



ASSOCIATION OF PAST EMPLOYEES' OF SINGER

320, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 2

NEW MEMBERS – 2009

13 new members have joined the Association during the year 2009. We warmly welcome the following :-

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Ranjith Fernando | Manonmany Chandraratne |
| W.W.A.R. Ravindra | Susima Ponnampereuma |
| S.R. Fernandoi | Himani Rajasuriya |
| K.V.M.S.S. Bandara | Sakuntala Armstrong (Aus) |
| Gemunu Mendis | Sriyani Weerasinghe |
| Nevin Noyahr | |
| Asiri Priyanga | |
| Prageeth Rambukwella | |

We seek your assistance to get more members to join The Association.

THE SMART SINGER SHOP MANAGER

We had this Super Salesman in the South for whom demand was for Singer products was always greater than supply. However, he never let the customer leave without collecting an advance, promising him the item within 5 days.

One day when the Marketing Director happened to be at the shop, one customer who had come for the 10th time for his product shouted at the manager and demanded his money back, and even threatened to assault him.

The smart SM who kept his cool told the customer 'if you step out you could see a big ship docked at the harbour with my stocks' and showed the Marketing Director and said 'he is the boss who has come to clear it for me, and I promise I will give you the product in 3 days.' The customer looked at the MD and told him 'if you don't give my product in 3 days I will assault you as well'.

On checking the Advance Book at the shop, the MD found that over 25 advances were pending for over a month. Even though at that time stocks were released on a quota basis, he ensured that this SM's stocks were released in 3 days. !

ARREARS COLLECTIONS

Once there was a highly respected senior Area Manager working in the South, for whom demand for Area. He informed a certain shop manager that he wanted to visit some of his bad accounts, and especially one very bad account which was in arrears for over 6 months. When the AM arrived he wanted to visit the very bad account. To this, the shop manager said 'Sir, only for this account would you mind going with my assistant, as my wife has asked me not to visit this customer as she runs a house of ill-fame, and the neighbours are known to my wife'.

Contd...

Hence, the AM with much reluctance agreed to go with the shop assistant. When AM reached the house he was warmly welcomed. Then came the madam (customer), and she got him seated.

As the normal practice is to check the product, the AM said 'I like to first check your machine'. Then madam who was wearing a mini skirt had sat on AM's lap and told him 'now you can check my machine', and started to strip. The AM who got so scared ran away and decided to write it off as a bad debt. !

අමිමා

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 | ලොවේ උතමි වස්තුව නම් අමිමගෙ සිතේ කරුණා ගුණ දරු සෙනෙහස ඇතේ මහ සයුරක් දරුවට පොවන්නේ ලේ කිරි | අමිමාය පිරිලාය බඳුය කරලාය |
| 2 | වෙන කෙනෙකුට හැකිද ලේ කිරි ලේ කිරි වෙන්නෙ දරුවට ඇති මව්සෙනෙහස මෙතෙකැයි බැහැ මවක් නැති ගෙදර සමවෙයි | කරන්නට ආදරෙට මනින්නට සොහොනකට |
| 3 | දස මසක් කුසෙහි දරුවා එන හැම දුකම පැණි රසයයි දරුවා ලැබෙන දින ගණනින් අමිමා දුක් විදිය රූ හිඳි | දරාගෙන සිතාගෙන බලාගෙන මරාගෙන |
| 4 | කාලය පිරි දරුවා බිහි කරන වේදනාව බැහැ මෙතෙකැයි එනමුත් කිරි කැටියා දෙනෙහින් දුකින් වේදනාව අමතක වෙයි | විට කියන්නට විට අමිමාට |
| 5 | ඒ ලෙස වෙන්නෙ දරුවට ඇති කරුණා ගුණ ඇත්තෙ අමිමා ලග දුක් වේදනා ආවත් පසුබට ගෙදර බුදුන් යයි කියනුයෙ | ආදරෙටයි පමණයි නොමවෙයි අමිමාටයි |
| 6 | දුප්පත් උනත් අමිමගෙ ගුණ දුප්පත් කියා සෙනෙහස අඩුවක් හැම අමිමගෙම දරු කැක්කුම එක වේදනාව හැම අමිමටම | පොහොසත්ය නැතිය ලෙසය උරුමය |
| 7 | දස මසක් ගෙවී දරුවා ලැබෙන ඇතිවෙන වේදනාවට සම එවැනි වේදනා ලොව නැත අමිමෙක් උනාමයි තේරෙන්නේ | විට කරන්නට කියන්නට හොඳට |
| 8 | සතුන් අතර වුව ඇත්තේ මේ ගැහැණු සතා හඳුනන්නේ මව් පැටවි හැඳෙන්නේ එලෙසම කිරි අමිමගෙ උතුම් බව ඉන් ලෙකෙට | සිරිතයි ලෙසටයි දිලියි පෙන්නවයි |
| 9 | අමිමට නොසලකන දරුවොත් ඒ අය අතේ දෙවිදුන්නරගෙ පව්ට පිං දෙන්න අමිමා හට බුදු භාමුදුරුවො මේ ලෙසටම | ඉන්නවලු පිරිසලු බැරිලු දෙසුවාලු |

