

I.C.H.S. TORONTO CHAPTER



CELEBRATES

JAMAICA'S 50th YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 1

MARCH, 2012

The Day Our Nation was Born.

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Where were you on August 6th, 1962?

Midnight, August 5th, 1962 at the National Stadium. The skies above Kingston and major townships were lit up with massive fireworks displays. Bonfires also lit up hillsides and mountains across the country as we celebrated Jamaica's Independence.

The Royal Couple-Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon, Sir Alexander Bustamante, Norman Manley and many, other dignitaries were present as the anthem of England was sung for the final time with the lowering of the Union Jack. Anticipation filled the air as the moment everyone was waiting for was finally here as the Jamaican flag was hoist. Applause erupted from the crowd as the black, green and gold flag waved brilliantly in the sky. Our national anthem was sung for the first time with such pride and honour. The lights went off and fireworks illuminated the skies.

What a moment to remember!



Jamaica greeted its Independence with spontaneous outpouring of joy and pride. The popular music at the time was the "Ska". Bunny Grant was the Champ. The first Commonwealth Games were held that year. Marlene Murray was Miss Jamaica. "Breaking up is hard to do" by Neil Sedaka was the top ten tune on the charts.

Derrick Morgan's "Forward March", Lord Creator's "Independent Jamaica" and Al T Joe's "Independence time is Here" played at every celebrative party or radio. At school, we pledged: *Before God and all mankind, I pledge the love and loyalty of my heart, the wisdom and courage of my mind, the strength and vigor of my body in the service of my fellow citizens, I promise to stand up for*

Justice, Brotherhood and Peace, to work diligently and creatively, to think generously and honestly, so that Jamaica may, under God, increase in beauty, fellowship and prosperity, and play her part in advancing the welfare of the whole human race.

Info taken: The Gleaner/Jam50th

President's Message



My Dear Fellow Alumnae,

The past year has gone by very rapidly and there are lots of exciting things to report since our last newsletter last March.

Our last dance "Carnival Fever" was indeed hot, hot, hot and was a huge success. The momentum of the dance was kicked off with Ilsa Abraham's children from Join the Dance & Dancing Classroom performing various dance steps - tango, salsa, swing, etc. was a result of our efforts we have been able to provide assistance in a numbers of way.

Zari-Jane Coleman, an ICHS graduate who attended UWI, was selected to be Jamaica's flag-bearer for the IAAF World Championships in Athletics in South Korea. This amazing young lady taught herself to speak the Korean using websites and literature. However, she needed assistance raising funds for her trip. A collaborative effort was made by various alumnae chapters to assist her with funds, the Toronto Chapter provided her with JMD\$20000.

The Sr James Vincent award of CN\$1000 was given to Herona Thompson - she also received the Jamaica Independence (Female) Scholarship based on her excellent results in her CXC examinations and placed first in the entire Caribbean in Geography Unit 1. She was also one of the 6 delegates who represented Jamaica at the 10th Annual Caribbean Youth Science Forum (CYSF) in Trinidad during the period August 7th to 14th, 2011.

The association also provided the Lisa Narcisse award of CN\$200 to Consonya Smith. We have also provided JMD \$600,000 to purchase some much needed equipment for the Physics lab, and JMD\$400,000 towards the refurbishing and equipping of the lecture hall.

We have had quite a few other social fun events this year. Our first in a long time "Royal Tea Party" in September at the Rouge River Community Centre was charming and well enjoyed by all as we had an opportunity to labrish about the ole times. I would like to sincerely thank again the committee and non- committee members who helped in this event as it was a lot of hard work to put together the delectable sweets.

In October we had a belly full of laughs as we supported Marcia Brown in her stage performance of "I Need to Know My Father - it was dramatic, suspenseful, funny and even a tear jerker for the finale!! The story unfolds of a young girl who is the product of a shunned union who through clever questioning and some unexpected happenstance discovers who is her father and lifts the shame/curse that attended the women in her family before her.

The young girl attended ICHS - seeing the ICHS uniform was quite nostalgic. Marcia Brown generously donated a portion of the proceeds to our alma mater - again many thanks Marcia! It was an outstanding performance and well executed!! I would like to thank you for supporting us in all our endeavours to further promote the valuable role that ICHS plays in developing phenomenal women of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

We hope the next year will be just as full and more exciting and we look forward to seeing you again at our next dance, "Reggae Night" in celebration of Jamaica's 50th year of independence!!

Warm regards,
Annette

"To whom much is given, much is required!"

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Volume 7, No. 1

I.C.H.S. Newsletter

Editorial Staff
Heather Bubb-Clarke

Yvonne Lyew Membership

I.C.H.S. Executive Committee 2010-12

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Tanya Hugh	Sylvia Tavares
Francine Leung	Ina Williams

<http://www.jaweb2.com/jaalumni/ichs/ichs.html>





Greetings to all of you, gathered in the name of Immaculate Conception High School and in support of this wonderful institution.

