

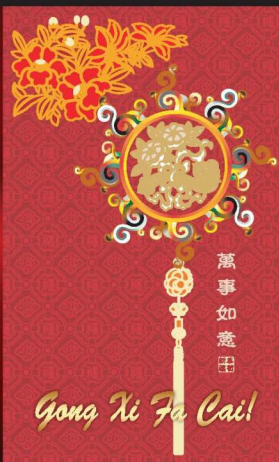
TEACHERS' NEWS

Always There For You



The Singapore Teachers'
Co-operative Society Ltd

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Season's Greetings from Teachers' Co-op



The Chairman

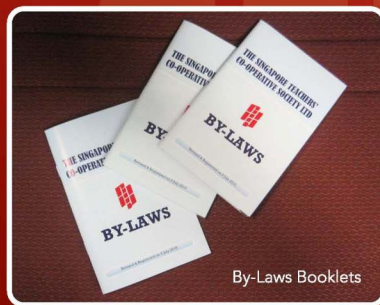
We have come to the end of another significant year. On behalf of the staff and members of the Committee of Management, I extend our warm Season's Greetings and wish everyone a blessed and prosperous 2011.

Closure of Transactions

Please note that the office will be closed from 20 Dec 2010 to 31 Dec 2010 for end of the year closing of accounts. During this period, there will be no loan applications and saving withdrawals. The last loan meeting for the year will be Saturday, 18 Dec 2010. Closing date for loan applications and saving withdrawals will be Wednesday, 15 Dec 2010.

Society's By-Laws Booklet

A copy of the amended By-Laws, revised & registered on 9 July 2010 had been sent to every member on 27/10/2010. Members may also view it online or download from the website.



By-Laws Booklets



Inter-School
Bowling Championship
2010

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Talk on Age Loc:
Keep your Age a
Mystery by Nu Skin
13th Nov 2010

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Educational Collaboration
with
St Francis Methodist School

pg 6

Inter-School Bowling Championship 2010

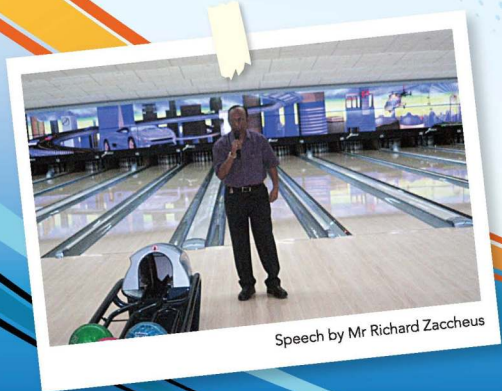
6 November 2010, Orchid Bowl at the Orchid Country Club



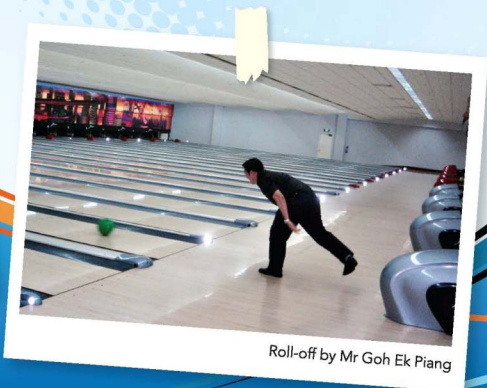
The Inter-School Bowling Championship 2010 jointly organized by The Singapore Teachers' Co-operative Society Ltd & Ministry of Education Sports and Recreation Club received resounding response from teachers from various schools. 33 teams totaling 132 participants from 27 schools joined in the 'strike' against the ten-pins on the morning of 6 November 2010 at the Orchid Bowl at the Orchid Country Club.

We were honoured to have Mr Goh Ek Piang, Deputy Director of Co-Curricular Activities Branch return as our Guest-of-Honour.

Mr Richard Zaccheus, Chairman of the Committee of Management made the opening address. The competition started after a roll-off by Mr Goh.



