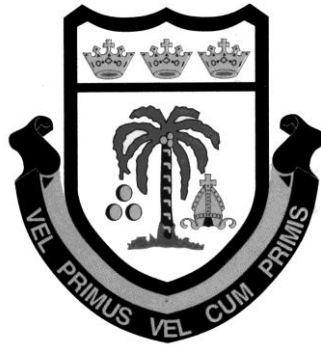


**STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE AT  
ADISADEL COLLEGE**



**ACHIEVEMENTS, THE 2010 ADISADEL CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS,  
AND ISSUES OF ALUMNI-ALMA MATER RELATIONS**

By

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## INTRODUCTION.

This paper is the result of the author's desire to participate in telling 'the Adisadel story' during Adisadel College's Centenary celebrations of the year 2010. What follows therefore, is mostly my personal anecdotal recollections and observations of what I consider to be some of the finest examples of academic and extracurricular excellence at Adisadel in the 1960s.

The paper also reports on scenes and key activities at Adisadel College during the centenary week (July 12-18, 2010), as seen through the eyes of a 1960s Alumnus (the author). And finally, it describes, and attempts to philosophize on, how the whole centenary celebration's planning and execution reflect on the nature and quality of the 'bond' between Santaclausians (the name for students and alumni of Adisadel College in Cape Coast, Ghana), and their Alma Mater.

The motivation for doing this project derives from my strong belief that the business of nation-building is the business of education. The US-based magazine, 'Newsweek', has just published an article, a cover story, entitled, "The World's Best Countries."

A quotation from that article goes thus:

***"Topping that List (of the world's best countries), is Finland, which is also the top ranked country in education. Second (in education) is South Korea; the magazine credits its (Korea's) "focus on education" for lifting it from a nation as rich as Afghanistan in the 1960s to its third on its list of "economic dynamism".***

For the on-line version of the article and rankings, please go to:

[www.newsweek.com/feature/2010/the-world-s-best-countries.html](http://www.newsweek.com/feature/2010/the-world-s-best-countries.html)

Therefore, any occasion and opportunity to celebrate education, such as the just-concluded Adisadel College's Centenary Celebrations, ought to be embraced and supported wholeheartedly by those who believe that education is what builds good, prosperous and peaceful nations.

About a quarter of the material in this paper was presented by the author in the Adisadel Centenary Lectures Series held at Adisadel, Cape Coast, Ghana, in May 2010. The current paper has been significantly revised, expanded and reworked. This has made it possible to include experiences and contributions of more Santaclausians, and to open a small window into the centenary celebrations for the benefit of those Santaclausians who could not be there in person, or who had not been able to follow closely the centenary activities.

A considerable amount of what has been written so far on the history of Adisadel College and its achievements (this paper being no exception), has leaned very heavily and rather disproportionately on the Adisadel years from its founding in 1910 up until around the early part of the 1970s. Therefore, a future project which reminisces on, and chronicles the achievements of Adisadel of the 1980s and beyond, would be tremendously beneficial for the Santaclausian community. Needless to say that such a writing project would be exceedingly rewarding for whoever volunteers to undertake it.

**The author does not claim any endorsement, explicit or implied, of the contents of this article by any Official Adisadel Authority.**

## **ACADEMICS AND THE ADISCO STORY.**

The decade of the nineteen sixties at Adisadel could arguably be considered a prime example of the ‘golden age of science, mathematics, and music’ in Ghana. The nation’s ‘Independence’ from its colonial master, Great Britain in 1957, had ushered in self-government and a spirit of self-determination. There was exuberance on the part of the people, and a belief in a policy, aggressively promoted by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the first Prime Minister of Ghana, that science, technology and industry held the key to Ghana’s future development and prosperity.

## **MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AT ADISADEL, A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS.**

During the 1960s, because of the premium placed on the study of science by the school, a typical year group of students preparing for their ‘Ordinary Level’ (the fifth year national examinations) had about **two-thirds** of the students classified as science students. Similarly, during the two ‘Sixth Form’ years, two thirds of the students preparing for the ‘Advanced Level’ (at the time used as the qualifying exams for entry into a University) were labeled as science students.

That Adisadel was a pre-eminent Secondary School in Ghana for the study of science and mathematics as foundation for careers in industry, health science and other technical professions was clearly evident, as the series of stories below will attest.

One person who’s career story illustrates well the foregoing statement is Sir Dr. Sam Jonah, member of Adisadel College class of 1967. Having been born and raised in the Ghanaian gold mining town of Obuasi, and having gone back there to build up a supremely successful career in mining, Sam Jonah can be said to be a true "son of the African soil", figuratively and literally. A dormitory building, Jonah House, that he built and donated to Adisadel in honor of his late father, is a fitting symbol of his gratitude and humility.

Dr. Sam Jonah’s numerous qualifications and awards include: KBE (a British Knighthood), ACSM( Mining Engineering at the Camborne School of Mines in England), MSc. (Mine Management, Imperial College of Science and Technology in London), Honorary Doctor of Science( D.Sc.), awarded by Camborne School of Mines and the University of Exeter, U.K.

He is currently Executive Chairman of Jonah Capital and Chancellor of the University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

For centuries Africa has been recognized as being rich in mineral resources. So for a young Ghanaian teenager, Sam Jonah, in the late 1960s to dedicate his life to learning about, and working within the environments of Africa's mineral resources and their industrial and commercial exploitation, was a significant development.

One can only hope that with the recent discovery of oil in commercial quantities in Ghana, many young Ghanaians will be motivated and feel encouraged to engage in formal and practical studies of the science, technology, industry and commercial exploitation of oil for the benefit of Ghana.

## **THE 'ASPAU' SCHOLARS.**

Santaclausians won a large share of 'ASPAU' (African Scholarship Program for American Universities) scholarships to study science abroad. When Ghanaian students from all over the country competed for only **eleven** scholarships to study science in 1967 at the most prestigious of America's Universities, Adisco alone won **five**. 'ASPAU' Scholarships were sponsored by a joint program of American and specific African governments. The program was executed by the African American Institute of New York on behalf of the US government and a group of US Universities.