මාලා මංගලිකා අබේසූරිය
 හොරහේනේ වැඩිහිටි නිවාසය
 1571/34 හොරහේන කොට්ටාච
 පන්තිපිටිය - (077-9949548)

A MEMORABLE EVENT

It was a black day in the year 1996 – Wednesday 24th July. I was working for the Finance Director. As usual, after office, I boarded a bus at the halt near office, to get to the Slave Island Railway Station. As the bus was fully crowded, I stood on the step. Despatch Clerk Dickman happened to be at this bus halt, and he insisted that I step down and take the next bus. Very reluctantly I got down, but was sorry for missing my normal train and my friends who usually travel with me. I boarded the next bus and when I reached the railway station the train was pulling out. I had no choice but to take the next train – the Galle Express which does not stop at Egoda Uyana, as its normal stops are Bambalapitiya-Ratmalana-Moratuwa-Panadura and so on. On this particular day, the train abruptly stopped at Wellawatte- reason unknown. We waited for more than 45 minutes for the train to start off, when a passer-by said 'this train will not move as there has been a bomb explosion in the earlier train at Dehiwala'.

It was about 6.45 p.m. when we started walking up to Galle Road for a bus. The road was full of traffic and full of train passengers, and our efforts to stop a vehicle were futile. No bus, van or trishaw stopped for us. Around 8.50 p.m. one smart person forcefully got into a Mount Lavinia bound bus and asked the waiting crowd to get in. I too managed to creep in with difficulty. The bus turned into the Mount Lavinia Bus Depot, and the same guy demanded that the driver should proceed up to Panadura. He said he had no authority to do so, and after a hot argument, both driver and conductor vanished from the scene.

After some time another driver took the wheel, and I reached home at 9.45 p.m. and, as conveyed later by the present Finance Director – Mr. Priyath Salgado as related below, my husband Ananda had been 'shivering in his boots'.

When news of the train bomb reached office my boss Mr. Neville Peiris and the trainee secretary Priyangani had panicked. FD had contacted Priyath – one of the then Accountants who resides in Panadura requesting him to visit my place and check whether I had reached home safe. When he came to my place at 9.00 p.m. I had not turned up, and he had conveyed it to Mr. Peiris, only to get a further request to do another visit a little later.

What happened later was conveyed to me by Priyangani who had been in constant touch with boss for news about me. Hearing Priyath's message, Mr. Peiris had asked his good lady to get ready, and both of them had proceeded to the general hospital, and later to Kalubowila and gone through the list of injured persons. My name not being there, he had uttered 'Poor lady she's gone'

When I reached home at 9.45 p.m. Priyath and his wife Sandya were waiting in their car at my gate. Doesn't this

show how much Singer bosses are concerned about their subordinates. 14 long years have gone by, and thanks to Dickman, I am still alive! I express my deep gratitude to Mr. & Mrs. Peiris, Mr. & Mrs. Salgado and Priyangani too.

Vijitha Jayawardena

LAUGHTER COLUMN

Beware of older men – they only get wiser !

A woman decides to have a facelift for her 50th birthday. She spends \$15,000 and feels pretty good about the results. On her way home she stops at a newsstand to buy a newspaper.

Before leaving, she says to the clerk 'I hope you don't mind my asking, but how old do you think I am ?'

'About 32' is the reply. 'Nope! I'm exactly 50' she said happily.

A little while later she goes into McDonalds and asks the counter girl the very same question. The girl replies 'I'd guess about 29'. The woman replies with a big smile 'Nope I'm 50'. Now, feeling really good about herself. She stops in a drug store on her way down the street. She goes to the counter to get some mints and asks the clerk this burning question.

The clerk responds 'Oh I'd say 30'. Again she proudly responds 'I'm 50, but thank you'.

While waiting for the bus to go home she asks an old man waiting next to her, the same question. He replies 'Lady, I'm 78 and my eyesight is going. Although when I was young there was a sure-fire way to tell how old a woman was. It sounds very forward, but it requires you to let me put my hands under your bra. Then, and only then can I tell you EXACTLY how old you are'.