Just to keep you posted, we (convent, high and prep) have installed security cameras. The control room is here at the convent and I have been in the thick of things as far as securing and training monitors is concerned. During 2011 the prep school had at least one parent's motor vehicle window smashed in and valuables stolen. In June, a high school teacher's car was broken into and the ignition dismantled. Something scared the robbers away. In September a high school parent's car was stolen from in front of the Science block and in December a convent car was stolen from the rear of the convent. All these incidents occurred during the normal busy hours of 8am - 4pm. Of course, I have not listed them all. So we have had to channel chunk of funds into the installation of cameras. C'est la vie! February 3, we had our first Spirit Day at the high school. Three years ago when I shared with students my observation that school spirit was not strong, they gave some reasons for this and also offered solutions. Among the solutions was having a Spirit Day. There was a focus on the history of the school and its successes. Alumnae visited and shared about their own experiences as students. Teachers donned the school uniform. A marching band led the students around the sunken garden (I watched that from the convent...absolutely wonderful). There was a competition to design a t-shirt for the day and a Grade 11 student (the daughter of an alumnae) won that. The day was a huge success.

Herona Thompson is our top student who left Grade 13 in 2011.

She received the Jamaica Independence (Female) Scholarship based on her excellent results in her CXC examinations. She sat 10 subjects in 2009 at the CSEC Level and received 10 distinctions. She sat 5 subjects at the CAPE 1 Level (remember that with CXC, students sit exams at the end of Lower Six and again at the end of Upper Six) and got 5 distinctions and repeated the performance for CAPE 2. Most students are only allowed to sit four subjects at a time. We only allow the highest achievers to sit 5. She placed first in the entire Caribbean in Geography Unit 1.

We have made some of the needed improvements to the New Physics lab. We still have some funds left to purchase more equipment. Other major improvements to the AVs. Painted, tiled, ceiling replaced and projectors installed. The girls are absolutely thrilled.

Here are photos of some of the items purchased with the funds given by the Toronto Chapter. The teachers - and students - are extremely grateful. Remember that only a few months ago these cupboards had absolutely no equipment. They did not even have locks on them. Thanks again!



The last thing I will leave with you for now is that our librarian of two years has been making a MAJOR impact. Students actually want to visit the library, and not just for the computers. There is now a Heritage Corner, an excellence corner and comfortable space for reading.

Just to keep you informed, our only focus (in terms of capital expenditure) over the next few months is on lowering our electricity bill and that will mean, in the first stages, going solar. In some key areas, if it is God's will, I have eight more years here before retirement steps in. I would certainly like to see us with an auditorium and an additional 3 classrooms on the Sixth Form block by that time. I am quite happy with the progress we have been making in various aspects of school life. I can only express gratitude for the invaluable support you continue to give.

BLESSINGS!
Sr. Angella

Feast of Immaculate Conception
December, 2011



2011 SCOLARSHIP AWARDEE
JESSICA CASE
Daughter of Carol and Tony Case



Come Home Jamaica...It's in You !!

One Heart, One Love Come Home
Visit: <http://www.comehomejamaica.com>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JN29mzRMaYk>

Upcoming Events

Come Join us



Old Fashioned Picnic

September 9th, 2012
9.30 am - 8.00pm



Rain or Shine

Milne Park - Lakeview B - Shelter Area
McCowan Road & Hwy 7.



"Where we live and play"

An exhibition by
Neil Kinnear & Lesley Chung

March 31 - May 20, 2012

Georgina Arts Centre & Gallery
149 High Street Sutton ON
Tues to Fri - 10 to 6, Sat - 10 to 4, Sun - noon - 4
www.gacag.com

