

TEACHERS'

Always There For You

News



A Newsletter for The Singapore Teachers' Co-op Members

MCI (P) 030/02/2014

Sep - Dec 2014



Helping hands for students
Student Welfare Grant 2014

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Chairman's Message

How the year has flown by! As custom dictates, we have come to that time of the year, when we have to take stock of our achievements and turn our focus on the critical areas of concerns and seek solutions.

I can confidently say that our financial position is very sound due to our judicious management of the funds. We will be able to post a modest surplus, which will enable the society to pay reasonable dividends to our members. We have also invested carefully within the constraints of the prudential requirement framework.

One of our immediate concerns is our membership profile, illustrated by the glaring widening of the generation gap. We would like to see more younger teachers join our co-operative and alter the demographics of the membership base. We need these younger teachers to not only boost the membership base, but also play an active role in the society's leadership renewal process.

Another problematic issue for us is the poor visibility of the co-operative movement. From anecdotal references we note that there is a massive lack of awareness amongst the teaching fraternity about the Singapore Teachers' Co-Operative's existence and the products and services offered by the society.

I would like to urge all practising teachers, who are currently members of the society to speak to your colleagues about our co-operative and invite them to join the co-operative. Alternatively you can help us by inviting our team to visit your school for a presentation about the co-operative.

I hope to get a positive response from you. Let us all adopt the co-operative spirit of people helping people and work towards building a more vibrant, progressive and productive co-operative.

Our desire has always been to lend credence to our tag line:

ALWAYS THERE FOR YOU!

I wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a prosperous and promising 2015!

Chairman
Mr Richard Zaccheus

SOCIETY'S MANAGEMENT

PATRON

MR HAWAZI DAIPI

Senior Parliamentary Secretary
Ministry of Education &
Ministry of Manpower

PRESIDENT

MR NEO KIAN HONG

Permanent Secretary
(Education Development)
Ministry of Education

VICE - PRESIDENTS

MRS BRENDA TAN

[Principal, retired]

MR GOH EK PIANG

[Deputy Director of CCAB, retired]

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

CHAIRMAN

Mr Richard Zaccheus Bains

1st DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr Fok Kim Fook

2nd DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr Allan Tok Wei Cheng

HON. TREASURER

Mr Chua Poon Guan, PBM

1st HON. ASST. TREASURER

Mr Chern Meng Hock

2nd HON. ASST. TREASURER

Mr Loo Choo Beng

HON. ASST. SECRETARY

Mdm Elene Lim Lan Hiang

MEMBERS

Mr Chua Sian Kay

Mr Lai Yeok Chun

Mr G Anthony Samy, BBM

Mr Peter Tan Swee Chong

Mdm Patsy Ng Moi Sng

Mr Raymond Poon Siow Leng

Mr T Subramaniam

SENIOR MANAGER

Mr Teo Chor Kai

INTERNAL AUDITORS

Mr Chan Wah Guan

Mr Phua Chin Hong

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR

Mr Teo Chor Kai

MEMBERS

Mr Richard Zaccheus Bains

Mr Peter Tan Swee Chong

Mr Raymond Poon Siow Leng

Mdm Patsy Ng Moi Sng

Mr T Subramaniam

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Inter-school Bowling Championship 2014

The Society held its 7th Inter-School Bowling Championship on Saturday, 25 October 2014 at the Orchid Country Club. As in previous years, all thirty four lanes were completely snapped up by schools when bookings were opened. The Guest of Honour for the event was our 2nd Vice President, Mr Goh Ek Piang. The keen competition amongst the participating schools had led to the emergence of new champions this year.



Mr Allan Tok addressing the bowlers



The Chairman, Mr Zaccheus rolling off



Take aim and release!



Here goes the ball!



Champion
South View Primary School



1st Runner-up
St Hilda's Primary School



2nd Runner-up
Compassvale Primary School



Best Male Bowler
Mr Daniel Ng
St Hilda's Primary School



Best Female Bowler
Ms Ng Hwee Mian
South View Primary School

2014 Student Welfare Grant

A total of eleven schools consisting of six primary and five secondary schools were awarded the 2014 Student Welfare Grant. Each school received \$1800 to help the needy pupils of their schools. Principals / school representatives from the following schools were present to receive the cheques from the Society's chairman, Mr Richard Zaccheus, at the presentation ceremony held on 25 October 2014 at the Orchid Country Club.

Primary School



Boon Lay Garden Primary School



Canberra Primary School



Coral Primary School



Guangyang Primary School



Hong Wen School



Punggol View Primary School

Secondary School



Anderson Secondary School



Balestier Secondary School



Guangyang Secondary School



MacPhenson Secondary School

World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU) Conference 27 - 31 July 2014 @ Gold Coast, Australia

A total of 1882 delegates from 48 countries attended the World Council of Credit Unions Conference held in Gold Coast, Australia.

Chairman, Mr Richard Zaccheus, Hon Treasurer, Mr Chua Poon Guan and Society's Senior Admin Manager, Mrs Chia represented the Society at the forum.

Some food for thought:

- Make the Co-operative a conscious choice for the member
- Make members feel that they are the owners of the organisation
- Retain and gain membership by providing easy access to our services and products
- Make Gen Y be aware of the Co-operative and know their financial profile
- Place people and not profit as the focal point
- Embrace technology to grow the Co-operative



Delegates from Singapore

The Co-operatives in Singapore are in a transitional state. While we grow, we need to listen to the members' needs. We must also ensure that the Co-operative is constantly evolving.

