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20 Years On- Our Road Map

liché as it may sound, the future of this great Alumni lies in the seeds we sow, Now! Yes it's been 20 years since its inception, why such scepticism of its mere existence.

No offence and no defence; the apathy in the numbers who have joined the fold; the blame is on all of us and a total relook is in order.

From its early embryonic days the founder members noble objectives were for camaraderie and fellowship. We have grown from strength to strength and celebrated every social occasion with pomp and splendour. Exactly what great men of the noble profession do on a meet of the Alma Mater. The road has taken a few bends, turns and had its ups and downs. John and Paul wrote it knowing very well life is not that blissful.

Today; with the clarion call by the President Dr. Koshy Thomas – 'Forward We March' this Alumni will see changes meant to meet the future. These changes which initially needed Constitutional redress; were seen as draconic and much to the chagrin of a few; was done for one main purpose- purely to streamline, consolidate and put us on the right track.

The Alumni cannot continue to dwell and hope to fortify its numbers by organizing its perennial year end bash. The aspiration and desires of the potential new members are varied and the Alumni has to change with the times. Our Goal post has got the move to meet the target. We have to cater to the needs of the masses. It may initially evoke a slow response, but if we



ANNOUNCEMENT



Manipal Convention '06

Date: 8-10 Dec. 2006

Venue: Selesa Resort (Formerly Regency Hotel) Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan.

remain steadfast and committed I am confident of the exponential growth to make the Alumni a force to reckon with. The obvious and sometimes, 'selfish' question, as I see it, what's in it for me? My friends, there no handouts of dividends, it's merely through your participation that interest can be generated and the association will flourish to your benefit.

Under the rein of the astute stewardship of our President the committee is determined to see a more enterprising and progressive Alumni. On a consensus decision (in tandem with todays political scenario) the committee is geared up and has set about its task to create the difference. October 29 th 2006 is a day to be marked in the annals of our history- the alumni held its first Medical and Dental Camp in an estate in Kuala Selangor. It may seem for some as a Sunday sacrifice away from the family, but the enthusiasm and zest shown by the 30 odd strong force of medical and dental general practitioners and specialists was just fantastic. What was truly most evident was the 'Manipal Spirit', the easy going and caring attitude to the patients created an immediate bond between the alumni and the estate workers. The estate management has insisted that we return to keep this programme on a bi annual basis..

The MAAM Convention in December promises to be a sizzler; we have litterally begged to make it very easy on your pockets. Guess that a fair reciprocation on your part should be the unstinting support, by your presence. We have included a section on continuing professional development highlighting medical breakthroughs and development.

Mentoring programme is something new that we may adopt as we notice and believe that avenues to pursue post graduate studies locally are diminishing. With the bountiful number of specialist in the fold we could harness their expertise and energy to cater for the needs of our 'community' (Manipalites) who intend to pursue any postgraduate programme.

This Fellowship of the Circle (Tiger Circle: for the good or worse this where it all happened) shall achieve greater heights with you my dear colleagues acting as our stern and rudder to help us negotiate the route to make the difference.

Cheers

Jeyalan

Some people watch things happen Some people wonder what happened But some people Make it Happen



he President and the Committee would like to wish our members a Happy Deepavali and Selamat Hari Raya albeit late as usual.

We have just returned from the inaugural Community Service Project in Batang Berjuntai.

We would like to thank the staff and employees of Sungei Buloh Estate for having given us the opportunity to be of service to them.

Kudos to Thomas Abraham for co-ordinating the project.

A note of appreciation to the following for their financial contributions:

- 1) Datuk Mohana Krishnan
- 2) Koshy Thomas-President MAAM
- 3) S. Arasu Vice-President MAAM

A Gift of Sight programme has also been initiated to provide spectacles for needy students in the estate.

The 2nd issue of this newsletter also highlights the incisive thoughts of our Secretary -Jeyalan.

Meanwhile here are some important announcements:

- *1) Tel. No. of Secretariat is 03-22845228.
 - Typo in our first 2 flyers-Apologies everyone....it has to be the Purple Haze from Indonesia.
- Registration forms are very slowly trickling in Prostrate problem? Wake up people! We need to block rooms.
 - The hotel cut off date is 20-11-06.
- Return prepaid biodata postcard A.S.A.P. Please refrain from removing stamp for other purposes.
 - It has been glued Hard-On.
- 4) Photographs for souvenir magazine and A/V presentation needed badly from anyone who likes Pina Colada and getting caught in the rain

Thats about it-hope you enjoy this issue.

Bye for now. Simon Martin Editor





1 st Manipal Allumni Community Fervice Project

he committee mooted the idea of holding the first Medical camp under the auspices of manipal alumni association jointly with the Sime Darby Plantations. We have to acknowledge the fact that when we were toying with the idea of having this community service project, Dr Mohd Nazeeb director of plantation Sime Darby was instrumental in selecting the estate and the



venue.

The venue was the training centre of the plantations at Sungai Buloh estate. Sunday the 29th October 2006 was the day selected for the community service project. It was basically a medical health screening camp. The President Dr Koshy Thomas led a team of 35 doctors and 15 support staff for the camp. The medical camp was represented by the following specialties:

- 1. Medical
- 2. Obstretics & Gynaecology
- 3. Paediatrics
- 4. Opthalmology
- 5. Dermatology
- 6. Dental
- 7. Radiology
- 8. ENT

We had a total number of 180 patients. These patients was selected after a preliminary health screening by the Hospital Assistants of the respective estate to restrict the number of patients at the camp.

On Sunday the 29th October all the medical team gathered at Hospital Tengku Ampuan Rahimah and drove as a convoy to Bukit Rotan. We were welcomed by a huge team of employees from the Sungai Buloh estate including Dr Nazeeb the Plantations Director, Operations Manger Mr Seow, Hospital Assistant Mr Tahmootharan Nair and others. We were served with a sumptuous breakfast of Nasi Lemak. The camp was scheduled to start at 9.30 am but started about 30 minutes late due to traffic. Patients was seen by the respective specialities and appropriate referral was given depending upon the patients need. Most of the patients which needed specialist attention was referred to Hospital Tengku Ampuan Rahimah, Klang. The camp ended by 1.30 pm and we were served with an excellent lunch and we left the estate by 2.30 pm.







Thomas AbrahamDirector Community Service Project

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MELAKA-MANIPAL MBBS TWINNING PROGRAMME



Students selected for the programme do 2½ years of pre-clinical training in Manipal, India, followed by 2½ years of clinical teaching and training based at the Melaka and Muar Hospitals of the Ministry of Health, Malaysia. There are two intakes per academic year; March and September. Applicants with suitable grades in any three subjects out of Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics in their STPM or equivalent examinations will be considered for admission.





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