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TABLE OF CONTENTS

OSA COMMUNITY

- 4 BHS School Song
- 6 Corporate Contributors
- 7 Individual Contributors
- 10 OSA Administrative Committee
- 11 OSA Board of Trustees
- 12 BHS OSA Community

BHS OSA ADDRESSES

- 16 H.E. General Emile Lahoud
- 17 H.E. Tammam Salam
- 18 Mr. Nazih Khattar
- 19 Mr. Paul High
- 22 Mr. Hani Aboul Jabine
- 23 Mr. David Gray
- 24 Mr. Pierre Achkar
- 25 Mrs. Dina Bechara

OSA EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR 2019-2020

- 27 The 28th International Convention
- 28 Dinner
- 39 Honouring Ceremony
- 49 General Assembly
- 62 Street Party
- 74 Sports Day
- 84 Kuwait Visit
- 90 UK Get Together
- 98 Jeddah Visit
- 104 Dubai Get Together
- 106 Bahrain Visit
- 108 Riyadh Visit
- 110 Mini Gulf Reunion
- 118 Start Living Right Round Table by Maya Nassar
- 122 Old Scholars Visits

ARTICLES

- 127 John Kirkbright
- 128 Brian Dickson
- 130 Jennifer Jahjah '04
- 132 Maya Nassar '03
- 134 Mona Aswad '94
- 136 Nicolas Saade '68
- 140 Said Hany '63
- 142 Tawfiq Taji '78
- 143 Walid A. Takieddine '58
- 144 Manal El Zoghby '03
- 146 Riad Barraji '70

149-157 CLASS REUNIONS

- 159-164 **A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE**
- 166-169 **BHS BOARDERS : A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER**
- 171-174 **BR1 ACTIVITIES 2019-2020**
- 176 **IN MEMORIAM**
- 177 **EULOGY**
- 179 **SAVE THE DATE**

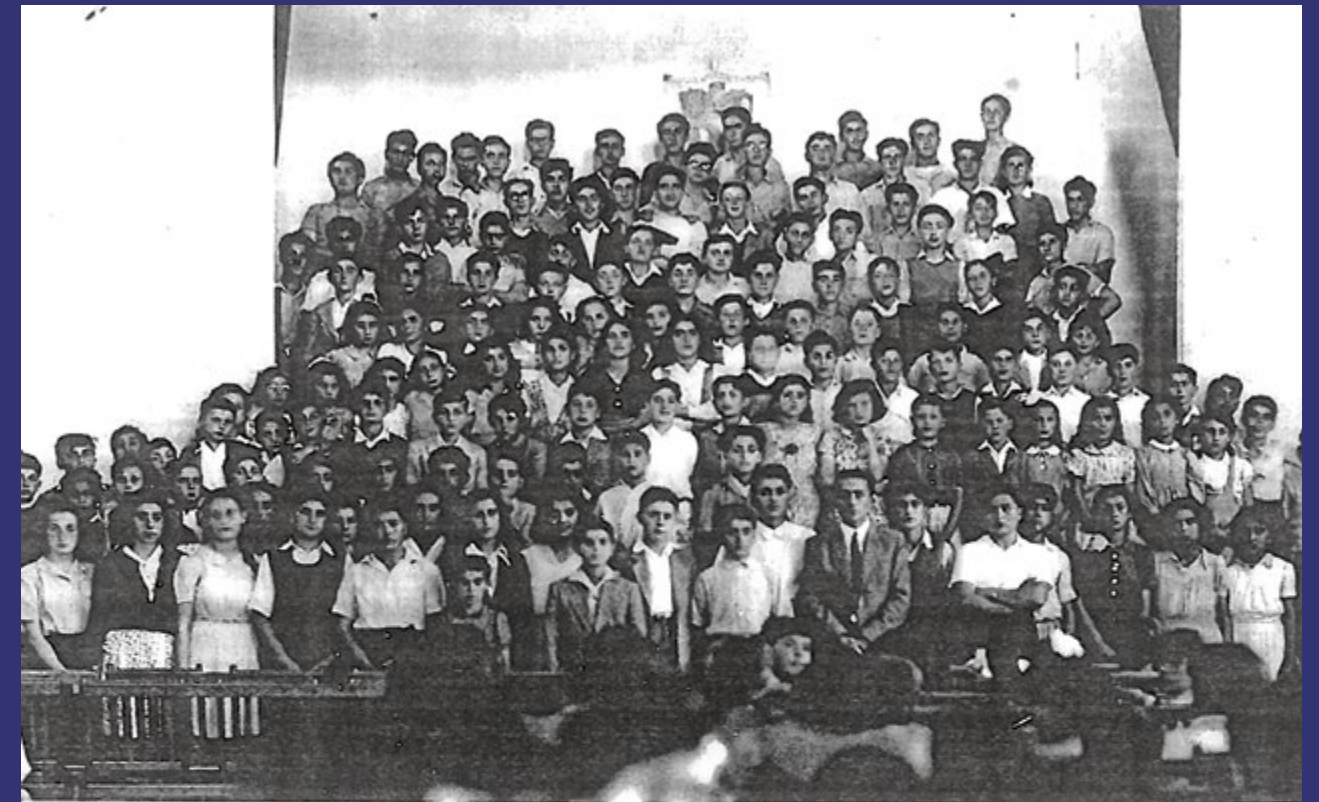
BHS SCHOOL SONG

As I was travelling around the world, I landed in Brazil
And there, I met an ancient friend who loved Brummana still;
'How is the dear old school' he said, 'and is she thriving yet?
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

As I was travelling to New York its wonders for to see
A comrade from Binghampton came and met me on the quay;
'Oh tell me of the school', he cried 'where my affection's set'
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

As I was travelling in the South, I reached Australia's strand
And there a man from Lebanon came up and seized my hand
'I owe Brummana this', he said, 'come let me pay the debt'
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!

As I was travelling around the world, I reached Beirut again
And as I climbed the mountain side, I heard the joyful strain
From all the boys and girls at once: 'Well met, my friend, well met'
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!
Oh, we won't forget Brummana school, and won't let you forget!



The choir picture in
the year 1946.

B.H.S.

