



OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION (Regd)

Sainik School, Kazhakootam,
Thiruvananthapuram-695585

CIRCULAR LETTER

REF: OBA/CIR/SSKZM/2/2005

DATE: 07th August, 2005

The 36th Reunion of old boys of SSKZM was celebrated in the school campus on Saturday the 18th of June 2005. This reunion was sponsored by the 1972 batch. They made the event a memorable one with their active involvement in the celebrations. Unlike in previous years, this reunion was spread over two days. About **25** alumni of the 1972 batch along with their families got together on 17th June in the school campus, to revive memories of their school days. The entertainment programme organised in connection with the OBA reunion was held exclusively for the school fraternity on 17th June in the school auditorium. On 18th, old boys started arriving in the campus by 8 am. Altogether about **450** old boys gathered in the campus. **However, only 290 Old Boys registered their names.** Former teachers including Mr. NB Nair, Mr.K.Madhavan Nair, Mr. George Joseph, Mr. Prem.C.Nair, Mr. G.Soman Pillai, Mr. TG Sudhakara Panicker and Mr. Cherian C Kovoor were present in the campus throughout the day. Memento and a souvenir brought out by the 1972 batch, in connection with their sponsorship of the reunion were distributed to all who registered. T-Shirts with OBA logo printed was made available at a nominal price.

The functions began at 9.15 am with Principal, SSKZM & President of OBA laying a wreath at the "Stupa of Remembrance" and observing a minutes' silence in memory of the departed souls. The school authorities, masters, old boys and cadets attended the function. The President of the OBA also paid floral tributes at the VKK Menon bust and Col. NJ Nair bust.

As usual, the first major event of the day, the customary festival cricket match between Principal's XI and the OBA XI got off to a rainy start at 10 am. However, the sky cleared as the match progressed. The match turned out to be an exciting one with the OBA pulling off an exciting win in the last over of the match! Two catches by Cdr Maroli and Cdr Desmond could easily have earned them selection in the Indian one-day team if the selectors were present at SSKZM!!! Games for ladies and children were also arranged simultaneously.

After lunch, the Business meeting commenced at 2.15 pm in the school auditorium. The function began with the observance of a minutes' silence in memory of the departed alumni and ex-masters. The President of the OBA welcomed the gathering. He also welcomed the new Headmaster Lt Col Srinivasalu. This was followed by the self-introduction by all present. After this the General Secretary presented the report of the OBA activities for the year 2004-05. The typewriter used by the OBA was placed for sale before the General Body. Cdr Rajeev Maroli (954/80) purchased the same at book value and presented it to the Kazhaks club. The President exhorted all old boys to become life members of the OBA and informed that waiving of registration fee on OBA day for Life Members could be considered. The floor was then put open for discussions and suggestions from Old boys and masters. Those present mooted several proposals. They included

- (i) Considering a job for an alumnus who had retired from active military service on health problems.
- (ii) Setting up of a corpus for the regular maintenance of the school as the class rooms looked shabby
- (iii) The masters and the alumni to do their bit for maintaining the academic levels of the school cadets in the backdrop of the poor results in the CBSE examinations.
- (iv) Changing the timing of the OB reunion from 3rd week of June to some other time (suggestions included timing near Onam, Christmas and several other periods)

- (v) To strengthen the interaction between Old boys and the present cadets.
- (vi) Due attention to the Ladies and children attending the reunion so that their boredom is minimised.
- (vii) Setting up an establishment for the OBA in the school with an office and a clerk.
- (viii) Teachers of the school, particularly of the younger generation, to take part in the business meeting of the OBA.
- (ix) Maintaining of the register of projects of the OBA

Arguments were raised for and against the various proposals. However, the ultimate motive behind all the suggestions, it was clear, was for the good of the school and the OBA. All suggestions were taken note of and it was decided to have serious discussions on the proposals before a final decision was taken.

A byelaw amendment was proposed and passed unanimously allowing the OBA to open an account with ICICI Bank.

The general body recorded its appreciation for the Principal, Registrar, the academic staff and the school authorities for the pains they had taken for getting the maximum entries to the NDA, which was an all time record in the recent times.

Mr. J Ajith Kumar explained the activities taken up by the sponsoring batch. It may be recalled that the batch had sponsored the Motivational hall in connection with the silver jubilee of their passing out of school in 1997.