Opening Reception
Sunday, April 1, 2012 from 1 - 3 p.m.

~~~~~ no fooling! ~~~~~



Immaculate Conception High School

Alumnae Association

(Toronto Chapter)

Please join us as we celebrate the  
"Feast of the Immaculate Conception"  
along with the congregation



Sunday, December 2nd, 2012 - 12.00 noon

St. Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church  
14 Highgate Drive, Markham, Ontario.

Pot-luck luncheon immediately  
following in the Church Hall



Sister Maureen Clare Hall with students on  
"Spirit Day"

### Jamaica's flag-bearer

18-year-old Immaculate Conception High School graduate **Zari-Jane Coleman** was Jamaica's flag-bearer at the IAAF World Championships in Athletics, which took place in Daegu, South Korea, August 27 through to September 4, 2011.







On April 30, 2011, Sts Peter and Paul Church Hall was the venue of another successful ICHSAA dinner dance, "Carnival Fever". Alumnae and guests, about three hundred strong, dined on salmon and jerked chicken, roast fingerling potatoes, and mixed veg followed by delicious mango mousse, then heated up the dance floor to the sounds of DJ "Sunshine Sound". The affair started with a welcome by President Annette Wong, and a presentation of ballroom dancing by students of Our Lady of Victoria Catholic School, coached by Ms. Kari Dreu, daughter of Ilsa Abrahams. Ilsa and Kari run a dance program, part of the "Join the Dance" organization, which brings dance into elementary school classrooms, as a way of teaching deportment and social skills through classical ballroom dance. We were treated to a foxtrot, rumba, waltz and many others by these very poised youngsters. The evening continued with the usual arms-length raffle and prizes donated by our many generous supporters. The usual sweet table fairly groaned under all the goodies, and our guests snacked here and there, in between dancing up a storm. A great time was had by all. Wait 'til next year: something special MUST be going on, since it's Jamaica's 50th Anniversary of Independence! Watch for details on the next dinner dance, and reserve your tickets early.

### Royal Tea and L@brish



Rouge Hill Community Centre was the site of a delightful tea party, on a gorgeous Sunday afternoon, September 18, 2011. Two hundred alumnae and guests sashayed in, bearing their prized teacups and wearing hats of all kinds: feathered creations; lacy swathed and gauzy confections; bright bold sun-flowered cloches; wispy wee fascinators and fully brimmed headwear. The variety was stunning! For those who had no time to acquire a hat beforehand, a small quantity of fascinators were available for purchase.

Tables were laden with a variety of traditional sandwiches (cucumber, salmon, egg salad), scones and home made jam, and more modern treats such as ackee puffs, cheesecake, tapenade and pitas, to name a few. Guests had a choice of tea, but water and juice was also available.

Musical entertainment was provided by Patrick Lyn and his lovely daughters, Johanna and Jennifer. Visual entertainment came in the form of a fashion show, thanks to the styles provided by Joy Pottinger, and ably modeled by Tanya Hugh, Michelle Lym, Joan Chang and Donna Ruty and Angee Chee's daughters - Jade & Japhina Barkie. Able emcee Carol Case presided over the festivities with aplomb and humour, calling on President Annette Wong and past President Katy Sani at various times to update us on happening at the school and to introduce this year's student recipient of the ICHSAA scholarship, Jessica Case. This young lady has started her studies at University of Toronto O.I.S.E., and we wish her well.

Continue on page 6





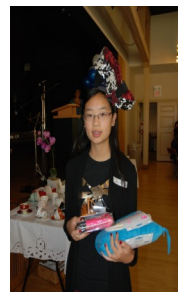
Comments placed on Facebook: This was a marvelous and memorable week-end. Everyone had a great time reconnecting! It would not have happened without Lorraine. Special mention of her daughter who worked so hard and organized the fantastic music last night!! All who came, thanks a million for making the effort. What a wonderful blessing seeing all you old girls again! More importantly, reacquainting with those I wasn't so close to at school! This will live with me for a long long time. There are so many children out there that deserve even a glimpse of what we enjoyed at Immaculate. We can make a difference. It must be our legacy – the 1971 graduates.

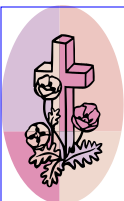