By Christopher G. Naish

Tune: The Lincolnshire Poacher

CONTRIBUTORS COMPANIES

CONTRIBUTORS INDIVIDUALS

The OSA wishes to thank all the colleagues and friends who contributed to this yearbook.



- Amin Afifi
- David Abi Hanna
- Ollie Ackley
- Faris Azzawi
- Samih Baki
- Nabil El Mulla
- Said El Naqeeb
- Said Hany
- Ghassan Kabbara
- Amr Khashogji

A small green plant with several leaves is growing out of a mound of dark soil. The soil is being held by several hands of different skin tones, symbolizing unity and growth.

- Nazih Khattar
- Tarek Khouja
- Arfan Malaz
- Carl Richards
- Dimitri Saad
- Nicolas Saade
- Badih Soubra
- Haig Tchamich
- Ali Zabara



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Mrs. Nadine Abdel Khalek Financial Aid & Fundraising Officer

Ms. Yara Shaaya '09 Community & Membership Officer

Mrs. Grace Bader '03 Administrative Officer

Mr. Youssef Abi Haidar IT Manager

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Mr. Abdallah Marafi '06 Deputy Chapter Head, Kuwait

Mr. Mazen Alumran '71 Bahrain

Mr. Shaheen Shaheen '07 Deputy Chapter Head, Bahrain

Mr. Riad Barraj '70 Saudi Arabia

Mr. Firas Al-Shayif '07 Deputy Chapter Head, Jeddah

Mr. Amer El Kurdi '75 UAE

Me. Naji Hawayek '00 Deputy Chapter Head, Dubai

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TBD Syria

The Americas

TBD United States

Mr. Kamal Khoury '92 Canada

Europe

Mrs. Nayla Tawil Cookson '65
United Kingdom

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ADDRESSES

H.E. GENERAL EMILE LAHOUD '53

FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC
OSA HONORARY PRESIDENT

Dear Old Scholars, Class of 2020,

As is the habit this time of the year, I am honoured to address you on your commencement, for the year 2020. A year that started with great promises of change, and morphed into one of uncertainty and challenge.

As I contemplate your hopes and anxieties, I cannot but stand in awe at the prospect of naming you the 'greatest generation ever'. I am fully confident that, from the unprecedented lineup of world crises, you will rise to the challenge and pull through.

Closest to home, the story of Lebanon remains one of anxiety bordering on despair. The story of the People of Lebanon continues to be a tale of hope and resilience ruled by inadequacy, to say the least.

The schism between the People of Lebanon and its leaders is irreparable and the need for a leadership that corresponds to Peoples' aspirations is a prerequisite to the complete overhauling of our system and consequently, the salvation of our country.

Your generation and those that preceded you, are the only hope to extract us from the abyss.

Remember to always find your compass in the deeply entrenched principles of BHS's Quaker heritage, where the 'I serve' guiding principle, should precede all else.



Self-interest brought Lebanon to the edge, but the strength of its people shall walk us back.

Dear Old Scholars; this year, I congratulate you on your graduation and most importantly, I urge you to be part of this 'not-business-as-usual' tempo.

"I Serve"

H.E. TAMMAM SALAM '64

FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC
OSA BoT CHAIRMAN

Once again it gives me pleasure to contribute to the annual BHS OSA yearbook, for it revives in me the good old memories.

If I have to sum up the few years I spent on BHS campus, I would choose the word "healthy", especially in comparison with the prevailing polluted atmosphere of nowadays all over the country.

The "healthy" brotherly relation among the students, the healthy relation with the teachers and administrators, the healthy scholastic activities of all kinds from attending classes to extra-curricular and sports events.

We were provided with mental and physical opportunities to live happily and enjoy every aspect of our boarding days, alongside the day students from Brummana and the surrounding villages.

Classes, dormitories, dining halls and playgrounds were our home away from home.

We certainly could not avoid being naughty, reckless and irresponsible on different occasions, which is normal with teenagers. We were proud and happy to belong and be part of the BHS legacy, and we still are.



We are always willing to contribute to the wellness and success of the educational and national mission of BHS in line with school's motto:

"I Serve"

NAZIH KHATTAR '66

OSA PRESIDENT

As soon as the summer holidays were over, the OSA embarked on a programme to enhance the Gulf network and to promote the Gulf Reunion - Dubai 2020. The idea was to have face-to-face interaction and shake hands with as many members as possible.

A delegation was formed, and visits were scheduled to the membership of the different Chapters in the Gulf region namely Bahrain, Kuwait, Riyadh, Jeddah, and UAE. All the events were successful with participation per event of 15 - 40 Old Scholars from '64 - '09.

On March 2, 2020 unfortunately, we had to cancel the Gulf Reunion - Dubai 2020, due to the prevailing circumstances then, namely the Corona pandemic and the political unrest in Lebanon.

On June 5, 2020 we conducted our first virtual Administrative Committee meeting via Zoom meeting since the Corona pandemic made it challenging to hold meetings physically. During that meeting, we regretfully had to postpone the 29th International Convention for the first time in 29 years. You shall be advised when the new venue and time are set.

It was also decided that all future conferences may be conducted and/or accessible virtually via Zoom to better facilitate access to members who cannot attend in Lebanon, Gulf, Europe & USA.

The Financial Aid Committee worked hard on screening, evaluating, selecting and granting Financial Aid to needy eligible BHS students enrolled in the 3rd term of the academic year 2019-2020. We continue to receive applications for the academic year 2020-2021. It should be noted that the students whose parent/s



are Old Scholars will receive additional points on their evaluation score.

Due to prevailing circumstances of deteriorating economic conditions in the country, there are a lot of families struggling to survive, let alone be able to pay the school fees at BHS. As such, we urge those who want to help by means of donations, to contribute to the OSA Financial Aid Programme in addition to the continuous donations from the OSA Board of Trustees.

Presently, we have over 2700 verified members. To better manage the increasing activities, enhance and encourage participation of the younger Old Scholars, we have appointed 3 new Deputy Chapter Heads in Jeddah-Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Bahrain.

We all miss the 29th International Convention. Looking forward to all of us meeting soon on the BHS grounds when it is safe to do so.

I wish you all a safe, healthy, and peaceful post Corona era (to come soon) and urge you to adhere to the Government's guidelines published from time to time.