Asian Credit Union (ACU) Forum 18 - 20 September 2014 @ Bali, Indonesia

The Asian Credit Union (ACU) held its annual forum at the beautiful island of Bali, Indonesia, from 18 – 20 September 2014. The forum provided a venue where co-operative leaders from the Asian countries could gather to discuss co-operative matters. Treasurer, Mr Chua Poon Guan and 1st Vice chairman, Mr Fok Kim Fook attended the forum. A total of 574 delegates participated at the forum.

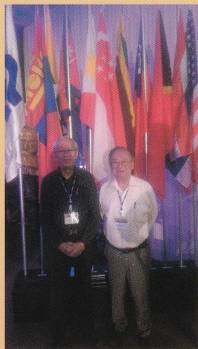
Participants at the forum were actively engaged in the following topics:

- Blueprint for A Co-operative Decade
- Network Management
- The National Federation's structure in a Unified Credit Union Network
- The requirement of being a 'Fit and Proper' person for Directors' Strategic Role
- Defining the Products and Services Leading to Economies of Scale
- Credit Union needs for National Unified IT system
- Financial Co-operative Differentiation in today's market place
- Approach to promoting a Unified Credit Union image
- Protecting the Co-operative identity



The coming together of delegates from Singapore and Asean countries

The forum endorsed that for Co-operatives to operate successfully, it is important that the right candidates be selected to sit on the Board of Directors/Committee of Management and these personnel should be assessed yearly.



Representatives from The Singapore Teacher's Co-operative Society at ACU forum

The importance of proper planning and data security were also emphasized. Co-operatives would need to have quality managers as well to strategise the implementation and mobilization of resources for optimum effect.

STCS Childcare Teachers' Day Dinner



The childcare teachers celebrated Teachers' Day on 4th September 2014 with a buffet dinner at Buffet Town. The face is the index of the mind. The smiles on the faces of the staff reflect the mood and their close bonding, indicative of the close camaraderie amongst the group.



The two Vice Presidents and Committee of Management members were the invited guests. It was indeed a rare opportunity for all to meet and to interact.



The Singapore Teachers' Co-operative's Ladies Committee presents

Tour to – Singapore River Safari on 7th Feb 2015 (Sat)



Charges: (inclusive of transport, entrance fee, boat ride and lunch)

Before subsidies: Adult - \$65 , Senior citizen - \$52, Child - \$54

After subsidies:

Adult - \$49, Senior citizen (60 years and above) - \$37,

Child (3-12 years old) - \$34

Non-members: Adult - \$55, Senior citizen \$42

Programme:

- 0830h: Meet at Society for transport to River Safari
- 0900h: Depart from Society
- 0945h: Arrival at River Safari, Free and Easy
- 1230h: Depart for lunch
- 1300h: Sumptuous lunch at a Chinese restaurant
- 1430h: Home sweet home (Transport back to Society)

Due to limited vacancies, each member can only bring 1 guest.

For registration, please call Mdm Arifah @ Tel:64404393 by 9th Jan 2015

Tanjung Samudera Condominium Beach Resort



Promotion!

Any 3-Night stay for only \$100*

*Excluding Singapore school holidays

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

Tanjung Samudera Condominium Beach Resort, Teacher's Co-op very own apartment, is the ideal getaway for a homely accommodation and family fun!

It is located in the vicinity of Tanjung Kling in Malacca which is a 3 hour's drive from Singapore.

The Society's unit consists of a 3-bedroom apartment with a kitchenette. It is well furnished, air-conditioned, spacious and cosy.

There is a swimming pool at the resort which allows you to take a dip and to de-stress.

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

Terms and conditions apply

Announcements

Closure of Transaction

The Society's office will be closed from Friday 12 December 2014 to Monday 15 December 2014 for a staff retreat. From 16 to 31 December 2014 there will be no financial transactions with regard to Loan Application and Savings withdrawal. The last date for Loan Applications and Savings withdrawal submission will be Friday, 5 December 2014, 12:00pm.

Reminder

Members who make payment to the Society by cheque are requested to enter one of the following names on the cheque correctly in favour of the Society.

Enter either Teachers' Co-op or The Singapore Teachers' Co-operative Society Ltd

The banks had informed the Society that cheques must be made in favour of one of the above in order for it to be valid.

Letter from our member, Mr David Row

The Chairman
Teachers' Co-op.

Dear Sir,
Greetings. I think I am one of the last of the old timers (BT) and long ranking member since 1954?

I recall those early years, the 60s when taking loans was the best ever thing I could do as I bought my motor-cycle (3 of them).

I think the Treasurer was Mr Ho Fook Seng and he was then teaching at St Joseph's Institution at Bras Basah Road. We had the privilege to go down at his mess time to collect the co-op

For a while I think our co-op was having her office in Beach Road.

I still have an old friend for my kampung, Lai Yeok Chuan, now he used to do my "co-op accounts". We have to thank the

Teachers Co-op for being around all these years. The Co-op was a life-line to many who had just become qualified teachers, normal trainee... Great days.

I wish you and your team (L.Y.C, Mrs Chia) all the best in the years to come.

David,

29.08.2014