The ASPAU Scholars from Adisco in 1967 were: Godfred Otuteye, who went to Harvard (B.S. Mathematics), University of Southern California (MBA), CEO, Money Mailer, Southern California; Robert Baafi, who went to University of Connecticut (B.S.) and Lehigh University (M.S.) for Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, Currently Oracle Corporation Software Professional, previously worked for Cullinet, Digital Equipment Corporation; Emmanuel Ablorh, who went to Princeton University (B.S. Electrical Engineering) and New Jersey Institute Of Technology (M.S.), Electrical Engineering, former Seagate Technology Engineer, Currently Telecommunications Designer and Engineering Manager, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Nii Saban Quao, who went to Yale (Pre-Med Studies, and M.D), George Washington University Residency, Vanderbilt University (LL.B), Practices Internal Medicine in Tennessee; and finally, the author of this article, who went to Yale University (B.S. Engineering & Applied Science), Case Western Reserve University (M.S.E.E), Pennsylvania State University (Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering), Currently, Tenured Full Professor and Coordinator of the Computer Engineering Program at the California State University, Chico.

Furthermore, during the two previous years (1965/66), the same ASPAU scholarship program had brought other Santaclausians to the US. These were: Victor Pappoe, who went to Yale University (Pre-Med Studies, M.D., Yale), Cornell University Hospital Fellowship, Harlem Hospital Residency, Practices Internal Medicine in Pomona, California; Tralance Addy, who went to Swarthmore College (B.S., BBS Chemistry and Mechanical Engineering), M.S., and Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, former Vice President, Johnson and Johnson, Southern California; and William Mould, who went to University of Connecticut (B.S. Electrical Engineering)

## **SANTA STARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, LEGON, AND BEYOND.**

Apart from the ASPAU Scholars, who went outside Ghana for University education, the 1967 Adisco 'A-Level' group which started their University education in Ghana, counts among them, some highly accomplished Scientists and Medical Practitioners and Specialists as well as Engineers. Among them are: Godfrey Gaisie (Degree in Medicine, Legon, Pediatrics training at Howard University Hospital, Pediatric Radiology at University of Pittsburgh Children's Hospital, for 14 years was Chairman of Radiology at Akron (Ohio) Children's Hospital until 2005, Currently Associate Professor of Radiology, Northeast Ohio University's College of Medicine; Jason Ofori (Medicine at Legon, Postgraduate specialization in Ophthalmology in New York, Ophthalmology practice in Toledo, Ohio with the group "Vision Associates").

The academic prowess in science of some of the early 1960s Santaclausians has also been eloquently chronicled by Rev. Prof. John S. Pobe. Writing in his comprehensive, fascinating, and captivating book titled: "**Adisadel**

**On The Hill—The Story (1910-2010)**”, published by Sam-Woode Ltd., 2010, he points out on pages 137 and 138 that:

***“In 1969 the Ghana Medical School produced its first 37 Medical Doctors. Seven(7) of these were Adisadel College Old Students, namely: 1. Dr. J.T. ENIM; 2. Dr. YAW ADU-GYAMFI; 3. Dr. J.K.L. METTLE; 4. Dr. E.K. AHINKORAH; 5. Dr. E. A. KISSI; 6. Dr. J. TWUM; 7. Dr. C.S. GRANT. “***

In a similar vein, over the years the author of this paper has encountered quite a number of the Adisadel 1964 year group members who had studied and qualified as Medical Doctors from the University of Ghana Medical School, and have had highly successful careers as Physicians in and outside Ghana. They include: Professor Amonoo Kuofi (current Dean of Cape Coast University Medical School), Dr. Ankobea (Quaque House, was a Physician at Korle Bu for many years), Dr. Kwesi Hanson( based at Tema), Dr. Joseph Blankson (Canterbury House, has been practicing Medicine for many years in Alabama, in the U.S.).

## **THE INTELLECTUAL AND CHARACTER-FORMING POWER OF MUSIC.**

And now, here is where science converged with music at Adisco in the 1960s! Among the 1965 O-Level science students, there was the group which combined the study of science and music with the kind of vigor, enthusiasm, and passion that was hitherto unheard-of and was simply awe-inspiring.

On a typical school day, some would dissect frogs in the morning’s biology laboratory, while others would delve into the mathematics of differentiation and integration of calculus functions, while still others performed titrations in late morning chemistry classes. Then, after mid-afternoon extracurricular activities, several of these same science students would join their colleagues from other non-science subjects for Orchestra practice. All would then seamlessly switch on and focus their attention like a laser beam on the musical notes of famous classical pieces such as the Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Eine Kleine Nachtmusik”.

The sweet sounds of their well-tuned violins, violas, flutes, clarinets, cellos, would fill the air, either in the Canterbury Hall, or in the home of Father Gillett, near the Adisco School Dining Hall. Occasionally, we would be so wrapped up in the music that we would miss the School dinner, at which time Father Gillett was more than willing to offer us all dinner!

## **CLASSICAL MUSIC : THE ADISADEL ORCHESTRA.**

The Orchestra members were the founding members of the Adisadel Orchestra, under the teaching, mentoring, conducting and directorship of Rev. Father Vincent Gillett. The Orchestra was formed with instruments that Father Gillett solicited as donations from England. Just like the students who have been described above, this group also achieved impressive success in their subsequent higher education and professional careers. First, there is Rev. Prof. Dr. Seth Ayettey, the violinist in the Adisadel Orchestra. Rev. Prof. Ayettey studied Medicine at Legon, and also obtained a Ph.D. in Anatomy from Cambridge University. He has been a Past Provost of the Ghana Medical School.

Then there were two Cellists, Dr. Nii Saban Quao (already noted above as an ASPAU Scholar), and the author of this article( also already noted above as an ASPAU Scholar).

There was the Late Dr. Essua Kwesi (of blessed memory), Legon Medical School graduate, who did double duty playing clarinet and saxophone for the orchestra, and clarinet and saxophone for the Adisco Jazz group( brilliant student and a consummate musician).

There also was Rev. Dr. J.D. Awotwi, the proud violinist (Medicine from Legon, Post-graduate studies in Medicine in the United States, Practiced Medicine in New Orleans for some time. Also studied Theology and was ordained a Rev. Minister)

Ricky Telfer, piano and guitar virtuoso, was a fine musician. He too did double duty playing violin in the Orchestra, and Guitar and Piano for the Adisco Jazz Band( Studied in Toronto, Canada, had quite an impressive professional music recording career and studio and successful recordings in Toronto).

There was in the Orchestra a student named Kuma, flute player, and a very good musician Kuma regularly played 'Bourree' duet with Fr. Gillett...Kuma on flute, Fr. Gillett on piano...pure source of joy, every time they played. That was something to behold. I cannot forget the trips the Orchestra members took to Accra to hear the operas Mikado and The Pirates of Penzance at Achimota. Those were such wonderful and powerfully enriching musical experiences. Under Headmaster R.T. Orleans-Pobee's encouragement and nurturing, the Adisadel Orchestra played at many festive and formal occasions to gatherings outside of Cape Coast, such as Aburi. After Fr. Gillett left in 1966, subsequent students continued to play in the Orchestra under the leadership of Music Masters Mr. Essah and Mr. Wood.