"I Serve"

PAUL HIGH

BHS CHAIRMAN OF QUIET

There have probably been very few occasions when the future of the Brummana High School that we all love, has been so much in the balance in its history as it is right now. Brummana and the school were saved from the worst effects of the Great Middle East Famine 1915-18 through the efforts of a caring staff and medical team at the school. Always under threat during the Civil War in Lebanon, the Cultural Society came to the rescue of the school. Today it is the battle with a virus pandemic at a time of exceedingly unstable economic and political activity.

QUIET trustees were sadly unable to visit the school this June, but it was possible for us to meet using the School's Teams network. We heard of the ways in which the school is operating as fully as can be expected under the very professional guidance of the Principal David Gray, the hard work of the Bursar, Raymond Feghali and the technical skill and foresight of Youssef Abi Haidar, Information and Communications Technology Manager. Those efforts have enabled the pupils, their parents and the governing body, to keep in regular contact with the teachers who have done sterling work in covering the growing gap between being physically in class with a group of active learners and distance learning during lockdown, at home.

I know from my own experience with my 10 student grandchildren that so many have missed out this year on testing themselves against the examiners; of uncertainties about where and how they will be offered places to study next year and of course

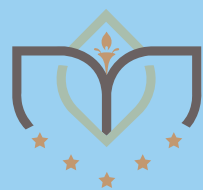


whether the family finances will allow them the opportunity to continue in their present school or their new college and so it is too, for BHS students .

We in QUIET offer former scholars, friends of Brummana, Quakers anywhere, and indeed anyone interested in education in the region, the opportunity to contribute directly to the School's financial aid programme through our bursary campaign. If you live or work outside Lebanon your contribution may be able to attract gift aid. Our treasurer Averil Armstrong at treasurer@quietcharity.co.uk will be pleased to assist any donors.

It is vitally important that Brummana High School remains the rock upon which so many families now depend; on which so many Old Scholars have depended and on which generations of future families in Lebanon and beyond will depend.

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HANI ABOUL JABINE '61

CHAIRMAN OF BHS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

This text was prepared for the 2020 graduation ceremony which did not take place due to the COVID -19 pandemic.

SORRY,

Friends, the truth is, we have failed you and our younger generation, you who will carry our country forward. As it was for me, when my generation graduated, you find yourself in a situation not of your making, but one inherited from those before you. I am not quite sure exactly when, and where we lost our way, but there is no doubt that we have. The forces of greed, division and single-minded selfishness have marred our communities and country, while blinkered and inadequate policy choices have led inexorably to our current economic, societal and environmental woes. There have been wonderful improvements of course, the infrastructure and technological advantages of which we are so proud of here at Brummana High School (BHS), reflect our changing society, but these informational and technological advantages cannot mask the troubling inequalities and communal challenges, that we now face.

Pessimism is not new; many times the light does indeed seem dim. Your parents and grandparents may have personally spoken to you about the many challenging times that we, as a country, have endured. Yet I am heartened and draw strength from the deep belief, that like the BHS community of old, of which I am part of, those of you who prepare to enter a new phase of your lives, do not face these challenges completely unprotected and unarmed. The ethos, values, knowledge and friendships which you have forged here and which BHS



endeavours to nurture; values such as peaceful resolution, tolerance, equality, justice, respect and sustainability are resources that can serve us, our families and our communities. As long as we maintain our promise to honour those values and the friendships that we have built here, we can be a light, not only to ourselves, but to others and perhaps even to our fragile country. My hope, dream and even belief, is that the very real, yet intangible spirit of BHS, allied and infused with the Quaker ethos of stewardship and service, will provide a fertile foundation from which you may flourish moving forward. It is our, and now your duty to take-up the mantle, to learn from our mistakes and utilise them to elevate yourselves. Dare to do better than those who came before you and put right some of our failures, by being better than we were. Keep the precious light and spirit of BHS alive, both in your own lives and for the next generation, so that one day, far from now, one of you, long after I am gone, will find yourself here, telling a new generation of students, how you constructed a new path and encouraging them to look forward to the future. A brighter Lebanon and the Middle East, illuminated by small embers of light, forged here at BHS.

DAVID GRAY

BHS PRINCIPAL

DEAR OLD SCHOLARS,

2019/2020 has been a quite extraordinary year for Brummana High School. It has been punctuated by events completely beyond the school's control which have resulted in a virtual rather than an actual school year. Necessity is, however, the mother of invention and the school has emerged if anything stronger and with an enhanced reputation. Colleagues have got together, worked collaboratively and with a great sense of duty towards the children so that the school year could continue to run in spite of the best efforts of Fate to ensure otherwise. I have admired the spirit of the students too who, in spite of fatigue, have acquired knowledge from their learning experience in an online school, as well as self-knowledge through having to acquire resilience in the face of adversity.

My colleagues were able to set up an online learning environment in the space of about three weeks which might otherwise have taken three years. All staff were trained in working online and we were able to provide full days of teaching for all students in the Upper School, while the Infant Section won national publicity by setting up classes in order to ensure that our youngest children had continued connection with the school through their teachers. In addition to academic learning there was great emphasis on Pastoral care and support. A counselling service was established available to students confidentially and this was widely used as the lockdown progressed.



Fortunately, before the lockdown, several facilities were successfully developed and opened including the multi gym, thanks to the generosity of Mr. Hani Aboul Jabine, our Chairman, and the indoor Sports hall. We hope that we shall be able to open the new football field in September. There is one pre-lockdown memory which is worth recalling. It is of the celebration to recognise the Mother Tree at Brummana High School which stands opposite the Science Building. We have evidence that the Mother Tree was a mature tree overlooking the construction of the school in the early 1870s, and when it was cored it proved to be around 250 years old. It stands as a reminder of the longevity and continuity of Brummana High School but also of the fact that time passes through all crises.

The year ahead for the school is likely to be difficult. We shall need help, and look to our Old Scholars for their assistance as our young people deserve the very best education available. I am indebted to the support of the school's Governing Body and to the enduring commitment of our staff who act in the spirit of the school's motto, "I Serve"

PIERRE ACHKAR

MAYOR OF BRUMMANA

The economic and coronavirus crises, along with an academic year full of disruptions and school closures brought on by the onset of the revolution, has tightened the noose around parents' necks as they struggle to deal with increasingly high tuition fees.