**Janice Chuck's "Toronto Get Together" Class of 71 and others**



**Royal Tea and Labrish cont'd**

So who touched bases with whom? Sandie (Yap Chung) Lee, Karen (Ho Tom) Lue Tam, Tanya (Tenn) Hugh, Colleen Che and Suzanne (Chen See) Read from the 1976 year, though some of us left Ja before graduating. Suzy (Ramsay) McCrindle: we were looking for you! Jennifer (Hedmann) Ferreira, graduated 1970, was avidly looking for familiar faces. She's been down under for a while and is now residing in Canada. If you'd like to contact her, please let us know. The winner of the hat prize (most unusual!) was Amanda Yang, who wore a creation of her own making, a lovely shoe. Some other notable hats were the copy of Princess Beatrice's fascinator worn at the recent royal wedding and the many flowered hats especially the form-fitting sunflower. The variety of teacups that the ladies brought to share was simply stunning, from the traditional Royal Albert "Roses" to a delicate transparent china cup to a robust very modern tiger-striped square cup; remembrance cups of Pope John Paul's visit to Canada, the royal wedding of Prince Charles to the late Princess Diana and Jamaican independence; art deco to scallop-and gold-edged fantasies.....we selected a delicate three legged teacup as most striking at this event. But it was a difficult choice, ladies! Given the breadth of participation, it is clear that we will have to have multiple prizes next time, to reward the enthusiastic participation of you all. Many thanks to stalwart ICHSAA "Old boys" Mike Martin and Eddie Williams, our chief waiters, who nimbly ferried hot water, replenished trays, and supervised our able volunteers Taryq Sani and Benjamin McDonald. Special thanks to Tim Read, who assisted greatly with setting up. Many thanks to all the old girls who donated their time, talent and culinary creations for this very enjoyable affair. And many, many thanks to all of YOU who came out to support the event. See you April 28,2012 .





# Announcements

**Prayers and Condolence are extended to the families of ...**

**Gloria Carr nee Sunn** - passed 20Feb.12 mother Lenore

**Theresa Dolly Lee** - 24 Aug.11 - mother of Audrey Lue & Denise Yap Sam of Toronto, Valerie Chin of Miami and Lorraine Lowe and Jean Toy.

**Sharon Denise Renee Chung** 23Apr.11 - daughter of Gloria Ho Shue & the late Ed Ho Shue

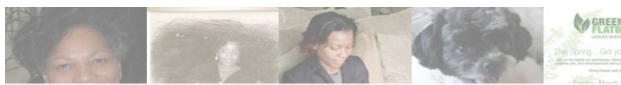
**Wilfred Lexington Lee** - leaving wife Mavis Lee, children Jackie Lue (Derrick) Michael Lee (Penny) Karen Chuck (Michael) Jeremy Lee (Ingrid)



Carl Anthony Chang

**Carl Anthony Chang** 11Oct.11 - wife Paula - children Jillian , Kerry-Anne, Tracy & Michael Chang. A devoted friend and supporter of I.C.H.S. and St. George his alma mater. Special courier for us between Jamaica and Toronto. Carl will be greatly missed by all. May he rest in peace!

**Out of touch with class mates? Join Facebook**



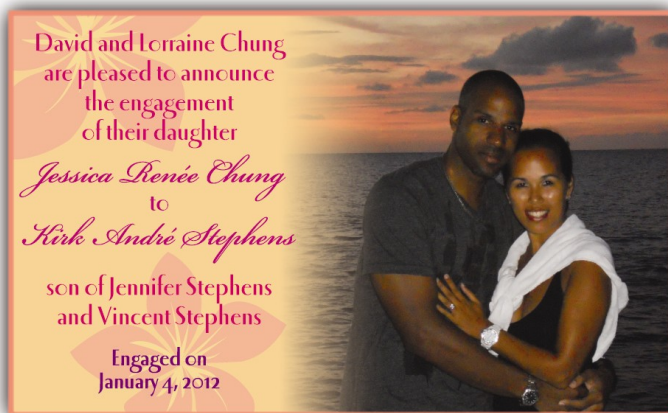
Immaculate Conception High School Girls of the 70s

Closed Group — ICHSGirlsofthe70s@groups.facebook.com



**Congratulation Sharon!!**

Hon. Sharon Ffolkes-Abrahams, Minister of State - Industry, Investment and Commerce, Jamaica.



**Remember to Pay your Membership Dues of \$25**



**Sister Adele Marie Hugue, OSF** celebrated her **100th birthday** on October 12, 2011

She has spent 77 years of her adult life as a Franciscan Sister of Allegany ministering to the people of Jamaica in the field of education. She taught at St Aloysius Primary in Kingston and Mt Alvernia High School in Montego Bay; but most of her teaching ministry was done at Immaculate Conception Preparatory and High schools at Constant Spring.

## SCHOLARSHIP GRANT FOR CANADIANS

Applications are sought from children and grandchildren of dues paying members of the ICHS AA Toronto Chapter who will be, or are, currently attending a tertiary institution in Canada.

Consideration will be given to persons who are well rounded – in athletics, academics and community involvement.

The award will be granted to a person who the panel of judges feels will make a meaningful contribution to society.

All applications are reviewed by an independent selection committee.

Applications, which may be downloaded from our website, are available from any of our Committee members. You may also request a copy by contacting us at our Email address: [ichsaatoronto@gmail.com](mailto:ichsaatoronto@gmail.com)

Deadline—June 30, 2012





**I.C.H.S. Alumnae Association**  
(Toronto Chapter)



celebrates "Jamaica's 50th Anniversary"

# "Reggae Night"

**Saturday April 28, 2012**

**Sts. Peter & Paul Banquet Hall  
231 Milner Ave. Scarborough, Ont.  
(North of 401 & West Markham Road)**

**Music by DJ. "Sunshine Sound"**

**Contribution: \$60 per person/Non refundable**

**Dress: Casually Elegant**

**Doors Open: 6 :30 p.m.**

**Dinner Served : 7 :30 p.m.**



## 2011 OLD FASHION PICNIC