## **CHORAL MUSIC: MESSRS. Essah, Wood, Abaidoo & The Wainrights.**

Choral music received a well-deserved attention. Music teachers Mr. D. R. Essah, Mr. Wood and Mr. Abaidoo, did a yeoman's job of instilling in Adisadel students a love of Ghanaian Choral music. The Legendary Dr. Ephraim Amu's famous songs were important staples of choral renderings which Mr. Essah made sure we enjoyed. Such songs as "Yen Ara Asase Ni", "Asem Yi Di Ka" were favorites.

When it came to Choral music the Adisadel Choir was not to be outdone. Ateks Ebbe( Elliott '68), provided me with his recollections( which I quote directly below in bold italics) about the Choir, under the directorship of former Tutor, Mr.Wainright and his wife:

***"Mr & Mrs Wainright, then teachers at Adisadel, raised the School Choir to another level. Ebow Swatson and I (Ateks Ebbe) sang superb soprano solos that the Headmaster, R.T. Orleans-Pobee, on a number of occasions referred to as the "Singing Angels of Adisadel". The Choir also performed on radio and television in Ghana."***

Needless to say, that the members of the Choir became quite an accomplished bunch later on in their professional endeavors. There was Ateks Ebbe, BSc. (Zoology, Legon 1975), Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), University of Zagreb, Croatia; large animal veterinarian for a number of years in Britain; developed

and pursued an interest in mental health along with veterinary science; recently retired from the National Health Service, UK in December 2007; back in Ghana and assisting in the creation of employment opportunities in IT, for the youth.

There was also William S. (Ebow) Swatson, Graduated in architecture 1976, KNUST, private consultancy, Accra. Then, Ato Ampiah, Graduated in Engineering 1974, KNUST, Managing Director, Tema Oil Refinery. Others in the Choir were: S.P. Smith, MD, currently in the US; Victor Essien, Attorney at law, currently in the US; Yaw Ansah-Boateng, MD, a Pathologist, Royal Army Medical Corp, U.K.; Richard Crabbe, MD, currently in the US; Robert Ebo Ansah, BA Modern Languages, 1973 University of Ghana, currently in the US.

## **JAZZ & POPULAR MUSIC: MR. D. GODFREY & THE ADISCO JAZZ BAND.**

There are some, and they are many, a multitude, as a matter of fact, for whom the notion of “music at Adisadel in the 1960s” means only one thing, The “ADISCO JAZZ BAND”. The following two paragraphs are direct quotes from an article on the Adisadel Old Boys Website: [www.adisadelonline.com/jazz\\_revival.htm](http://www.adisadelonline.com/jazz_revival.htm) , posted on April 23, 2008, and written by Dr. Sam Mensah( B.A., Legon, MBA, Ph.D. University of Toronto), a member of the 1966 Adisadel Year Group. He is a Financial Economist and Investment Banking Consultant. He is Founder and Executive Chairman of SEM Group Ltd. Dr Sam Mensah was a veritable Adisadel Guitar wizard, a founding member of the Adisco Jazz Club founded by Mr. Dave Godfrey, an Adisadel Teacher from Canada, who brought donated Jazz Instruments to establish the club.

A quotation below( in bold italics), from Dr. Sam Mensah’s Adisadel Web article speaks for itself. During the 1960s, the Adisco Jazz Band, indeed Adisco, as an institution, was lucky to have as one of its students , Glenn Warren. He was quite a phenomenon. Glenn Warren’s drumming skills spanned the whole gamut of drumming styles, from rock, jazz, highlife to all the brilliant complexities of Ghanaian traditional drumming. He went on to develop into a successful professional musician. The author is privileged to own one of Glenn “Ghanababa” Warren’s recent CD recordings, the double CD package entitled “ **The 3<sup>rd</sup> PHASE BOMDIGI**”. I particularly love CD #1 of the two pack set.

*“In 2007, a group of us (Sam Mensah, John Djokoto, Ricky Telfer) decided to revive music education at Adisadel College by using jazz as the learning medium. We acquired a full set of instruments – drums, congas, keyboards, lead guitar, bass guitar, trumpet, trombone, alto and tenor saxophones, full backline, PA system with monitors – which were presented to the school during the 2007 Speech Day.”*

## **GIVING CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE I: ADISCO OVER THE YEARS.**

The author does not want to imply that the 1960s were the only period when Adisco turned out successful students. After all, the author’s older Cousin, Dr. T. A. Richardson( Dentist) left Adisco in the early 1950s to study Dentistry in Scotland, the first batch of Ghanaian Dentists. He went on to become the Deputy Director of Ghana Medical Services, Dentistry. Similarly, in the 1970s and later there are numerous Santaclausians who have gone on to various institutions of high education in Ghana and abroad and have achieved all kinds of impressive professional qualifications.



One such Ghanaian scientist, Dr. Ave Kludze, NASA Rocket Scientist, has recently been profiled and recognized in the international media. Two other Santaclausian brothers of mine, are: 1970 year group member Augustus Richardson( Dallas Tax Accountant) and 1971 Knight House class group member; Dr. P.K. Richardson (BSc. KNUST), (MSc., Ph.D., University of Manchester Business School), Currently Visiting Senior Fellow, Manchester Business School(MIBS Division), Adisadel class of 1971 Knight House, Ebiradze House Prefect 1973. There is also Alfred Hanson (Adisco Sixth Form 1973, B.Sc. in Mining Engineering from KNUST, Worked in Tarkwa mines, has an MBA degree), currently in the U.K.

In fact, the period 1958-63 in Adisadel produced its fair share of highly successful scientists and mathematicians. They went on to accomplish great professional feats. There is Dr. Patrick Darko ( Mathematics Ph.D., Cornell University, former Math Prof. at University of Delaware). There is also Professor Clement Lutterodt,( Ph.D. Cornell University), Professor of Mathematics, Howard University, Washington D.C.

Leadership skills and the “can do Adisco Spirit” was very much alive and well in the 1960s. Senior students proudly wore the Santaclausian badge of dynamism and can-do attitude: N.T.S. Quao, Mettle, Mercer, Adeleye, Luttrodt, Boye, Parry, Duggan, Essilfie, Dawson, Hockey Genius Senior Laryea, my cousin Thomas Richardson and his buddy, Senior Hero Bhavnani, Assimeh. Adisco was brimming with leadership talents. Kudos to Senior Hero Bhavnani for all the sacrifices he made for Adisco, during his term as Chairman of Adisadel Board of Governors. It was a privilege to have met him again at one of the recent Adisco Congresses in Washington during 2006. It was great to see him again at the Centenary week at Adisadel. The 1965 year group is proud to have one of its own, Solomon “*Gbene*” Abam Quartey as the Chairman of Adisadel Board of Governors. We wish him success, and we all stand ready to chip in to help maintain the high standards that have served Adisco so well in the past.