The situation for parents today, and therefore for private schools in Lebanon, can get worse as many have lost their jobs or saw their salaries cut, in addition to the strict banking restrictions, and increasing price of consumer goods witnessed from the last quarter of 2019 to date.

No matter how they are calculated, the reality is that many parents have barely been able to afford their children's tuition fees for several years now.

For the past two years, schools were already facing financial problems because of low enrollment and because parents couldn't afford the tuition, making it difficult for schools to collect tuition fees and pay teachers' salaries. If the situation continues as is without intervention, Lebanon would be in danger of losing one of its main assets and most successful exports: the brains of its well-educated citizens.

Today's economic breakdown has deeply wounded the educational institutions, hence we are concerned with the financial situation of Brummana High School, one of the oldest boarding schools in the area which has attracted over the years, boarding students with exceptional calibers from virtually all parts of the world, because of its prestigious reputation for providing a high quality of education.



The COVID-19 lockdown has made it clear that remote learning is part of the future, and that it will require massive improvements in connectivity, education technology, the digital skills of teachers and many other related investments.

Ensuring that systems are better prepared to continue teaching during school closures and can accelerate learning during the new normal, will require even greater levels of investment.

So it only seems fair and sensible that BHS and the Parents' Association find ways to protect learning and their financing of education, which we believe would be challenging nowadays without the old scholars' assistance.

Therefore, I address all BHS Old Scholars: your financial donations matter since each US dollar "Fresh Money" you transfer would be valued at more than double here.

Don't hesitate to step in and save the situation!

DINA BECHARA

BHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION CHAIRPERSON

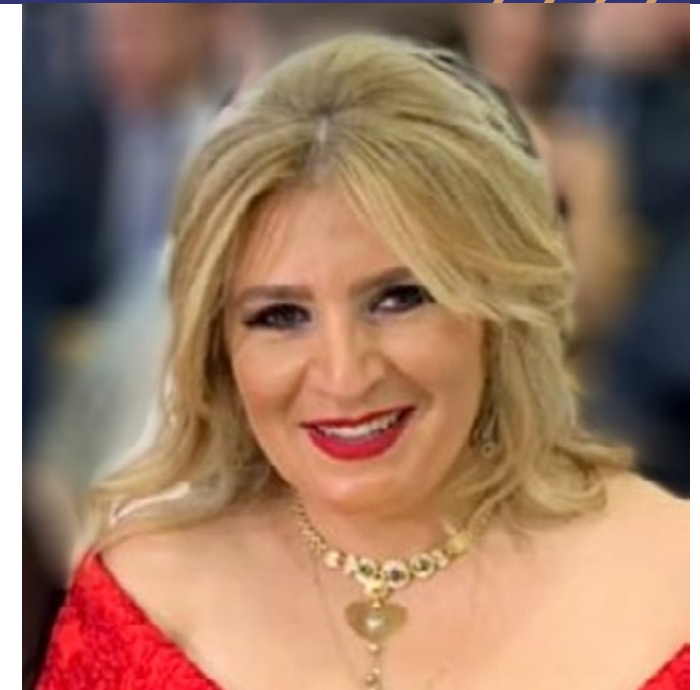
"Keep going, you never know how strong you are until you look back at everything you've overcome".

This year is a tough year globally and especially for Lebanon. Besides the breakdown of COVID 19 that has upended life, dire economic conditions in Lebanon made things worse.

Nevertheless, we as parents, have many challenges to face, real opportunities to seize, and problems to solve. Parents, are now on triple duty—working, parenting and teaching from home—all while striving to keep their household healthy, fed and mentally balanced. May God bless all parents.

The Parents Association of Brummana High School, has a major role which is to maintain strength and bonds between the parents and students, the school and the wide community to prepare them for a bright future. We have continued to fulfill our roles despite the economic crisis and the pandemic.

The school, represented by the Board of Governors, the Principal, the Administration and Staff worked very hard to keep all members safe and healthy, while meeting the educational, as well as the social and emotional needs of all students, educators and families.



To help ease the emerging challenges this pandemic and economic situation, the School Management compiled resources, tools and information to support families and teachers who are navigating working, teaching and learning at home.

This, definitely, was the School's first priority.

Unfortunately, during this year, there weren't any remarkable events. Gatherings were cancelled and our traditional May Festival was postponed till further notice. Yet, we keep high hopes for next year. Always aim higher and success is inevitable.

I would like to grab this opportunity to thank the Old Scholars Association, who are great supporters for parents and students through their academic journey. We are forever grateful!

Always remember that:
"Together we succeed".

OSA EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR 2019 - 2020

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 5, 6 & 7 2019

Last year's OSA 28th International Convention was a fabulous 3-day event filled with fun activities and a multitude of familiar faces.

The Convention commenced on Friday July 5, 2019 at the Grand Hills Hotel & Spa where more than 200 Old Scholars and friends of Old Scholars met around the hotel pool for welcome drinks, catch-ups and socializing. This was followed by a delicious dinner at the Afrah Ballroom, accompanied by live entertainment, courtesy of Christina Haddad and her Musicians along with a DJ who got everyone up on their feet dancing the night away.

During the dinner, the classes of 1969 and 1994 were honoured and awarded for their 50th and 25th Graduation Anniversaries, respectively.



Poolside welcome drinks

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Dinner

The Power of Choice



From L to R : Nelly & Jimmy Joujou, Amin Najjar, Hassan Zaza, Mona Aswad Zaza, Naji Chakhtoura



From L to R : Atallah Atallah, Zaki Farra, Naseir Abadi, Ahmad Barbir, Namaat Totoonchie



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THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Dinner



From L to R : Rudy Abi Lamma, Elham Moukheiber, John Kirkbright, Layla Abi Lamma, Monawar Samuel



Members of the graduating class of '69
From L to R : Nabil Sawabini, Maroun Abou Diwan, Toufic Khoeiry, Gaith Kotob, Saade Chahine, Mezher Mezher and their spouses.