Speech by Mr Richard Zaccheus



Roll-off by Mr Goh Ek Piang

The champion school was St. Hilda's Primary School. The 1st runner-up went to Dunearn Secondary School while Yishun Junior College came in as 2nd runner-up. The winning teams walked away with \$1000, \$800, \$500 respectively. The fourth placing received \$300 while the fifth got \$200. 5 consolation team prizes with \$100 were also awarded to the 6th - 10th placing.



► **Champion: St. Hilda's Primary School**



► **First Runner-up: Dunearn Secondary School**



► **Second Runner-up: Yishun Junior College**

The Best male Bowler was Mr Tan Eng Khwan from Dunearn Secondary School and the Best Female Bowler title went to Ms Jennifer Wong from Pioneer Secondary School. Each walked away with \$100.



► **Best Male Bowler: Mr Tan Eng Khwan**



► **Best Female Bowler: Ms Jennifer Wong**

The Youth Committee must be commended for the effort put in to ensure the smooth running and success of the event.

The Society also made use of this opportunity to raise the awareness of the Co-op and its activities. Non members were encouraged to consider membership in order to reap the benefits of the thrift and loan schemes provided to members.

Talk on Age Loc: Keep your Age a Mystery by Nu Skin, 13th November 2010

The Ladies' Committee of the Teachers' Co-operative organized a wellness programme for its members and their guests. They attended a talk by the skin care and wellness company, Nu Skin Enterprise, on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle through living young. These include, having a balanced nutrition, strengthening one's immunity, relying on a network of anti-oxidants, weight management and resetting one's genes.

The talk given by Ms Mary Tan on 'Age Loc: Keeping your Age a Mystery' focused on the use of a spa system that identifies the youth-gene clusters from the thousands of genes that make up the human body and resetting these genes to attack the signs and source of ageing. Ms Tan spoke on the external approach to combat ageing through their spa system as well as the internal

approach that involves maintaining a healthy body.

The talk was very informative and it also highlighted the stages as well as the types of ageing. Besides the talk, there was also a demonstration on how Nu Skin products are different from other commercial brands available in the market. The audience was able to see the comparison through three tests - acidity, oil and anti-oxidant levels.

Finally, the chairperson of the Ladies' Committee, Ms Elene Lim gamely volunteered to be the model to test out the spa products.



Tanjung Samudra Condominium Beach Resort

Nothing beats a great holiday at a beach resort that is affordable, comfortable, relaxing and one that is definitely free from the hustle and bustle of the city!



Tanjung Samudra Condominium Beach Resort, Teachers' Co-op's very own apartment, is an ideal Getaway for homely accommodation and family fun! It is located in the vicinity of Tanjung Kling in Malacca which is about 3 hours drive from Singapore.

Designed to ensure your comfort, you will find the 3-bedrooms apartment well-furnished, air-conditional, spacious and cosy. There is even a swimming pool at the resort that allows you to take a dip and de-stress.

Enjoy your holiday with a spectacular view of the beach, in a wonderfully quiet and serene atmosphere. Just a short distance away from the apartment, one can sit on the beach and enjoy the breeze or take a short, leisurely stroll along it. And what is a holiday without great food? Reward yourself with 'yummy' local foods from the array of hawker centres and the local restaurants. They are located a few kilometers away from the condominium. There will definitely be a second time for a first-timer!

For further enquiries or bookings of the apartment, please contact Mdm Arifah @ 6440 4393.

Task Force

A Task Force committee was formed after the 74th Annual General Meeting. The Society was grateful that one of the Vice-Presidents, Mrs Brenda Tan, accepted the invitation to be the Chairperson of this committee. The other members in this committee are Messrs Teo Chor Kai (Secretary), Richard Zaccheus, T Subramaniam, Raymond Poon, Allan Tok Wei Cheng and Mdm Elene Lim Lan Hiang.

The Committee had its first meeting in July to identify areas of concern and to make

recommendations for improvement, so as to serve members better. The following areas were discussed.