## **GIVING CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE II: THE FRENCH CLUB.**

To quote again Ateks Ebbe: *“How could one possibly forget the teaching of French by the French-Canadian Teachers Mr. and Mrs. Bulliard, and the imbibing of that beautiful tongue by the likes of Dr. Kwaku Sampson( of blessed memory), Owusu Mensah, Victor Essien, myself(Ateks Ebbe), Ebo Richardson and many others? “*

The French Club even performed French plays in the Caterbury Hall at Adisadel, which were open to the public. The famous French author, Moliere’s “Le Medecin Malgre Lui”, was performed completely in French, starring, Robert Baafi, Karikari, K.A. Sampson and Ebo Richardson. The Adisadel French Club members regularly won regional( Cape Coast Schools) competitions, as well as national French speaking and reading competitions usually conducted in the French Department at the University of Ghana, Legon.

The Club members exchanged excursion visits with a Secondary School in Lome, Togo, a Francophone country. During one such excursion trip to visit and interact with a French Lycee in Lome, a hilarious football match produced a lopsided results of : Lome 11, Adisadel French Club 0. Aparently, the Adisadel French Club had forgotten to bring along to the excursion in Lome, the official full Adisadel College Football Team!

## **SPORTS, THE MOTHER OF PERFECTION IN THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE.**

It has often been said, that no human activity shapes human character, develops and inculcates leadership skills better than sports. So, as a befitting tribute to Sports and Leadership at Adisadel in the 1960s, I was lucky to have received some correspondence recently from Andrew Sam( reproduced below in bold italics), Class of 1967, Quaque House( of course!), who excelled in sports like no other( Victores Ludorum 1967, 1968, 1969. So, in the words of one of their own, the class of 1967, the class that produced Sir Dr. Sam Jonah; the class that produced Reindorf B. Perbi( Adisco Head Prefect, 1969, Head of Audit, Risk Management and Training, KPMG, Accra), what follows( the quotation in bold italics) is for all of you and all those 1960s Adisco students.

***“... And yes indeed I am the Sam, the athlete. I left England in 1995 to work in Community Development in Francophone West Africa then in California (Monrovia and Pasadena) with World Vision.***

***I am permanently based in Ghana now since 2003 and still in Sports. I was CEO of Goldfields Football Club at Obuasi then Deputy Chief Operations Officer for the African Cup of Nations 2008 Football Tournament. I run a football club now, FC Barbarossa, and screens over 60,000 kids every year to provide a few with Football Scholarships in Europe, Middle East and South America..***

***My mates in Quaque were BK Owusu, the late Amarlai Adom, Megbetor, Quaye, Hagan, Philip Okunor, Antwi, Djobeng, etc. Sam Jonah, Perbi, Bentsi-Enchill, Tachie Menson, Awotwi, Gyamfi, Duncan were mates from other houses. Yes we are quite a dynamic group as we are probably the only year group that continues to meet regularly on each first Friday of every month.***

***Some of the Sports Heroes of the 60s include Aninakwa (Seraphino), Osei (Ahey), Ampim (Chana Pozo); all athletes from Quaque and were my seniors. Then there were others like: the late Moore (Scipio of Aglionby) for hockey and football, Solomon of Elliot for Hurdles, Nyamekye of Canterbury for Hockey and Football, Ken Ampratwum of Canterbury for Hurdles, Barnor (Jubilee), Tagoe (Elliot), Ayetey (Jubilee) for Cricket, Fokuo of Hamlyn 1966 (Sprints and Triple/Long Jump); Sogah (Jubilee) for shot put and discus, and a few younger ones like Atuahene (Knight 1968 sprints), Baiden (Knight 1968 Sprints). Of course the late Nii Akwei Ankrah for Javelin, Hockey and Football.”***

## **THE ADISADEL CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS, JULY 12-18, 2010, CAPE COAST.**

Great and distinguished academic institutions are known and defined by two attributes: 1)The School’s outstanding human and material resources, most notably its teachers , and 2)The quality of its Alumni and the bond that exists between the Alumni and the School.

The author encountered many 1960s Santaclausians in Cape Coast during the Centenary week (July 12-18) at Adisadel. They were there to provide a strong visual, vocal, moral and material support to Adisadel. Above all, they had come to support the extremely important national mission of educating the citizens of Ghana. The Centenary Celebration was, first and foremost, a salute to the triumph of education, and to Adisadel as one important piece in the educational puzzle in Ghana!

Lots of pictures of the Centenary week's events and personalities can be found at the Website:

[www.adisadelcollege.net/centenary.htm](http://www.adisadelcollege.net/centenary.htm).

Without doubt, Santaclausians generally regarded participation in the multi-year pre-centenary planning and the year-long centenary celebrations as important demonstration and affirmation of the strength of the bond between themselves and their Alma Mater, Adisadel College. There were Centenary Floats through the Capital City of Accra. 'Centenary Lecture Series' were held in Accra and Cape Coast. Several fundraising events took place, including a large Fundraising/Dinner Dance in Accra in March 2010.

Led by the Adisadel Old Boys Association( AOBA), Santaclausians throughout the world, most notably in the United State of America (whose executive members are: George Arthur, Edward Quartey, Kojo Ocran , George Gyamfi, Frank Indome, Sammy Jacobs Abbey, Tajudeen Abubakar and Prince Mensah), in the United Kingdom (whose executive members are: Joe Wryter, Herbert Bukari, James Mercer, Albert Koranteng and Dr. Ambrose Togobo), as well as within Ghana itself, held several events. These were fundraising events and pre-centennial Alumni 'Congresses' which took place during all four-to-five years preceding 2010, the centenary year. The annual AOBA Congress in the United States, was a four-day weekend affair. It was held during the last weekend in May, which is a long holiday weekend, the Memorial Day Weekend in the US. There was reception and socializing on Friday night, an all-day deliberations and fundraising on Saturday followed by Dinner-Dance-Fundraising on Saturday night. Sunday was for Cement Party and Monday was for a BBQ and Soccer Match, usually with Mfantsipim Boys.

The grand finale of centenary celebrations was the centenary week of July 12-18 at the School, in Cape Coast. The excitement and activities peaked at the weekend. There was colorful Durbar and Dinner-Dance on Saturday, Thanksgiving Service, Cement Party and a Global AOBA Congress on Sunday. More on these culminating activities later. But first, a description of some 'scenes, personalities and happenings' as seen through the eyes of this author is in order.

