



Bishops' High School Old Students' Association

Senior Class Notes

Vol 1 July 2007

Visit to the Heritage Museum: Reflections by Eileen Robinson

On a cool Saturday morning – June 16, 2007, some BHSOSA Alumni boarded a maxi bus from the Alma Mater and wended our way to the Heritage Museum at Kastev, Meten-Meer-Zorg on the West Coast of Demerara. Disembarking, we were warmly welcomed by our Guide, Gary Serrao and some members of his staff. Mr. Serrao is a Guyanese whose passion for collecting and purchasing items on Guyana began when he lived in England for about two decades. On his return home, a friend who was impressed with his collectibles, encouraged him to open a museum, and the idea came into being in November 1999.

As we entered, we found a beautiful private home turned into a museum. We all had the first impression of a home away from home. There were rocking chairs, colourful cushioned lounge chairs and dotted around the ground floor was a variety of quaint bottles and jars with artifacts strategically placed to give an ambience of town and country combined.

Our tour began on the first floor where we viewed an interesting collection of coins dating back to Queen Victoria's reign and some during the use of the 21 guilders.

There were maps of areas in British Guiana/ Guyana from 1653 and stamps used from 1862. We saw more bottles and jars, glass and opaque, of various colours, shapes and sizes.



Slowly, we ascended a flight of stairs to the second floor. Up there, we beheld a room full of Amerindian, African and Indian items.

With a mouthful to chat about, we enjoyed refreshing fruit juice and a healthy, sumptuous meal. We were told after of a final flight of stairs to a viewing and relaxing gallery. The brave ones gradually went up and found some more inviting couches, armchairs and rockers. The cooling Atlantic breezes said it was siesta time, but not before we had seen the points of interest from this vantage point.



We had enough time to laze and “old talk,” and so we did. Fun and laughter about old school days, school teachers and even popular students came alive. In the pleasant atmosphere, time passed quickly and soon we were thinking of our return trip.

In another hour, we were homeward bound, quite happy and so grateful for the opportunity we were given to enjoy such an exciting day in the country.



