



MUNRO COLLEGE OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION

March 2020 Newsletter

MCOBA members, non-members, friends & family, this is my second update for all of you since I became President of the MCOBA earlier last year, following our August newsletter.

Several critical events have taken place both within the MCOBA and at the school, some stalwarts have passed on and we have news on planned events for the rest of 2020 to bring you up to date so please read on and enjoy.

160th Infrastructure Projects

A number of projects were in the pipeline under the 160th anniversary Plan and their current status is as follows:

- **Tennis Courts & Programme-** Dr Jeremy Knight a member of our Executive has taken control of this area and the



Tennis training Saturday Feb 22 2020

latest update is that Munro has engaged Richard Deuce as Tennis Coach for three Saturdays per month. We have over 20 boys now being coached

- With the kind support of Robert Hale (donated 300 practice balls) we are forging partnerships with the Jamaica Lawn Tennis Association to include Munro College as a tournament venue for the JLTA tournament series



- **Football Field Development-** Dr Greg Thomas continues to lead on this component and to date the rejuvenation of A field is more or less completed. Next is to remove some protruding rocks on "B" and "D" field. Support has been identified to get this job done. Both fields will then be levelled and appropriate weed treatment carried out in time for the anticipated April/May rains.
- The reconditioned A field was also used extensively by the tackle football team. Munro emerged as National Tackle Football Champions for 2020.
- Munro also received a donation of a 20ft container of gym equipment and football uniforms donated though the support of Jerome Harriett and the American Football Association



Figure 1 Action from a match between Newell and Munro College earlier in the season.



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- **Window Repair Project-** Some new windows were installed in the Pearman-Calder block, and we are currently working with one-year group to repair a substantial number. We still need support for this project and collections for this initiative are still in progress.
- **Rainwater Harvesting & Recycling Grey Water-** Preliminary assessments have been done by Robert Marrett and these are to be followed up by Robert Stephens as we wish to restore and upgrade the old systems so they are fully functional again.

Events Since August 2019

Hall of Fame- The annual hall of fame awards ceremony and brunch took



Figure 2 IPP Elias Azan, Awardees Dr Brian Morgan, Mr Gassan Azan, Ms Jacqui Parchment (Daughter of Trevor Parchment), President Victor Tomlinson.

place at the Caymanas Golf and Country Club Sunday Oct 13th, 2019 and was a

resounding success. The awardees were Gassan Azan, Dr Brian Morgan and Trevor Parchment. We raised over \$1.5 million in cash and contributions. It is noteworthy that we had over 350 attendees and this is the highest attendance since inception. The change of venue and atmosphere was well received by the attendees.

Nominations close shortly for 2020 inductees and we ask members to please submit nominations of our outstanding Munronians for consideration.

DaCosta Cup Football

We went through the Dacosta Cup season making it into the second round where we lost after a gallant fight against Cornwall College. Planning for the 2020 season is well underway.

John Brandon Murray Cup

The inaugural John Brandon Murray Cup kicked off on August 12th against St. Georges College who emerged the winners. A scholarship for a footballer is being established in his memory.



This is how the old windows appear now



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Schools challenge- Our continued participation in this competition is due to the unwavering support of MCOB Stan Darville from the Bahamas. We did very well to place third in the national competition in 2019 and as important Munro now has the inter-house challenge competition with all trophies and competition expenses covered by MCOB Stan Darville.

2020 started on a strong footing. We retained three members from the 2019 team, and in the preliminaries we surged past

Mayday High 36-6 and Westwood High 47-29

We will challenge a very strong St Hugh's in the third round.



Top Rock Link Up

The year started with the first link up at UWI. The attendance was satisfactory

Figure 3 UWI TopRock Link Up



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MCOBA Calendar of Events for 2020



- The next link up event is planned for **Grego's in Junction, April 4th** while Black River and Santa Cruz will follow
- Mandeville and Montego Bay Link Ups are in the making.



Lindy Delapenha Golf Classic- This is planned for Saturday, June 6th at The Caymanas Golf & Country Club. A Save the date email was already circulated to all golf clubs in Jamaica. We have secured the sponsorship of **Alliance Investment** for the next three years. We however are still seeking associate sponsors and prizes for the participants.

Jackson Shield- Annual football competition between Cornwall College and ourselves. This event has been in existence for at least 50 years! This year it's at Munro, on or about September 5th, 2020.

John Brandon Murray Memorial Cup- This event stated in 2019 between St. Georges and Munro in commemoration of the contribution of Brandon Murray to football in both St. GC and MC. The venue is Juicy Patties Park in Clarendon, date on or about August 29th, 2020.

Hall of Fame 2020- Planning for this major annual event is well underway and the date will be October 11th, at Caymanas Golf and Country Club again this year. Please place this in your calendars, overseas Munronians if you plan to visit Jamaica during October make this be one of your must attend events.

MCOBA Scholarships

Scholarship funds to be disbursed for 2019 total over \$2.8 million with more than 50 students benefitting. We will continue with the assistance next year but we will require more donors to come forward. The need is great and remember you can specify the conditions for your scholarship, so if you have a passion, make the donation we will ensure the proper disbursement.

Financial position





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MCOBA now has up to date financial reports on a monthly basis and our Financial Management has been impeccable over the past few years driven by our Treasurer Richard Dawkins who has done yeoman's service in this area. Our current position with respect to finances can be summarized as follows:

- **Operating Income in 2019 consisted of \$710,000 from dues, donations approximately \$3.7889 K. Net Fundraising was \$1.500K and direct contributions to the College approximately \$3.910 K. The full audited financials will be available by our AGM in April/May.** We want it to be emphasised: the income of \$710,000 from dues represents on about 100 or so members paying the required \$5,000.00 per year. The difference is because there were a few members who paid their back dues.

Gentlemen, the work of the Association is very dependent on the membership dues collected, we respectfully ask that more MCOB's contribute to the operations by paying the annual dues.

Announcements/Promotions/Deaths

- Munronian Chester Crooks 1988 was promoted to Justice of Parish Courts and congrats were conveyed.
- MCOBA Hall of Famer Jackie Minott, former Chairman of the Board and great Munronian died January 16th, 2020.

As usual, we would appreciate your feedback on this update and any comments, ideas, etc you may have, are encouraged, as we all work together to build our Alma Mater.

Peace and love.

Victor Tomlinson
MCOBA President