I arrived in Cape Coast, at the Adisadel College Campus, on Tuesday afternoon, July 13. I was privileged to have been met by the Headmaster, Mr. Graham, and the Chairman of the Adisadel Board of Governors, Mr. Abam Quartey, my 1965 classmate. Because prior reservation had been made on my behalf (courtesy of the Headmaster), I immediately checked into 'The Cape Coast Hotel'. Sporting the name of its city, the hotel sits right along the Cape Coast-Takoradi Bypass (a 50 mph-type highway), very close to the Adisadel Campus.

The hotel was quite decent and within walking distance to the campus. However, without sidewalks on the highway, trying to walk to campus from the hotel, something I had eagerly looked forward to, turned out to be a rather unadvisable proposition, because of the speeds of passing motor vehicles. Furthermore, the intersection of that Highway and the rather busy Mercer Gate east entrance to Adisadel could use traffic lights to improve safety for drivers and pedestrians alike.

That same Tuesday evening, I was overjoyed to have met, for the first time, Frank Indome, Class of 1980, currently living in the city of Winnipeg, Canada, in the Province of Manitoba, and the Webmaster for the Adisadelonline website (the AOBA Website). He was staying at the same hotel. I had been aware of his masterful performance vis-à-vis the science and technology of Webmastership, as it applied to the AOBA website. Needless to say I was excited to meet him. We had a very pleasant and animated conversation. We

were eagerly anticipating all the coming activities and the arrival of Santaclausians (especially those we had not seen for 30 or more years, and in my case, for 40 or more years), later in the week!

I spent part of Wednesday morning in the Administration building visiting and greeting the Adisadel College Administrative personnel, the Headmaster (Mr. H. K. K. Graham), Assistant Headmaster (Mr. Joseph B. Opare), and several other personnel. They all looked very gracious, busy and full of enthusiasm about the School and the celebrations. I then went up to the new Adisadel College Guest House (newly constructed, and designed to serve as very convenient alternative to the hotels and Guest Houses in the Adisadel vicinity). It stands right next to the Acropolis (the Headmaster's Residence).

There, it was my privilege to have met Col. (Rtd.) Kwasi Opon, Class of 1960 and a member of the Adisadel Board of Governors. I also met Anum Telfer, an artist, and the leader and director of the art and photo exhibition that had been set up all week in Canterbury Hall.

For most of the Wednesday afternoon, on the School's sports field in Katanga, there were soccer championship competition matches and athletic races among the Houses. There, I participated and witnessed quite a reunion. There was Wilmot, fellow Quaquarian, and Chintoh, both of whom had come from Toronto, Canada. The last time I had seen those two was in 1988 in Toronto. I was even more thrilled to learn that their fellow 'Toronto and Canadian resident', the Great Rickey Telfer (I last saw him too in Toronto in 1988), and John Djokoto (had not seen him since 1967 when I left Adisadel) were in town.

Several months earlier, when the CPC published the centenary week's daily schedule of events, I knew that one entry on the program of activities was of most interest to me. For me, what had been billed as "GOSPEL NIGHT" for Wednesday evening, 6:30pm-9:30pm, could not come soon enough. I had anxiously hoped that it would be a broad-based Choral extravaganza, encompassing traditional up-tempo and rhythmic Ghanaian gospel and folk choral tunes, as well as other indigenous Ghanaian-inspired Church music compositions.

And when it came, it did not disappoint. It was exactly what I was yearning for and expected. A temporary stage had been erected near the stairs to Canterbury Hall. It was about twenty yards directly opposite the shining and newly refurbished Clock Tower. The newly installed Clock, its installation and Tower refurbishing were all sponsored by the U.K.-based Adisadel Old Boys Association).

The audience was seated opposite the stage, as well as to its left and right, in the open space. The members of the audience represented Santaclausians of all age groups and year groups. They were most delighted when the M.C., Seth Dzordzorme, in making encouraging gestures for the crowd to get up and dance, referred to them as "the ancient" (presumably the pre-1960s year groups), "the old" (arguably the pre-1990s year groups), and the "modern" (the 21<sup>st</sup> century crowd). Seth Dzordzorme did a very fine job as M.C. for all the week's activities.

Legendary Paa Kolo (former Headmaster Mr. R. T. Orleans-Pobee) himself, "was in the house". He and his family had traveled from Accra that same day, and had just arrived at Adisadel around 7:00 PM, also at the "The Cape Coast Hotel". Even though it was beginning to get a little late, apparently nothing was going to stop him from going up to the venue to enjoy the evening's Choral music show.

All who knew former Headmaster Orleans Pobee, were keenly aware of the passion with which he promoted music at Adisadel. After all, he was the consummate Cheer Leader and Patron of the Adisadel Orchestra, Jazz

Band, and Choir of the 1960s and early 70s. He was the Headmaster then, and it was by his urging, guidance and nurturing that these rare musical gems (Orchestra, Jazz, Choir Clubs) of Ghanaian Secondary Schools had been formed at Adisadel in the mid-1960s.

The groups performing that evening, the Oguaa Youth Choir, the Voices of Canterbury, and the Adisadel College Band thrilled the crowd by their performances of a wide range of Ghanaian gospel and choral tunes. As the tempo of the music picked up, the MC challenged the “ancient” and the “old” Santaclausians to “rise up” and put on display their dancing skills. Said Santaclausians most enthusiastically accepted the challenge. They wanted to show the “modern” folks that their elder brethren still possessed the ‘can-do’ Adisadel trait, and that the “never-say-die” Adisadel Spirit was still shining brightly, as expected.

Soon, a long and meandering line of Santaclausian dancers, some in their 70s, 60s, 50s, 40s, and 30s, led confidently by none other than the Chairman of the Adisadel Board of Governors, Mr. Solomon Abam “Gbene” Quartey( Class of 1965), were energetically dancing their way majestically and beautifully in a perfectly choreographed manner. The younger crowd was ecstatic. The Choir and musicians performing on stage were electrified. The “ancient and old” Santaclausians were amazed at themselves. The author of this article held his own on the dancing floor. And a good time was had by all!

The rest of the week’s events also went very smoothly. Thursday evening’s planned High-life, Jazz, and Hip-Life performances by Santaclausian musicians (veterans and current) was abbreviated due to logistics problems. However, Hip-Life musician and Rap Artist, ‘Wanlov Kubolor’, saved the evening with a brilliant and captivating performance of his song, ‘Adisco Brodda’, and other songs from the Adisadel Centenary Music CD, ‘HAIL ADISCO!’