They wait in silence on the empty street until her curiosity gets the best of her, and finally burst out 'What the hell, go ahead'. He slips both his hands under her blouse and begins to feel around very slowly. He weighs each breast and gently pinches each nipple. After a couple of minutes she asks 'Okay, okay...how old am I?'

He completes one last squeeze, removes his hands & says 'Madam you are 50'. Stunned and amazed, the woman says 'That was incredible, how could you tell?'

The old man says 'Promise you won't get mad?' 'I was behind you at McDonalds' !!

OBITUARIES – 2009

Four of our ardent members have departed during the year 2009. They are:

Mr. K. Dayananda Perera - Ex-Br. Manager, Pettah

Mr. T.H. Lantra - Ex S.S.L.

Mr. Sriyan de Silva - Ex-Factory Director S.I.C.

Mr. S.M.P. Sisiradasa - Ex-Br. Manager- Matara

We wish our departed friends *Eternal Bliss !*

The editor requests the members to write in stating their experiences while serving the Company, or what they have heard from colleagues which will be of interest to the readers. Any comments, suggestions, constructive criticisms are welcome. Thanks.

*Mr. Lashantha Perera,
151/54, Thimbirigasyaya Road,
COLOMBO 05.*

SALES TALK

A new vacuum cleaner salesman knocked on the door, on the first house of the street. A tall lady answered the door. Before she could speak, the enthusiastic salesman barged into her living room, and opened a big black plastic bag and poured cow droppings onto her clean carpet.

'Madam, if you could not clean this up with the use of this new powerful vacuum cleaner, I will eat all this shit'. exclaimed the eager salesman.

'Do you need Chilli sauce or Ketchup, to accompany that?' asked the lady coolly.

The bewildered salesman asked 'Why Madam?', and the lady replied calmly 'We just moved into this house and there's no electricity in the house at this moment.'

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



We wish the following members who are celebrating their birthdays during April a Happy Birthday and wish them health, wealth and happiness over the coming years.

- D.A. Ariyadasa - 3rd April
- D.P. Gunawardena - 14th April
- J.W. Dickman - 16th April
- D.J.A. Abeyesekera - 18th April
- Ananda H. Epa - 20th April
- R.G. Moorthy - 20th April
- Nevin Noyahr - 23rd April &
- P. Shivaji - 26th April

We would request all other members who have not given us their birthdays to let us know same, in order to have them in our records.

Patron

Mr. Hemaka Amarasuriya

President

Bertie Fernando

Tel: 2715733

Mob: 0724-526229

Vice Presidents

Nelson Mendis

Tel: 2716209

Mob:0777-271375

Lakshman de Chickera

Tel: 4891056

Mob:077-2966042

Secretary

Ananda H. Epa

Tel: 2865351

Asst.Secretary

Vijitha Jayawardena

Mob:0757-265925

Treasurer

A.M.M. Nissar

Tel: 2530680

Mob:0714222325

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Kalyana Dhirasekera

Tel: 2901673

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o Janaka Kaluhendiwela

Mob:0777280734

Hony. Auditor

Mr. Priyath Salgado-Singer

Another AGM with a successful Meeting, Fellowship, Fun & Laughter.

The 2009 AGM was held at Sea View Hotel, Colombo 03 for the 9th successive time.

The Association President Bertie commenced the proceedings with his welcome speech.

The members re-elected him as the President and the rest of the team as shown on the left.

There were 21 gifts offered as prizes on the raffle draw.

Those present enjoyed plenty of drinks and a sumptuous buffet lunch before leaving for their destinations. We welcome more members to join us at the next AGM, a place to meet your old friends.

APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES

- ❖ Social & Entertainment
Nelson, Lashantha, Janaka, John & Kaushalya
- ❖ Fund Raising
Kalyana, Rohan & Dabara
- ❖ News Letter & Publicity
Judith, Gamini & Lashantha
- ❖ Membership Drive
Janaka, Vijitha & Rohan
- ❖ Scholarship Fund
Bertie and the team

PLANNED EVENTS FOR 2010

- 25th April - Cricket Match at M.C.A. Grounds
- May - Medical Camp
- July - Sing-a-long
- September - Day Outing for members and families
- 12th December - A.G.M.