- (i) Rejuvenation
- (ii) Leadership Transition
- (iii) Branding of Society
- (iv) IT Integration & Upgrade
- (v) Administration & HR Matter
- (vi) Services & Product Relevancy

(i) Rejuvenation

The Committee recognized the need to recruit younger teachers as members. The Committee also noted that the lack of interest amongst the younger teachers could be attributed to:-

- a) Commitment towards career advancement and family.
- b) The absence of any form of tangible benefits.

It was recommended that the committee of Management target at teacher members who are in their late thirties and forties to come forward to serve as they may be more receptive.

(ii) Leadership Transition

There was a suggestion for setting guidelines on age limit for officials holding position of leadership in the Society but some younger members felt that setting an age limit was not appropriate at this juncture as we do not have a wide pool of young officials to fill the void. However all agreed that the leadership renewal should be an ongoing process and the transition must be smooth and seamless.

(iii) Branding of Society

Members generally felt that publicity was not aggressive and more should be done. It was suggested that a marketing executive be employed and be made answerable to matters pertaining to publicity, services and products of the Society. A corporate video to project and publicize the Society be produced. The Publicity team should get the support of the School Staff Welfare Committee during their school visits to canvas for members to serve in the Society.

(iv) IT Integration & Upgrade

The Society should have an in-house IT committee to oversee the IT integration and upgrading processes.

(v) Administration & HR Matter

The Committee needed to draw up a yearly calendar of events and post it on its website. An action plan is also needed and staff appraisal be systematically conducted. An organization chart of the Committee of Management and office staff be put up at the Society. A feedback column be circulated in the Society's newsletter for members' contributions.

(vi) Services & Product Relevancy

The Committee suggested that the rules and policies governing loans be reviewed periodically to meet the changing demands. The Society could arrange for talks on topics of current interest to teachers and perhaps set up a booth during the NIE graduation at their premises to recruit new members. A year-end gift for all members to commemorate Teachers Day be given as token of appreciation as well as publicity campaign.

As at November, some of the above recommendations had been implemented. They are

- (i) Organization Chart of Committee members and staff.
- (ii) Website upgrade.
- (iii) Formation of IT Committee.
- (iv) Formalized staff appraisal documents.

Educational Collaboration with St Francis Methodist School

A Delegation of 45 undergraduates and staff members of Dhonburi Rajabhat University, Bangkok – Thailand, led by Asst. Professor Dr Nipa Pongvirut, made a study visit to St Francis Methodist School on Wednesday, 10 November 2010. This visit was jointly organized by St Francis Methodist School and Singapore Teachers' International Holdings Pte Ltd (STIH), a subsidiary of the Singapore Teachers' Co-operative. STIH is an authorized agency for recruiting, testing and registering local and foreign students, seeking entry into St Francis.

The Principal of the school, Mrs Lenie Cho, gave a talk to the delegates pertaining to the education system in Singapore and St Francis' mission: 'To provide a nurturing environment offering unique opportunities for students to excel through appropriate educational pathways; and to equip them with the necessary skills and strength of character to succeed in this rapidly changing world.'

Mrs Cho stressed emphatically that St Francis has never lost sight of its vision and that is: "To be a school of choice with a vibrant international learning community rooted in God's World and inspiring lives to be the best that they can be." A corporate video of St Francis was screened to the delegates to create better understanding and awareness of the school. A Questions & Answers session followed and many of the delegates were enlightened by the answers provided by Ms Madeline Phua, the Deputy Director of the Business Development Division.

Light snacks and refreshment were provided during the tea-break for the delegates and organizers to interact informally. A tour of the school facilities was conducted and this was followed by photographic sessions. Dr Nipa invited the organizers to visit her university to foster and establish a stronger link for both of the educational institutions before the delegation departed.



Supervisory Board Defunct

With the coming into effect of the amended By-laws revised and registered on 9 July 2010, the Supervisory Board is now defunct. For corporate prudence, the Committee of Management appointed Mr Chan Wah Guan, Mr Foo Jiong Kew & Mr Phua Chin Hong to serve as Internal Auditors to carry out the internal auditing of the accounts.

Revamp of Society's Website

The Committee of Management has engaged a new agency to revamp the Society's website. The new design aims to be more user friendly with provisions for upgrading. The Society hopes to disseminate more information through the website in future.