The centenary music’s two-CD package is advertised for sale on the following Website:

[www.adisadelonline.net/centenary\\_music\\_album.htm](http://www.adisadelonline.net/centenary_music_album.htm)

An early Friday morning (dawn) Route March by the Cadet Corps, was followed later in the morning with the commissioning of The new Mercer Gate, east. Later in the day on Friday, a parade from Cape Coast town center to Adisadel and a bonfire ended the day.

Saturday morning saw the pomp and pageantry of a Traditional Ghanaian Durbar and Awards ceremony. It was star-studded and characterized by the presence of many dignitaries, most notable among them, His Excellency the President of Ghana, Prof. John Evans Atta-Mills, The Guest of Honor, the Akyempemhene of Asante (representing the Asantehene, Otumfuo Osei Tutu II), The Oguaaahen, Osabarima Kwesi Atta II, Most Rev. Dr. Justice Akrofi, Bishop of Accra, His Excellency Ebenezer Begyiina Sekyi Hughes, former Speaker of Parliament of Ghana, and Keynote Speaker, Sir Dr. Sam Jonah.

Awards were given to a number of people for financial contributions to Adisadel and for distinguished careers and service to Adisadel. In the evening, a very fun-filled, full capacity room, Dinner-Dance took place. It was highlighted by lots of good food and beverages, as well as a classic and memorable performance by acclaimed veteran Ghanaian High-Life musician, Pat Thomas.

Sunday morning saw another full-capacity attendance at the Thanksgiving Service in the multi-purpose room, the Principal Celebrant being Rt. Rev. D. S. A. Allotey, Diocesan Bishop of Cape Coast. The Guest Preacher was Rt. Rev. Abraham Kobina Ackah, Bishop of Wiawso Diocese. Gifts of Adisadel Centenary cloth stoles were presented to all the Celebrant Bishops for their service to the Anglican Church and Adisadel College.

A specially commissioned Adisadel centenary cloth had been printed for sale. As a result, there was a particularly remarkable and very moving atmosphere at the Sunday morning's Centenary Church Service. Santaclausians, spouses, parents, children, siblings, friends.... many were looking quite resplendent in their Adisadel Centenary clothing (Men's' full length cloths, Women's kaba and skirt, Agbadas and Joromi shirts, men's shirts, all cut from the Adisadel centenary cloth!).

After the Church service, the traditional Adisadel "Cement Party"( the serving of gari( roasted dried cassava cereal) mixed with water, milk and sugar) took place. At the cement party, also held in the same multi-purpose room, the decade-year groups of Santaclausians were recognized. First, the 1940s decade-year group was recognized. There was one person in that group, Mr. Charles K.B. Tachie-Menson (Adisadel class of 1940). It was a very heart-warming scene, seeing how strong, and sprightly he walked around the room, as the crowd cheered him on. All the decade groups were recognized, the 1940s, 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, 2000-2009.

At the cement party, an award was unveiled by the Sekyi Hughes family. The family has endowed a yearly financial award for student academic excellence. Also, a set of Sports equipment and jerseys, donated by William Amoako-Atta (Aglionby Class of 1968) was received by the Headmaster on behalf of the school.

Later on Sunday afternoon, at 3:00 PM, a wrap-up, second session of the Adisadel Old Boys Association (AOBA) Global Congress was held in the St. Nicholas Chapel. A first session of the Global Congress was held earlier in the week on Thursday afternoon. Both sessions were moderated by George Arthur (Ebiradze House 1983), President of AOBA in the US.

## **OBSERVATIONS ON THE SUBJECT OF 'GIVING BACK' TO ONE'S ALMA MATER.**

A crucial aspect of the bond between the Alumni of an institution and the institution is the degree to which the Alumni, in their numbers, engage in the age-old practice of regularly or periodically 'giving back' to the school, in eternal appreciation for what the School 'gave' them in their student days, and helped them become who they are, later on in life..

In the United States of America, a recent 'Associated Press' news organization's on-line article written by Sharon Theimer and captioned, "Harvard Law's \$476 Million Dean, Elena Kagan", commented on the prolific fundraising (from Harvard Law School Alumni and non-Alumni alike) by former Harvard Law School Dean, Elena Kagan. At the time the article appeared, Elena Kagan had been nominated by President Obama( subsequently confirmed by the US Senate) to be an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. As Dean of Harvard Law School, Elena Kagan had raised a record \$476 million dollars for Harvard Law School.

The article quoted a statement by a successful Harvard Law School Alumnus, David Mandelbaum, a trustee of real estate giant Vornado Realty Trust, and part owner of the Minnesota Vikings football team, describing Elena Kagan's fundraising approach and her view of the Alumni 'give back' concept:

***“..... and basically indicated to us that we benefited from the Harvard Law School education and those of us who could should be able to pay back and give a future generation the kind of education we had.”***

Since leaving Adisadel, the Santaclausians of the 1960s era, just like their counterparts from other decade, have given back to their Alma Mater in a variety of ways. Prominent among the gifts is **Jonah House**, the dormitory block built and donated by Sam Jonah in honor of his late father, Thomas Jonah. A new '**James Mercer Gate**', constructed on the western side of the campus, was donated by the 1968 year group. It was commissioned during the Centenary week in July 2010.

Also, as has been described earlier, Sam Mensah, John Djokoto, and Ricky Telfer donated a full set of musical instruments – drums, congas, keyboards, lead guitar, bass guitar, trumpet, trombone, alto and tenor saxophones, full backline, PA system with monitors – to the school during the 2007 Speech Day.

In 1992, the 1967 year group established a computer center at the school. Santaclausians from the 1960s have joined other year groups in the refurbishing and renovation of class rooms and dormitories. All the Adisadel year groups have pitched in to improve and maintain the school's infrastructure, its educational mission, as well as its human and material resources, as described below.

The 1975 Adisadel year group sponsored and paid to add an extension to the Administration building. The 1983 year group paid for a 'Cold Store' for the school. The 1978 year group provided the water tanks for the Houses. The 1985 year group paid for a major renovation and re-roofing of the dining hall. And the 1979 year group paid for the first Mercer Gate( the James Mercer Gate on the western entrance to the school).