From L to R : Louis Abi Habib, Nazih Khattar, Moheiddine Samadi, Emile Sawaya, Ghassan Jabre, Hani Aboul Jabine



From L to R : Nancy & David Aswad, Mirna & Amer El Kurdi, Tewfik El Far, Linda & Sarmad El Wadi

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Dinner



From L to R : Nassib Solh, Nabil Sabbagh, Charlie Mathias, Mrs. Batrouni, Philippe Salem, Saadeh Rizkallah, Nassif Rizkallah, Edward Srour



From L to R : Naamat Totoonchie, Nasier Abadi, Zeki Farra, Maher Beydoun, Nabil Tohala, Nabil Sawabini, Ahmad Barbir, Majed Beydoun, and their spouses



THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Dinner



At the dance floor



From L to R : Giscard Merhi, Joelle Merhi, Mirielle Azar, Naji Hawayek, Emilie Kanaan Salem, Lana Hawayek, Walid Naddaf



Dancing the night away



From L to R : Fayez El Bizri, Walid Rizk, Nabil El Mulla, Pierre Achkar, Sabah Baz

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Dinner



From L to R : Nabil Tohala, Zeki Farra, Nasier Abadi, Nazih Khattar, Maher Beydoun, Namaat Totoonchie



From L to R : Sabah Baz, Pierre Achkar, Mounir Kharma and spouse, Hilary Baz



Old Scholars in harmony with the singer



From L to R : Samir Azar, Azar Azar & spouse, Jocelynn El Ghouli & spouse, George Obeid & spouse, Dina & Mikhael Bechara



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THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Honouring Ceremony

OSA President Nazih Khattar congratulating the Class of '69
on their 50th graduation anniversary



Maroun Abou Diwan



Elie Abou Jaoude

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Honouring Ceremony



Saade Chahine



Nabil Sabbagh



Gaith Kotob



Mezher Mezher

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Honouring Ceremony



Nabil Sawabini

OSA President Nazih Khattar congratulating the Class of '94 on their 25th graduation anniversary



Imad El Haddad



Toufic Khoueiry



Mona Aswad

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Honouring Ceremony



Karen Ghaoui



Toufic Chaiboub



Muriel Ghaoui



Jimmy Joujou

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Honouring Ceremony



Honouring Ceremony of the Class of '69
From L to R: Nabil Sawabini, Mezher Mezher, Maroun Abou Diwan, Saade Chahine, Gaith Kotob, Elie Abou Jawdeh, Nabil Sabbagh, Toufic Khoueiry



Honouring Ceremony of the Class of '94
From L to R: Muriel Ghaoui, Karen Ghaoui, Mona Aswad, Imad El Haddad, Jimmy Joujou, Toufic Chaiboub



Cutting of the Cakes by President Nazih Khattar and Vice President Naji Chakhtoura for the Graduating Classes of 1969 & 1994



Let the celebrations begin!

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



Saturday July 6, 2019 kicked off with the traditional Saj-Mankoushi breakfast outside the BHS Meeting House, followed by Brummana One Group's official opening ceremony.

The General Assembly commenced around 12:00 pm with updates on the OSA by President Nazih Khattar '66 followed by a speech by Keynote Speaker Me. Nabil Younes '63, a speech by BHS Principal Mr. David Gray, speeches by two of the 2019 Valedictorians – Stephanie Ashkar and Michael Sadek - and finally the financial report by OSA Treasurer, Mrs. Emily Salem '82.

It was heartwarming to see so many Old Scholars – especially young Old Scholars - attending and participating in the 2019 General Assembly!

This year, we organized a fun, informative and nostalgic tour of the school that started right after the General Assembly ended. The tour guides were Mr. Kamal Abou Samra, founder of Brummana Hiking Group and Mr. David Gray.



From L to R : Nabil Younes, Khater Abi Habib, David Gray, Nazih Khattar

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



The Meeting House ready for the OSA General Assembly



From L to R : Serene Musallam, Jimmy Joujou, Kameel Sawaya, Fady Khoury, Edmond Goraieb, Naji Chakhtoura, Naji Younis, Rana Sawaya, Tony Hajj



Old Scholars enjoying a traditional Mankouche breakfast outside the Meeting House



From L to R : Rima Maalouf, Suha Tutunji, Shatha Abu Khalil, Karen Kanaan, David Gray, Karen Koussa, Fabienne Saade, Nancy Najem

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



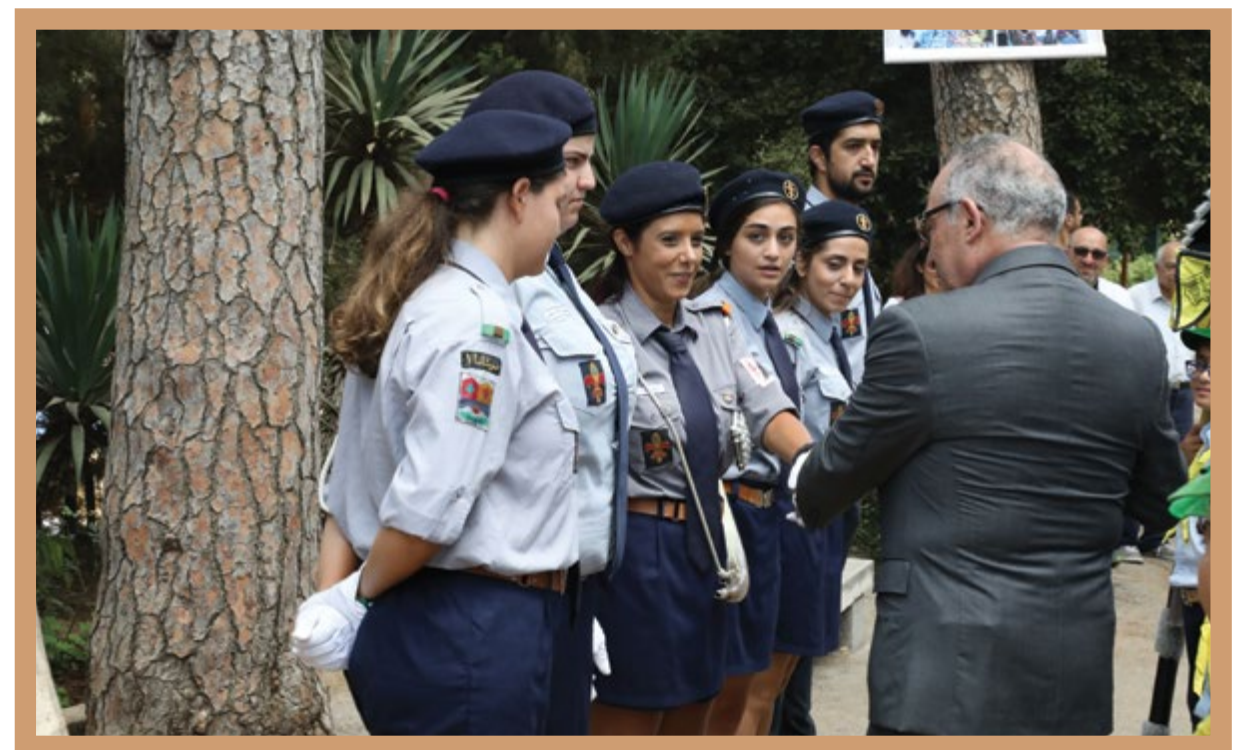
Gathering in front of the Meeting House for the General Assembly



