “Your Caribbean ecological lament is dishonest, yet truth escapes somehow.”(p.150)

Since indigenous Amerindians did not possess destructive weapons like

European conquistadors, perhaps what the European colonial conquest destroyed in the Americas and Caribbean was primeval enough to be considered similar to the innocence of the Garden of Eden. This possibility appears in two stories: “In the Cage” where a couple make love in front of a jaguar in a cage, and in “The Jaguar” where the jaguar becomes symbolic of a reconnection of the Caribbean with Edenic innocence. The erotic charge of the first story carries a Lawrentian message of pure sex as a means of regenerating human sterility and decadence, while the animal in the second story apparently originates in South America which shared an identical history and ecology with Trinidad before the island became separated by volcanic action from its “parent” continent. In “The Jaguar” Dr. Edric Traboulay, Zoologist and Conservationist, explores the possibility that the jaguar, which is rooted in Aztec folklore and culture, may serve as a symbol of reconnecting Trinidad to South American innocence.

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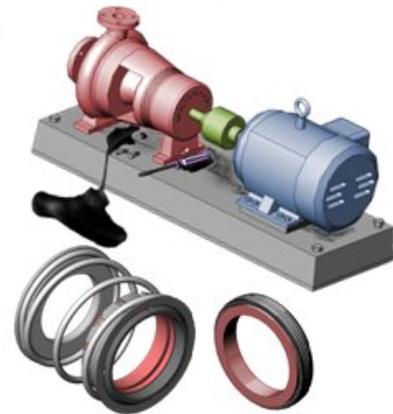
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May 2013

NAAC Executive and General Membership

Greetings!

Thank you for the generous contribution of \$200 to the Howard Sammy Memorial Prize for the outstanding Geography student at Naparima College.

I believe Howard would be truly honoured by this tribute: a Geography award at his cherished alma mater.

Thank you again for helping keep his name alive.

Sincerely,

Kathy Sammy and Family



*Howard Sammy and Kathy Sammy
with Fred Thornhill at NAAC's
25th Anniversary Celebration in 2002.*

My name is Raé-Marie Rostant and I am a recent graduate from McMaster University. The transition to university is never an easy one for even the most successful high school graduates. If you add the immense financial responsibility to a new-found level of

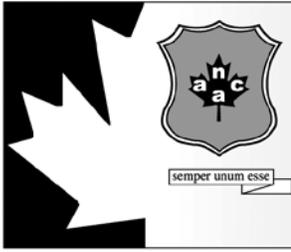


independence that comes with living away from home for the very first time, the transition seemed ever more scary. However, the bursary which I received from NAAC in 2009 helped ease the financial burden and gave me the confidence to begin my first year of university with a bang!

My association with NAAC began when I joined the beginner pan classes at West Humber Collegiate. My devotion to regular practice helped me move quickly from the beginners class to become a full-fledged member of NAAC's Panache Steelband. My 6 years spent as a member of the band from 2003-2009 proved to me that dedication can yield great progress. The late night study sessions and academic roadblocks no longer seemed impossible as I knew that I had the support of NAAC. Without the foundation that was completed in 2009, I might not have graduated this past April 2013 with my Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics.

My intention is to gain professional experience in the workplace for the next year and then enter a Master's in Business Administration program in September 2014.

Thanks NAAC.



*Naparima Teachers' Training
St. Andrew's Theological
St. Augustine Girls'
Naparima Girls'
Naparima
Hillview
Iere*

Naparima Alumni Association of Canada

NAAC Canadian Bursary Guidelines 2013

The Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (Toronto) is pleased to announce its 22nd annual Canadian Bursary Program. A minimum of two bursaries, each valued at \$500 will be offered to successful applicants.

The following are the guidelines under which the program is administered:

1. Each applicant must be a Canadian citizen or a Permanent Resident and must be enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited Canadian post-secondary educational institution.
 2. Each applicant must be sponsored by a member of NAAC.
 3. Each application submitted must include:
 - a. A completed NAAC Bursary Application form. (See next page)
 - b. Proof of Canadian citizenship or Permanent Residency.
 - c. An official transcript of the applicant's academic record for at least the prior year of studies at high school or post-secondary educational institution, whichever applies. The transcript must indicate **final marks**, not interim marks.
 - d. Proof of full-time enrolment in an undergraduate year of studies at an accredited Canadian **University, College or Vocational institution**. Obtain a confirmation letter from the Registrar's Office.
 - e. A covering letter, outlining the applicant's relevant interests and accomplishments. Because credit is given for the applicant's participation in school or community activities, documentation to support such involvement should be included. Documentation may take the form of letters from teachers articles, copies of awards etc.
 4. All applicants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - Academic performance (grades)
 - Participation in school activities
 - Participation in community from a leadership perspective.
- Financial need will be considered as a further criterion if a statement of need is included in the applicant's documentation. Consideration in this category will be over and above that given for academic performance and participation in school, community and NAAC activities. Any information submitted regarding financial need will be kept strictly confidential.
5. All requests for information about eligibility, criteria and other related matters should be directed to the Secretary, Vilma Ramcharan at 416 284 5198 or viram@rogers.com

2013 NAAC CANADIAN BURSARY APPLICATION

SURNAME: _____ GIVEN NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

Tel: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION LAST ATTENDED: _____

CURRENT POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION: _____

PLEASE CHECK THE ATTACHED GUIDELINES TO CONFIRM DOCUMENTATION THAT SHOULD ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

- Covering Letter
- Copy of Transcript of previous undergraduate year's record
OR for first-year applicant, include official transcript of final Grade 12 marks
- Proof of full-time enrolment for this year in university, college or vocational institution
- Proof of Canadian status i.e. Citizenship or Permanent Residency
- Name of NAAC member sponsoring the applicant
- Documentation (letters, clippings etc.) supporting involvement in
 - (a) School or post-secondary activities
 - (b) Community and volunteer work

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS NOVEMBER 15th, 2013.

Only successful applicants will be notified.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

SECRETARY, NAAC EXECUTIVE
BRIDLEWOOD MALL POSTAL OUTLET
P. O. BOX 92175, 2900 WARDEN AVENUE
SCARBOROUGH, ON M1W 3Y9



semper unum esse

THIS APPLICATION MAY ALSO BE DOWNLOADED

FROM THE NAAC WEB SITE AT:

www.naactoronto.ca/documents/NAACBursaryApplication.pdf

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The Naparima Alumni Association of Canada



Christmas Dinner & Dance

**Saturday
November 30th, 2013**

**Markham Convention Centre
30 Ironside Crescent, Scarborough
(NE corner of Markham & Mc Nicoll Ave)**

**Time: 6:00 p.m. • Dinner: 7:00 p.m. • Dress: Formal
Cash Bar**

Two complimentary Bottles of Wine per table (1 Red & 1 White)

Music by:

DJ InVINCEable International & Panache Steelband

Tickets:

\$55 • Members / \$60 • Non Members