Santaclausians from the 1960s played many leadership roles in planning and executing the Adisadel Centenary Celebrations of 2010. Documentation published by the Centenary Planning Committee (CPC) at the website:

[www.adisadelcollege.net/docs/centenaryfunddonors.pdf](http://www.adisadelcollege.net/docs/centenaryfunddonors.pdf)

shows the **complete list of all the people, as reported by the Centenary Planning Committee**, who donated money towards “ the College's centenary activities”. Those who contributed amounts that were GHc 300 or higher were recognized and honored with various **“Fellowship Awards”**: ([www.adisadelcollege.net/centenary\\_awards.htm](http://www.adisadelcollege.net/centenary_awards.htm) ) at the Centenary Durbar on Saturday, July 18, of the Centenary week.

The seven Fellowship Award designations and their corresponding “minimum donation” amounts were: Awotwi(300), Orleans-Pobee(500), Drury(1000), Knight(2000), St. Nicholas(3000), Hamlyn(5,000), Adisadel(10,000)

The Fellowship Awardees and their corresponding donation amounts, in brackets, were: ( unless otherwise stated, donated amounts shown in brackets are in Ghana New Cedis(GHc), (\$) is for donation made in US Dollars) :

Mr. P.K. Amoabeng( 21,766.37), Dr. Sir Sam Jonah ( 20,100.00), Ernest Brdiako(20,000.00), Kennedy Agyapong( 15,000.00), Mike Krakue( 15,000.00), J. Nicco Annan( 13,200.00), John Mercer( 7,065.00), Maj. Gen. Richardson Baiden ( 5,500.00), Godfred Otuteye( \$5,000.00), ‘Obuasi Old Boys’( 4,489.15), Herbert Osei-Baidoo( \$3,000.00), Joe William Amissah Jr.( 3000.00), E.T. Tagoe ( 2,500.00), Frank Addo ( 2,300.00), Emmanuel Ohene Opare(2,000.00), SANTA 60/62( 2,000.00), P.K. Acheampong( 1,950.00), Reindorf Perbi( 1,900.00), Kojo Yankah(1,500.00), Dr. Aryeh( 1,200.00), Dr. S. Y. Bimpong-Buta (1,100.00), Harold Otabil( 1,100.00), Yaw Opoku Atuahene( 1,100.00).

The following 6 individuals donated GNC 1000.00 each: The 1970 year group, J.M. Ayithey, Kwasi Tumi, Prince Ackuaku, Prof. Seth Ayettey, Hero Bhavnani. The next 16 Fellowship awardees were: Clement Entsua-Mensah(900), Dr. Kwesi Hanson(800), Seth Dzordzorme(700), Ateks Ebbe(600), Dr. Albert Ebo Richardson(\$500), E.E. Ackah-Yensu(500), Ebo Daniels(500), George Tenkorang(500), Michael Awuku(500), Stephen Kyerematen(400), Sam Sangmor(400), William Swatson(400), Speakers’Lunch Silver Collection(393), Dr. S.A.K. Forson(350), Dr. K.A. Banson(300), Prof. Amoono Kuofi(300), S.T. Adjaottor(300).

The CPC’s list of **all donors** shows some 170 plus individuals and groups who donated various amounts ranging from GHc 10.00 up to the highest amount of GHc 21,766.37. More than 90 people donated about GHc100.00 each. Some 40- plus individuals contributed amounts ranging from GHc 200.00 to GHc 900.00

Adisadel College was founded in 1910 by the ‘Society for the Propagation of the Gospel(SPG)’, an Anglican Missionary group from England. For a history of the school, please refer to Rev. Prof. John S. Pobe’s book: “**Adisadel On The Hill—The Story(1910-2010)**”, published by Sam-Woode Ltd., 2010, Naturally, the school was initially named: SPG Grammar School. Therefore, believing that Santaclausians cherish the education Adisadel gave us, we remind ourselves of part of a quote from the Book of St. Luke: 12:48

***“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required; and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.”***

In his invited Commencement address at Harvard University in June 2007(referring here to the speech as provided in the on-line version of the ‘HARVARDgazette’ magazine), Bill Gates, the Founder of Microsoft corporation, used a version of the above admonition that had been given him by his mother. It said:

**“From those to whom much is given, much is expected.”**

Gates then went on to provide his own take on the maxim. He told the Harvard graduating class:

**“When you consider what those of us here in this Yard have been given – in talent, privilege, and opportunity – there is almost no limit to what the world has a right to expect from us.”**

And so it is that when one becomes aware of the story recounted in this paper about the tremendous successes of the 1960s Santaclausians, many individuals, Alumni and non-Alumni alike, Ghanaians and non-Ghanaians, have voiced concerns, to the hearing of this author:



*“ that for a generation, the vast majority of whom appear to have achieved such high levels of professional success, it would have been mighty nice if one were to see on the Adisadel campus a few more significant infrastructural entities designated as gifts from various Santaclausians of the 1960s era. For example, if much larger numbers of individual donors had answered the call, the CPC’s original proposal to erect a Centenary Resource Center with an additional one or two more facility provision than only an Auditorium, as is currently being constructed and paid for by Ghana government funds, might have been possible. ”*

Hopefully, we can all agree that it is never too late. There is always tomorrow. Better late than never.

## **CONCLUSION AND SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE CENTENARY WEEK.**

The overall atmosphere at Adisadel during the centenary week was refreshingly and assuredly fraternal. The level of camaraderie was high. There were no ‘Seniors’, ‘Juniors’ or ‘Hommos’. All were viewed as members of one happy Santaclausian family.

For example, in my case, a ‘Small Boy’ like me, class of 1965, found myself conversing comfortably with venerable early 1960s groups and ‘Seniors’ like Senior Owusu Renner, Head Prefect Dennis( 1963 Head Prefect), Senior James Mercer, Senior Bhavnani (past Adisco Chairman of the Board of Governors). And also since I was Head Prefect in 1967, I had Santaclausians 6 years my Junior coming up proudly and self-assuredly to me to offer their greetings. And I gladly reciprocated. Of course, it did not hurt that my younger brother, Dr. P.K. Richardson (class of 1971, Ebiradze House Prefect 1973) was there. He would regularly bring his classmates and entourage around to pay me homage. I did not complain one bit. Not at all.

Then there was the fact that my senior brother, Thomas Richardson (Class of 1963, Knight House Prefect 1965), also was there. I would take advantage of him to walk up to his classmates, the ‘Big Boys’ (Bhavnani and Co.) so as to acknowledge their seniority.

It was a blessing to see former Biology teacher Mr. Culain Morris( Biology Teacher in the mid-1960s) and Reindorf Perbi. The three of us exchanged greetings and reminisced a little bit about Adisco in the 1960s. It was great, all around.

There was Dr. Kweku Ghartey-Sam (1981 year group, 1983 Head Prefect), who asked somebody to point me out to him ( his Winneba family has an extended family relationship to my wife). It was a very pleasant and comfortable first-time meeting. Everybody seemed genuinely happy to be there, to see and be seen, as they say. I bet even ‘Hollywood USA ‘ would have been impressed.