Opening Ceremony by BR1



From L to R : Nathalie Merhi, Serene Musallam, Tarek Baajour, Naji Chakhtoura, Naji Hawayek, Namaat Totoonchie, Nazih Khattar



President Nazih Khattar, former scout Group leader, saluting the BR1 scouts

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



All rise for the School Song



Me. Nabil Younes giving his speech



General Assembly in the presence of BoT member Mr. Nabil AlMulla '68 who came from Kuwait for this special occasion



Record number of attendees at the General Assembly

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



Aerial view of the General Assembly



2019 Class Valedictorian Nathalie Achkar



2019 Class Valedictorian Michel Sadek



BHS principal David Gray giving his speech



President Nazih Khattar presenting David Gray with an award

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



President Nazih Khattar presenting Nathalie Achkar with an award



President Nazih Khattar presenting Michel Sadek with an award



Getting ready for the school tour



28th
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
Old Scholars Association
Brunneria High School
I SERVE

SCHOOL TOUR

6 JULY 2019



1 . Starting point: Friends Meeting House
(Talk about the clock and the bell)



2 . Stop at Science Lab
(Talk about the Plaque)



3 . Visit the '1948' Plaque



4 . Go up the stairs of the Main Teaching Building



5 . Look across the MTB to the Library Bldg
(Discuss the significance of the Lebanese flag there)



6 . Come down the stairs
(Talk about the fountain that was in front of the bookshop)



7 . Visit the bust of Theophilus Waldmeier



8 . Go down the stairs next to the kitchen and tuck shop



9 . Visit the "Cedar in the Rocks"



10 . Visit Farideh Akl Bldg
(The story of Lawrence of Arabia)



11 . Pass through the Lower Elementary court



12 . Visit Dobbing Hall Plaque and the Star of the Quakers



13 . Go up to Ain El Salam



14 . End Point: The Tennis court

School tour flyer

59

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

General Assembly



General Assembly Group Photo

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Street Party

On Saturday July 6, at 8:00 pm, the famous OSA Street Party started and Old Scholars, their families and friends filled the street next to BHS. The street was peppered with a multitude of food stalls and kiosks selling artisanal and handmade products that people could browse through.

The night was packed with live acts and performances such as a marching parade, a belly dancing performance, multilingual singers, a wonderful Brazilian Carnival procession, a fabulous DJ and a breathtaking fire percussions show.

The night ended with a spectacular fireworks show that lit up Brummana's skies making it the perfect finale for a wonderful day.



Aerial view of the OSA Street Party



The OSA Team
From L to R : Serene Musallam Farah, Yara Shaaya, Riad Barraj, Grace Bader



From L to R : Mr & Mrs Naaman Yaseen, Mr & Mrs Muhieddine Samadi

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Street Party



Crowds cheering the parade



Popular singer Wael Mansour serenading the crowd



The much awaited Brazilian Carnival Procession



A wonderful performance by Laury and the band

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Street Party



The wonderful belly dancing performance



Rocking the stage with a breathtaking fire percussions show

IT'S NOT JUST A FRANKFURTER



IT IS



Poppenburger

The Real GERMAN FRANKFURTERS

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Street Party



Crowds enjoying the wonderful ambiance



Elie Abou Jawdeh and his family



From L to R : Juhaina Abi Khalil, Sana Abi Khalil, Jocelyn Kordahi, Suha Chamma, Fadi Khoury



From L to R : Hani Khechfe, Charles Baaklini, Samir Bechara, Edmond Goraieb, Kameel Sawaya, Zeina Saikali, Jocelyn Kordahi, Fady Khoury, Naji Chakhtoura

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Street Party



From L to R : Guest, Dina Bechara, David Gray, Emily Kannan Salem, Marie - Helene Gray



John Kirkbright reconnecting with Riad Barraj



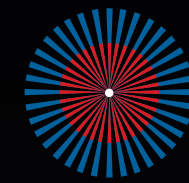
From L to R : Guest, Sabah Baz, Zeki Farra, Namaat Totoonchie, Nazih Khattar, Nasier Abadi, Nabil Tohala



Let the dancing begin

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Street Party



NAZIH TABBARA
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Old Scholars having fun and dancing with the dancer



The OSA Street Party was truly THE event of Summer 2019!



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THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sports Day

Sunday 7 July 2019 was the much awaited Sports Day where more than 100 Old Scholars of all ages met at BHS and enjoyed 4 hours of fun activities.

Member of the OSA Administrative Committee, Mr. Tarek Baajour '66 was the Master of Ceremony and conducted a variety of fun matches that catered to all age groups.

The day kicked off with a basketball match where Rizkallah, Little and Waldmeier Old Scholars battled it out on the famous BHS basketball court.

Meanwhile at the football field, a group of Old Scholars from all age groups played a friendly football match, while another group played table tennis next to the swimming pool.

There was also a backgammon tournament that was going on while children of Old Scholars swam in the freezing BHS pool.

Once the matches finished, OSA President Mr. Nazih Khattar distributed medals to all participants and the day concluded with a delicious lunch at the BHS dining hall.