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| 1 | ලොවේ උතුම් වස්තුව නම්
අම්මගෙ සිතේ කරුණා ගුණ
දුරු සෙනෙහස ඇගේ මහ සයුරක්
දුරුවට පොවන්නේ ලේ කිරි | අම්මාය
පිරිලාය
බඳුය
කරලාය |
| 2 | වෙන කෙනෙකුට නැතිද ලේ කිරි
ලේ කිරි වෙන්නෙ දුරුවට ඇති
මව්සෙනෙහස මෙනෙකැයි බැහැ
මවක් නැති ගෙදර සමවෙයි | කරන්නට
ආදරට
මනින්නට
සොහොනකට |
| 3 | දස මසක් කුසෙහි දුරුවා
එන නැම දුකම පැණි රසයයි
දුරුවා ලැබෙන දින ගණනින්
අම්මා දුක් විඳියි රූ කිඳි | දරාගෙන
සිතාගෙන
බලාගෙන
මරාගෙන |
| 4 | කාලය පිරි දුරුවා බිහි කරණ
වේදනාව බැහැ මෙනෙකැයි
එනමුත් කිරි කැටියා දෙනෙහින් දුකින්
වේදනාව අමතක වෙයි | විට
කියන්නට
විට
අම්මාට |
| 5 | ඒ ලෙස වෙන්නෙ දුරුවට ඇති
කරුණා ගුණ ඇත්තෙ අම්මා ලග
දුක් වේදනා ආවත් පසුබට
ගෙදර බුදුන් යයි කියනුයෙ | ආදරටයි
පමණයි
නොමවෙයි
අම්මාටයි |
| 6 | දුප්පත් උනත් අම්මගෙ ගුණ
දුප්පත් කියා සෙනෙහස අඩුවක්
නැම අම්මගෙම දුරු කැක්කුම එක
වේදනාව නැම අම්මටම | පොහොසත්ය
නැතිය
ලෙසය
උරුමය |
| 7 | දස මසක් ගෙව් දුරුවා ලැබෙන
ඇතිවෙන වේදනාවට සම
එවැනි වේදනා ලොව නැත
අම්මෙක් උනාමයි තේරෙන්නේ | විට
කරන්නට
කියන්නට
හොඳට |
| 8 | සතුන් අතර වුව ඇත්තේ මේ
ගැහැණු සතා හඳුනන්නේ මව්
පැටව් නැදෙන්නේ එලෙසම කිරි
අම්මගෙ උතුම් බව ඉන් ලෙකෙට | සිරිතයි
ලෙසටයි
දිලයි
පෙන්නයි |
| 9 | අම්මට නොසලකන දුරුවෙත්
ඒ අය අනේ දෙව්දුන්නරගෙ
පවට පිං දෙන්න අම්මා හට
බුදු භාමුදුරුවෝ මේ ලෙසටම | ඉන්නවලු
පිරිසලු
බැරිලු
දෙසුවලු |

මාලා මංගලිකා අබේසූරිය
හොරහේනේ වැඩිහිටි නිවාසය
1571/34 හොරහේන කොට්ටාල
පන්නිපිටිය - (077-9949548)

A MEMORABLE EVENT

It was a black day in the year 1996 – Wednesday 24th July. I was working for the Finance Director. As usual, after office, I boarded a bus at the halt near office, to get to the Slave Island Railway Station. As the bus was fully crowded, I stood on the step. Despatch Clerk Dickman happened to be at this bus halt, and he insisted that I step down and take the next bus. Very reluctantly I got

down, but was sorry for missing my normal train and my friends who usually travel with me. I boarded the next bus and when I reached the railway station the train was pulling out. I had no choice but to take the next train – the Galle Express which does not stop at Egoda Uyana, as its normal stops are Bambalapitiya-Ratmalana-Moratuwa-Panadura and so on. On this particular day, the train abruptly stopped at Wellawatte- reason unknown. We waited for more than 45 minutes for the train to start off, when a passer-by said 'this train will not move as there has been a bomb explosion in the earlier train at Dehiwala'.

It was about 6.45 p.m. when we started walking up to Galle Road for a bus. The road was full of traffic and full of train passengers, and our efforts to stop a vehicle were futile. No bus, van or trishaw stopped for us. Around 8.50 p.m. one smart person forcefully got into a Mount Lavinia bound bus and asked the waiting crowd to get in. I too managed to creep in with difficulty. The bus turned into the Mount Lavinia Bus Depot, and the same guy demanded that the driver should proceed up to Panadura. He said he had no authority to do so, and after a hot argument, both driver and conductor vanished from the scene.

After some time another driver took the wheel, and I reached home at 9.45 p.m. and, as conveyed later by the present Finance Director – Mr. Priyath Salgado as related below, my husband Ananda had been 'shivering in his boots'.