And then there was the 1963 year group, some of whom came down well organized as a group. A few of them were staying at the Cape Coast Hotel. They had apparently brought their kenkey from Accra. And on one of the mornings, while I was trying to find out what type of breakfast was on the hotel restaurant’s menu, the 1963 group members were already settled down in the hotel’s outdoor covered patio feasting on some sumptuous kenkey and fish and ‘shitor’ (pepper). I was extremely jealous! I also heard they ‘dined’ on Omo tuo on Sunday morning. How nice!

But, luckily, I was able to salvage my own situation. My wife and I found out that the Cape Coast Hotel restaurant had excellent Fanti kenkey and Fried Red Snapper( I think the Fantis call the fish ‘Wiwrew’) on its menu for lunch and dinner. And so, I am happy to report that for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, we ordered Fanti Kenkey and Fried fish and ‘shitor’ for lunch and dinner, all three days! Just wonderful! If you are baffled about this, please know that I live in Chico, a university town.

Even though a lot of people came for the centenary celebration, the peak days were the Saturday and the Sunday. I only wish people had arrived on campus at least one or two days earlier, say on Wednesday or latest Thursday. There were so many people I would have loved to spend a little longer time to reconnect with. If many people feel the same, then please vote yes for the proposal of calling a “Santaclausian Home Coming”( Friday through Sunday of Speech Day Weekend in March) **every two years.**

The four-to-five year planning for the Adisadel Centenary celebration and the almost year-long celebrations have practically ended. The party appears to be over, and the lights have been turned off. But, for the hundreds and thousands of the Santaclausian faithfuls, our work is far from done. It is on-going. And so, to help us “rise up” and rekindle our zeal, we shall invoke our lovely Adisadel Centenary Anthem---composed by Ricky Telfer (class of 1965, of course!) ---and as presented on the Adisadel Website”:

[www.adisadelcollege.net/centenary.htm](http://www.adisadelcollege.net/centenary.htm)

And here is to hoping that, if you are a Santaclausian, then you will actually sing along as you read through the beautiful lyrics.

### **Adisadel Centenary Anthem**

**Adisadel College, you're a century old  
We tip our hats to you  
We your sons unite,  
Celebrate all night  
And to thank the Lord above  
He has aided you  
To have come this far  
Do go on for years to come  
Santaclausians, rise up  
Show your pride.  
Adisadel forevermore.**

***We will beat the drum  
Sing songs of joy  
As we dance and jubilate  
We'll keep praying for God's helping hand  
On all who pass through your gates.***

**He has aided you  
To have come this far  
Do go on for years to come  
Santaclausians, rise up  
Show your pride.  
Adisadel forevermore.**

And so, to all those Masters, Teachers, and Anglican Fathers who gave so much to Adisadel, We say... Cheers!, and Thanks! With the passing of more than 40 years, this relatively brief article developed within rigid constraints of time, has made it impossible to cite the names of all the numerous people who more than deserve to be mentioned in any attempt to tell the story of Adisco, no matter how brief. And for that I apologize profusely, and I am solely responsible for any errors of omission or commission. At this very moment, I do not remember the names of all the wonderful teachers who taught me and my class mates or whose contributions I was simply privileged to have observed. All the same, I will venture a few names, not in any particular order, and where I do not remember the name, I will use the affectionate nick-name ( and please forgive the possibility of wrong spelling of any names):

**Headmasters:** T.J. Drury, R.T Orleans-Pobee, C.K. Owusu;

**Anglican Rev. Fathers:** Godwin, Warmoll, Gillett, Aggrey.

**Teachers, Masters and Housemasters:** Alan Frostick, Cooper, Duncan (Math Teacher), Essah, Abbey, Alphonse Bulliard, Mbeah, Oza, Godfrey, 'Paa Rosh and Maa Rosh', Onumah, 'Carpenter', Woode, Prof. Agbodeka( later of Cape Coast University), M.M Moody, R.R. Ramdas, Kisiedu,. Good Heavens, there have been so many wonderful people at Adisco. God bless Adisco.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

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The author would also like to express his sincere gratitude to Jose Nicco-Annan (Chairman of the Adisadel Centenary Planning Committee), and the Centenary Lecture Series Planners, for inviting me to present an earlier and shorter version of the material in this paper. I also thank the Chairman of the Adisadel Board of Governors (Mr. Abam Quartey), the Legendary former Adisadel Headmaster (Mr. R. T. Orleans-Pobee), and Mr. Reindorf B. Perbi (1969 Adisadel Head Prefect), for encouraging me to expand and adapt this material for presentation as part of the Centenary Committee's plan for "telling the Adisco story", as well as for its general publication. I am grateful to Fellow Santaclausians: Sam Mensah, Andrew Sam and Ateks Ebbe for allowing me to quote some of their personal communications and materials.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY: DR. ALBERT O. EBO RICHARDSON**

Dr. Richardson is currently, a tenured Full Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Coordinator of the Computer Engineering Program at the California State University, Chico.

He has a B.S. in Engineering and Applied Science from Yale University, an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from The Case Institute of Technology of the Case-Western Reserve University, and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University.

He has worked as Engineer and Senior Engineer for Polaroid Corporation, Waltham, Massachusetts, and Digital Equipment Corporation, Maynard, Massachusetts, respectively. He has more than thirty publications, and has presented numerous papers at conferences in the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico and South Africa. His research activities and awards have included two Summers of Research as NASA/ASEE Summer Faculty Fellow at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, 1995 and 1996. During Summer of 1997, he was Visiting Professor and Researcher at North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota.

Dr. Richardson's awards include a 1994 California State University, Chico's "Professional Achievement Honors". This is **"awarded to Faculty who have brought honor and prestige to the University through research or sponsored projects"**. In addition to English, Dr. Richardson speaks fluent French and has a working knowledge of Spanish.

Dr. Richardson is a member of the 1965 Year Group at Adisadel College, Cape Coast, Ghana. He was a member of Quaque House and was the Head Prefect in 1967. He was born at Assin-Fosu. Before going to Adisadel in 1960, he was educated at the Cape Coast African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AME Zion) school and the Agona-Swedru Methodist School. Some of his elementary school class mates at AME Zion in Cape Coast in the 1950s (all were later to become Santaclausians too, in the 1960s), were: Prof. Amonoo Kuofi, Dr. Joseph Blankson, Mr. Amizang, the late Ebow Mayne, and Mr. Johnnie Asare, great Santaclausians all!