2019 Valedictorian Michel Sadek scoring a Slam Dunk



Athletes in preparation for the start of the competitions



Little and Waldmeier teams playing Mini Football

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sports Day



Zeki Farra contemplating his next daring move during an exciting backgammon game



OSA Vice President Naji Chakhtoura maneuvering the ball for a two-point shot



Sabah Baz attempting a three pointer shot against the defense



A heated football match underway

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sports Day



Master of Ceremony Tarek Baajour and the table tennis players



Waldmeier Team



Fans cheering their favorite table tennis teams



Rizkallah Team

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sports Day



Group photo of the Table Tennis participants



President Nazih Khattar presenting Rabi Awwad with an Award



From L to R : Nemr Bechara, Sam Makarem, Samir Bechara, Rayan Abi Khalil, George Obeid, Jimmy Joujou, Naji Chakhtoura, Maysa Abi Khalil, Tony Hajj



Cutting the cake in celebration of successfully concluding the 28th International Convention

THE 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sports Day



Sports Day Group Photo

KUWAIT VISIT

November 18, 2019

On November 18, 2019, a delegation from the BHS Old Scholars' Association headed by BHS OSA President Nazih Khattar '66, including Khalid Saab '64, active member of the Board of Trustees, KSA Chapter Head and Head of the Fundraising committee Riad Barraj '70 and our beloved former BHS English teacher and Housemaster John Kirkbright, paid a 3-day visit to Kuwait to strengthen ties between Old Scholars in the region and to discuss fundraising opportunities for the recently established Financial Aid Programme and Endowment Fund.

Old Scholar and BoT member Nabil Al Mulla '68, graciously hosted a dinner at his residence in honour of the visiting delegation, and the dinner was attended by 14 OSA members of the Kuwait Chapter.

It was encouraging to see that 5 young BHS Old Scholars attended the dinner and mentioned that they were seeing each other and catching up with each other from time to time. They also volunteered to support and promote the BHS OSA network, while pledging their commitment to participate in future OSA activities.

The next day, Old Scholar Manaf AlHamad '71, who was unable to attend the dinner the night before, hosted a dinner in honour of the delegation at his residence, where the attendees discussed BHS OSA's activities and he expressed his readiness to contribute to the Endowment Fund.

The trip ended with a delightful lunch at the residence of another Old Scholar Rashad Al Shawwa '73, in honour of the OSA delegation, and in the presence of Kuwait Chapter Head Ramzi Nuseibeh '68. Both Old Scholars expressed their readiness to help raise funds for OSA Financial Aid Programme.



Dinner at Nabil Al Mulla's Residence



From L to R : Abdullah Al Marafie, Sleiman Fahd Al Rashed, Ahmed Khaled Al Khaled, Youssef Jasem Al Fahad, Jarrah Badr Al Babbain



From L to R : Nazih Khattar and Riad Barraj

KUWAIT VISIT

November 18, 2019



From L to R : Khaled Saab, Mahmoud Al Ghanim



From L to R : Ghassan Kabbara, Mohamad Al Sager, Nabil El Mulla, John Kirkbright



From L to R : Ibrahim Qamar, Jimmy Joujou, Muriel Ghaoui



From L to R : Nabil Al Mulla , Rabih Roufayel and Nazih Khattar, deep in conversation

KUWAIT VISIT

November 18, 2019



Manaf Al Hamad welcoming the OSA delegation at his residence in Kuwait



Lunch at Rashad Al Shawwa's residence in Kuwait
From L to R: Ramzi Nuseibeh, Riad Barraj, Nazih Khattar, Khaled Saab, John Kirkbright, Rashad Al Shawwa



From L to R : Nazih Khattar, Manaf Al Hamad, Riad Barraj, John Kirkbright, Khaled Saab



Ramzi Nuseibeh receiving his 50th Anniversary Graduation Medal

UK GET TOGETHER

November 23, 2019

On Saturday November 23, 2019, the BHS Old Scholars Association, in collaboration with BHS, QuiET and the OSA UK Chapter, organized a wonderful get together for UK Old Scholars at the East India Club in London.

The event was a great success and Old Scholars from all over the UK attended. Some Old Scholars even came from France, Sweden and Lebanon to attend the much anticipated event!

After everyone sang the national anthem and the beloved school song, BHS Principal, David Gray gave a short speech about the latest school developments, and re-affirmed the school's commitment to inclusion, fairness, and academic achievements, along with personal development and a continued faith in the principles of peaceful development.

After that, General Manager of the OSA, Serene Musallam Farah '92 gave a short speech on behalf of OSA President Nazih Khattar '66 about the latest OSA news and reassured the attendees that the OSA would always support the school and its students when needed.

The gathering was wonderful, and although the Old Scholars in attendance were from a wide range of graduating years, we all felt a great comraderie.

Everyone was transformed - if only for a short time - back to being pupils of the finest school we have ever known in our lives.

"I Serve"

Nayla Cookson
OSA UK Chapter Head



From L to R : Nayla Cookson & Jean Hany



From L to R : Lina Tiareh, Nayla Cookson, Said Hany, Juhaina Abi Khalil, Iman Issa Kortbawi and Serene Musallam Farah

UK GET TOGETHER

November 23, 2019



From L to R : William Haire and friend



David Gray giving his speech



From L to R : Mohammad Refaat and wife, Leena Saidy and Paul High



Serene Musallam Farah giving her speech on behalf of OSA President Nazih Khattar

UK GET TOGETHER

November 23, 2019



From L to R : Mr. & Mrs. William Kattan, Said Hany, Helene Gray, Juhaina Abi Khalil



From L to R : Mr. & Mrs. William Kattan, Lina Nashef



From L to R : Lina Aghajanian & spouse, Melanie Ghoul



From L to R : Iman Issa Kortbawi, Lina Tiareh, David Gray, Helene Gray, Danielle Finan