When news of the train bomb reached office my boss Mr. Neville Peiris and the trainee secretary Priyangani had panicked. FD had contacted Priyath – one of the then Accountants who resides in Panadura requesting him to visit my place and check whether I had reached home safe. When he came to my place at 9.00 p.m. I had not turned up, and he had conveyed it to Mr. Peiris, only to get a further request to do another visit a little later.

What happened later was conveyed to me by Priyangani who had been in constant touch with boss for news about me. Hearing Priyath's message, Mr. Peiris had asked his good lady to get ready, and both of them had proceeded to the general hospital, and later to Kalubowila and gone through the list of injured persons. My name not being there, he had uttered 'Poor lady she's gone'

When I reached home at 9.45 p.m. Priyath and his wife Sandya were waiting in their car at my gate. Doesn't this

show how much Singer bosses are concerned about their subordinates. 14 long years have gone by, and thanks to Dickman, I am still alive! I express my deep gratitude to Mr. & Mrs. Peiris, Mr. & Mrs. Salgado and Priyangani too.

Vijitha Jayawardena

LAUGHTER COLUMN

Beware of older men – they only get wiser !

A woman decides to have a facelift for her 50th birthday. She spends \$15,000 and feels pretty good about the results. On her way home she stops at a newsstand to buy a newspaper.

Before leaving, she says to the clerk 'I hope you don't mind my asking, but how old do you think I am ?'

'About 32' is the reply. 'Nope! I'm exactly 50' she said happily.

A little while later she goes into McDonalds and asks the counter girl the very same question. The girl replies 'I'd guess about 29'. The woman replies with a big smile 'Nope I'm 50'. Now, feeling really good about herself. She stops in a drug store on her way down the street. She goes to the counter to get some mints and asks the clerk this burning question.

The clerk responds 'Oh I'd say 30'. Again she proudly responds 'I'm 50, but thank you'.

While waiting for the bus to go home she asks an old man waiting next to her, the same question. He replies 'Lady, I'm 78 and my eyesight is going. Although when I was young there was a sure-fire way to tell how old a woman was. It sounds very forward, but it requires you to let me put my hands under your bra. Then, and only then can I tell you EXACTLY how old you are'.

They wait in silence on the empty street until her curiosity gets the best of her, and finally burst out 'What the hell, go ahead'. He slips both his hands under her blouse and begins to feel around very slowly. He weighs each breast and gently pinches each nipple. After a couple of minutes she asks 'Okay, okay...how old am I?'

He completes one last squeeze, removes his hands & says 'Madam you are 50'. Stunned and amazed, the woman says 'That was incredible, how could you tell?'

The old man says 'Promise you won't get mad?' I was behind you at McDonalds' !!

OBITUARIES – 2009

Four of our ardent members have departed during the year 2009. They are:

Mr. K. Dayananda Perera - Ex-Br. Manager, Pettah
Mr. T.H. Lantra - Ex S.S.L.
Mr. Sriyan de Silva - Ex-Factory Director S.I.C.
Mr. S.M.P. Sisiradasa - Ex-Br. Manager- Matara

We wish our departed friends *Eternal Bliss !*

The editor requests the members to write in stating their experiences while serving the Company, or what they have heard from colleagues which will be of interest to the readers. Any comments, suggestions, constructive criticisms are welcome. Thanks.

*Mr. Lashantha Perera,
151/54, Thimbirigasyaya Road,
COLOMBO 05.*

SALES TALK

A new vacuum cleaner salesman knocked on the door, on the first house of the street. A tall lady answered the door. Before she could speak, the enthusiastic salesman barged into her living room, and opened a big black plastic bag and poured cow droppings onto her clean carpet.

'Madam, if you could not clean this up with the use of this new powerful vacuum cleaner, I will eat all this shit'. exclaimed the eager salesman.

'Do you need Chilli sauce or Ketchup, to accompany that?' asked the lady coolly.

The bewildered salesman asked 'Why Madam?', and the lady replied calmly 'We just moved into this house and there's no electricity in the house at this moment.'

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



We wish the following members who are celebrating their birthdays during April a Happy Birthday and wish them health, wealth and happiness over the coming years.

D.A. Ariyadasa - 3rd April
D.P. Gunawardena - 14th April
J.W. Dickman - 16th April
D.J.A. Abeysekera - 18th April
Ananda H. Epa - 20th April
R.G. Moorthy - 20th April
Nevin Noyahr - 23rd April &
P. Shivaji - 26th April

We would request all other members who have not given us their birthdays to let us know same, in order to have them in our records.