Survey Form

A survey form has been posted on the Society's website to collect feedback to help the Committee of Management in its continuous efforts to improve as well as to serve members better.

Check out our RATES!

Savings & Deposits

General Savings:

The Committee of Management declared an interest rate of 0.25%p.a. for the period of 1 July to 31 December 2010. The amount due will be credited into members' account on 31 December 2010.

Bonus Savings:

The interest rate for Bonus Savings account remains at a high of 2.0%p.a.

Interest rate for 1st year: 2.0% + 10% on Interest Earned

Interest rate for 2nd year: 2.0% + 20% on Interest Earned

Upon maturity at the end of 2 years, this will translate into an effective rate of 2.46%p.a.

Term Deposits:

Fixed for ONE year

Fresh Fund Deposit @ 0.50%p.a.

Renewal @ 0.75%p.a.

Announcements

Continuation of Membership

The Society would like to emphasize that members who have retired or resigned from the teaching service may still continue their membership with the Teachers' Co-op Society.

Retiree may retain their membership as Ordinary members and continue to enjoy all benefits from the Society. However, retirees are entitled to lower loan quantum with terms and conditions to apply.

For members who have resigned from the teaching service, their membership status will be changed to Associate membership.

Retiree and resigned members can continue their monthly deductions by GIRO. They may maintain their current balances in the various saving accounts which earn attractive interest.

Members are advised to apply for continuation of their membership with the Society prior to resignation or retirement from service. The continuation of membership form can be retrieved from our website at www.teachersco-op.org.sg or you may contact the Society's staff at 6440 4393 to request for the form.

Request for Retirement Letter

Retirees are advised to submit a duplicate copy of their retirement letter to the Society so that their length of membership could be ascertained. This is needed to enable the Society to calculate the amount of Common Good Fund a member is entitled when such member resigns from the Society.

Common Good Fund

This fund is made up from the \$1 monthly contribution by members and some money from the distribution of the annual net surplus of the Society. Retired teachers who resigned from the Society are paid the amount they are eligible from this fund.

Nomination of Beneficiary (By-Law No. 4.9)

Members are advised to nominate a beneficiary if they have not done so. This is important in the interest of members. In the event of death of a member, all monies due to the member shall be paid to the nominee. Only the original Nominee Form duly completed shall be accepted as the official document. Members may update their nominee anytime. Members who have not submitted their nominee or wish to update their nominations may print out a Nominee Form from our website at www.teachersco-op.org.sg or contact the Society's staff at 6440 4393 to request for the form.

Fund Transfer via Internet Banking or Cheque Deposit

Please ensure that the Society is informed of any fund transfer via internet banking or cheque deposit in favour of the Society, so that your accounts can be promptly updated.

SOCIETY'S MANAGEMENT

PATRON

Ms Grace Fu
Senior Minister of State
Ministry of National Development &
Ministry of Education

PRESIDENT

Mrs Tan Ching Yee
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education

PRESIDENT

Mrs Brenda Tan
(Principal, retired)
Mr T P Naidu
(Principal, retired)

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

CHAIRMAN

Mr Richard Zaccheus Bains

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr Fok Kim Fook

HON. SECRETARY

Mr Teo Chor Kai

HON. TREASURER

Mr Chua Poon Guan, PBM

HON. ASST. SECRETARY

Mr G Anthony Samy, PBM

HON. ASST. TREASURER

Mr Loo Choo Beng

MEMBER

Mr Raymond Poon Siow Leng

Mr Lai Yeok Chun

Mdm Elene Lim Lan Hiang

Mr Chua Sian Kay

Mr Peter Tan Swee Chong

Mr K A Nair

Mr T Subramaniam

Mr K Kesavadas

INTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

Mr Chan Wah Guan

Mr Foo Jiong Kew

Mr Phua Ching Hong

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR

Mr Teo Chor Kai

MEMBERS

Mr G Anthony Samy

Mr Fok Kim Fook

Mdm Patsy Ng Moi Sing

Mr Raymond Poon Siow Leng

Mdm Elene Lim Lan Hiang

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