



The Sierra Leone Grammar School  
 Alumni Association of North America – Washington, DC Metro Chapter  
 Minutes of the General Meeting held on Saturday, June 13, 2009.  
 8:00p.m – 9:40p.m.

**Members Present:** Radcliffe Thomas, Eben ‘Solo’ Collier, Billy Jones, Desmond Campbell, Emile Duke Allen, Mohamed Sesay, Rev. William Lewis, Chrispin O’conner, Ralph Taylor-Smith, Stoker Olu-Williams and George Nicol.

- Opening prayer was said by Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis.
- Minutes of the last meeting (May, 2009) was distributed, read, corrected and accepted.

**Matters Arising**

- Mr. Desmond Campbell promised to draft the “thank you” letter to Dr. Alex Lewis as requested by the President in the May meeting.
- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas informed members that Dr. Alex Lewis promised to send the details about the cost of the watches. Mr. Crispin O’conner further informed members that Dr. Alex Lewis will send a catalogue of the watches.
- The President emphasized purchasing *car-friendly* bumper stickers for the Old Boy’s Union in Freetown and suggested selling some of the bumper stickers to Regentonians in U.S.A also, as another fund-raising venture.
- It was decided that by the next meeting in July, Mr. Lasite should be contacted by the President to get an exact number of the Junior Secondary School (JSS) and Senior Secondary School (SSS) students receiving scholarships from this association so that the money will be sent in time for the reopening of school in September.
- The President also promised to inform individual Regentonians giving scholarships about sending the money before the beginning of the school year.

**Website**

- The President praised Mr. Emile Faux in Atlanta, Georgia for the outstanding job he had done on the association’s website. He however informed members that few spelling/typographic/grammatical corrections need to be made in the documents that have been uploaded on the website. He told members that Mr. Emile Faux has been asked to give the association access to the website for the corrections to be made.
- Dr. Ralph Taylor-Smith volunteered to work with the President and Mr. Emile Faux to review the current contents on the website. The President asked members to refrain from disseminating the address of the website until the contents have been reviewed.
- Members suggested that in addition to the contents already on the website, the following should be included:

- a. Upcoming activities
- b. E-mails in aliases
- c. Historical photographs and documents
- A decision was made by members present that there will not be any roster of Regentonians on the website.

### ***Other Matters***

- Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis observed the importance of the systematic archival of past, present and future documents/photographs/videos of the association's activities. The President promised to consult the historian, Mr. Gerald Cline-Cole on this matter. Mr. Emile Duke Allen also volunteered to assist the historian.
- The President, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas told members that the presidents of the three chapters in California, Georgia and the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area have agreed to apprise each other of their association's activities by having quarterly teleconference meetings.
- The President informed members about two projects, a Regentonian, Ms. Agatha Johnson, wants to pursue on behalf of the association with the school. These are:
  1. Youth Entrepreneurship Program – This is a program designed by her organization that will offer training in entrepreneurship and opportunities for successful students to come to the USA on short term exchange programs and interact with American middle and high school students taking similar training in business.
  2. Solar Power Computer Training Facility – a replication of something that was done at Prince of Wales school in Freetown by its association in the USA using solar panels; the installation of which was done by Mr. Leslie Nicol, a Regentonian. This project is estimated to cost about \$60,000, and Ms. Agatha Johnson hopes to get funding from Microsoft, Intel and other companies.
- Although some members expressed caution on embarking on the second project, it was agreed that Ms. Agatha Johnson should provide us with detailed proposals of the projects and an on-site assessment of the implementation of the current solar power computer facility at the Prince of Wales school including maintenance cost.
- On the request by the President to search for Regentonians who would financially support the school's lab project, Dr. Ralph Taylor-Smith suggested that members e-mail the president with names of capable Regentonians especially those in the sciences who will be willing to fund the project.
- The President proposed the revitalization of the 'Pay Back the Gift' pledge after a dormant period due to the recession.
- Members were also informed that the secretariat of the Jamaican ambassador in the USA will contact Dr. Radcliffe Thomas and Dr. Eben 'Solo' Collier by e-mail to schedule a date for the meeting with the ambassador for a discussion on the proposed Jamaican high school-Sierra Leone Grammar School twinning program.
- Mr. George Nicol told members that a company replacing its furniture is willing to give the association the replaced furniture which we can send to the school in Freetown. Members, by unanimous consent, gave Mr. George Nicol the authority to pick up the furniture and put them in storage until they can be shipped.
- The financial statement for May, 2009 showed an actual cash balance of \$64,894.77
- In the absence of the treasurer, the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Desmond Campbell collected membership dues.

- Closing prayer was said by Mr. Desmond Campbell.

Faithfully submitted,  
Eben 'Solo' Collier