The sponsorship of the 37th reunion was given to the batch of 1981 as the batch of 1973, which was to take up the task agreed to make way. The batch of 1981 was also to take up the publishing of the OBA directory. The batch expressed its reservations on bringing out a directory in the book form. But the members expressed a strong feeling that the directory in the form of a book had its relevance even now. Now, after serious deliberations, the batch has agreed to the proposal of the directory in book form. The work of updating has started under the able guidance of OBA treasurer Mr. G Jayakumar.

The request of the 1982 batch to complete the 'Clock Tower' of the main block as a 'Gurudakshina' project was approved by the General Body. It was assured by the batch that the same would be dedicated to the school during the 2007 reunion, in connection with the silver jubilee of their passing out of school.

Sri NB Nair, in his address, observed that the Sainik School, which was started as an experiment project for imparting education for the common man, had withstood the test of time and that the institution was an inspiring model for the community. He observed that the student community has a better role to play when compared to that of the establishment. He also mooted a suggestion to discontinue the paid entertainment programme on the reunion day.

The Principal in his address apprised the General Body of the efforts taken by the school for the welfare of the cadets as well as for the maintenance of the buildings in the campus. He assured that the drawbacks of the school including the poor results in the CBSE examinations would be examined in detail and corrective steps taken at the earliest.

The Treasurer Mr. G Jayakumar presented the statement of Accounts of OBA. The General Body unanimously passed the accounts.

This was followed by the election of new office bearers (List appended).

Sri. P Premachandran Pillai (768/77), the re-elected General-Secretary, proposed vote of thanks.

After tea, festival matches in Basketball, Football and Volleyball were played between the OBA team and the school team. The school team won in Football while the OBA showed their superiority in Basketball and Volleyball.

The Commemoration meeting commenced at 6.30.pm in the school auditorium. The chief guest of the evening was Col CV Ramaniah, the Principal. Capt. Louis George Meprath, the re-elected President of the OBA, welcomed the gathering. Smt. Srilakshmi Ramaniah, the first lady of the campus, distributed the OBA endowment prizes and other awards to the winners amidst thunderous applause from the audience. The Principal officially released the school newsletter-‘The Kazhakian Bulletin’ by handing over a copy to the OBA President. A cheque for Rs.7,000/- was handed over to the Principal by the President, OBA as financial aid from the Students Aid Fund of OBA, to be given to 7 cadets of the school, and presented Book coupons worth Rs.500/- to the School Library as part of an endowment in memory of Capt LC Pradeep (1200/82).The OBA President also presented a Memento to Sri SH Sharma, Sr Master, and a cash award to Sri Krishnan, GE (from the endowment instituted by 1977 batch) as they were retiring from service in this Calendar year.

The principal in his address observed that he was overwhelmed by the concern shown by the alumni for the school and reminded the cadets that many of the facilities that they enjoyed in the campus were due to the magnanimity of the old boys. The General Secretary proposed vote of thanks. The functions came to a close with Ganamela sponsored by the 1972 batch.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the OBA, I extend my sincere thanks to all those who attended the reunion. I also thank the school authorities, the staff and students of the school, who made every possible effort to ensure the comfort of the old boys and their families. I am also thankful to all those who contributed to the OBA funds, and to the entire Batch of 1972 for sponsoring this reunion. I hope and pray that this attitude, cooperation and enthusiasm continue in future also.

With warm regards,

P.Prem C Pillai(768/77)
(General Secretary, OBA)

DIRECTORY-2006 : SPONSORS 1981 BATCH

The OBA website sskzm.org, has been given a new look by Cordinat Technologies, thanks to Dennis M Paul(1034), assisted by Mr CeejoThomas(2183). I request all Old Students to visit the site and see the change. You can also use the occasion to update the Directory entries related to you by visiting the 'DIRECTORY' link therein. The next(4th) edition of the OBA Directory is sponsored by the batch of 1981 and the work on it has commenced. Hence the updating of the directory entries is absolutely essential.

If you have any difficulty on the matter, you may contact Mr. G Jayakumar, Treasurer OBA (also Co-ordinator for updation of the Directory), who has undertaken this Herculean task. (jayakumar892@rediffmail.com or jayakumar892@gmail.com). Your cooperation is solicited on the matter. For those who have difficulty in updating ones data in our web-site, please fill up the Biodata form enclosed and return to the treasurer immediately.

LAST DATE FORTHE ABOVE IS 31ST DECEMBER 2005