UK GET TOGETHER

November 23, 2019



UK Get Together Group Photo

JEDDAH VISIT

December 6, 2019

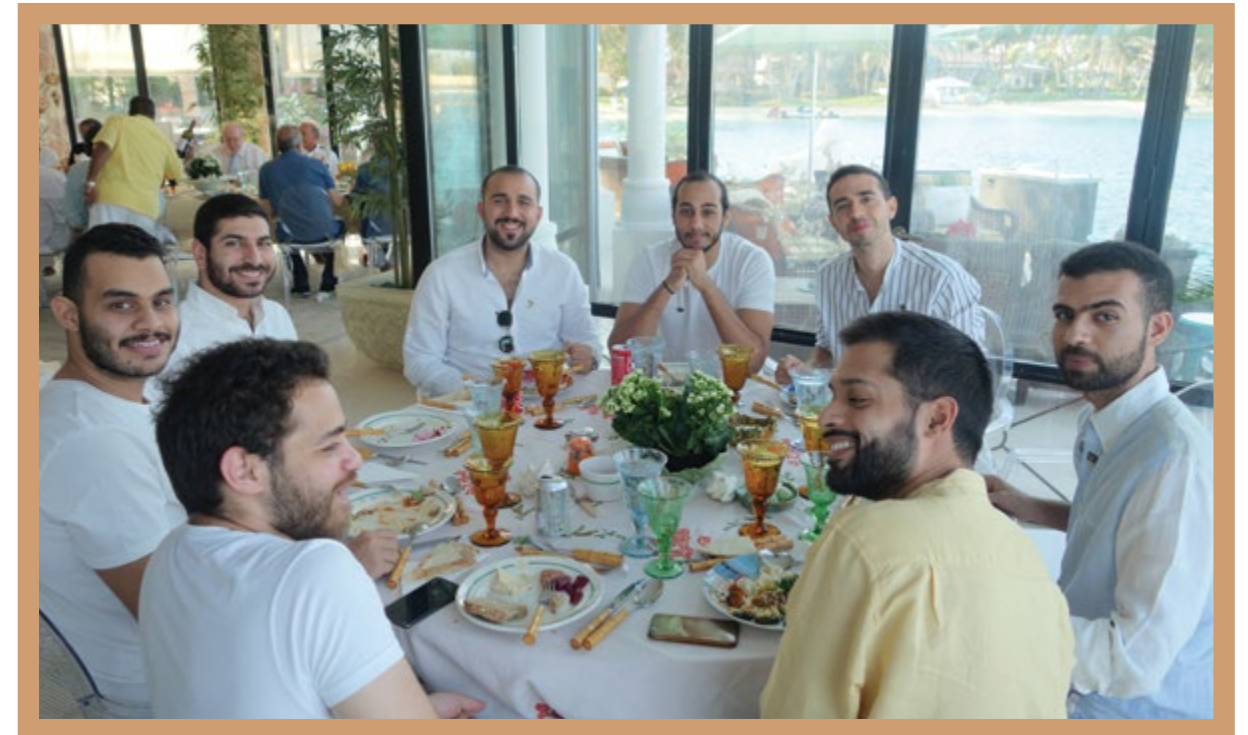
On Friday December 6 2019, BHS Old Scholar and BoT Vice Chairman Sh. Khaled Juffali '75 hosted a delightful lunch at his beach house in Obhur, in the presence of BoT Vice Chairman Sh. Mohamed AlHamrani and in honour of the visiting OSA delegation represented by OSA President and BoT member Nazih Khattar '66, KSA Chapter Head Riad Barraj '70, and former BHS teacher and housemaster John Kirkbright .

More than thirty Old Scholars residing in Jeddah attended the much anticipated gathering and the attendees caught up with each other and shared fun memories of their time at BHS.

During the lunch, President Nazih Khattar took the opportunity to brief the attendees on the newly established OSA Fundraising and Financial Aid platforms.



OSA President Nazih Khattar briefing the Jeddah Old Scholars on the newly established OSA Fundrasing and FinancialAid platforms, and stressing the need for any and all contributions in these diffucult times that Lebanon is currently facing



From L to R : Abdallah Dakhil, Abdulrahman Abdulmajeed, Faisal Abdeen, Maher Sadawi, Youssef Abbar, Mohammad Zaban, Firas Shayif, Abdallah Dahlawi



From L to R : Ossama Darandary, Bader Al Mohaissen, Faisal Adham, Khaled Juffali, Joseph Katrib

JEDDAH VISIT

December 6, 2019



From L to R : Ossama Darandary, Hani Attas, Mohamed AlHamrani, Bader Al Mohaissen, Mohamad Al Mohaissen, Ahmad Dakhil, Abdul Aziz Al Mohaissen



From L to R : Saleh AlFadi, Mohamed AlHamrani, Nazih Khattar, Khaled Juffali



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JEDDAH VISIT

December 6, 2019



Jeddah Visit Group Photo

Front row | From L to R : Faisal Charara , Yasser Sindi, Amin Afifi, Mohamad Zaben, Youssef Abbar, Maher Saadawi, Munir Harasani, Faysal Adham, Firas Shayif, Abdullah Dahlawi, Abdullah Dakhil, Faisal Abdeen, Abdul Rahman Abdul Majeed

Back row | From L to R : Tarek Al Malik, Mohamad Anas Nwelati, Tarek Sindi, Bader Al Mohaissen, Ayman Safadi, Ahmad Dakhil, Mohamed AlHamrani, Nazih Khattar, Ousama Darandary, Abdul Aziz Al Mohaissen, Khaled Juffali, John Kirkbright, Saleh AlFadel, Mishari Al Mishari, Hani Attas, Riad Barraaj, Mohammad Al Mohaissen

DUBAI GET TOGETHER

January 29, 2020

On Wednesday, January 29, 2020, Dubai Chapter Head, Mr. Amer El Kurdi '75 organized a get together at the "Spark by Caramel" in Dubai where more than fifteen BHS Old Scholars residing in Dubai and the surrounding emirates, met for drinks.

The Old Scholars - who were joined by OSA President Nazih Khattar '66 and former BHS teacher and Housemaster, John Kirkbright - had an amazing time swapping stories and sharing fond memories of their time spent at BHS.

We would like to thank Dubai Deputy Chapter Head Me. Naji Hawayek '00 for sharing these wonderful photos with us.



From L to R : Naji Hawayek, Amine Abou Jawdeh, Joe Hawayek, Leila Hecheimeh, Sarah Aoun, Amer Barbir, Nazih Khattar, Ahmad Barbir, Youssef Kapadia, Edward Azar, Fares Azzawi



From L to R : Michel Hage, John Kirkbright, Myrna & Amer El Kurdi, Naji Hawayek, Amine Abou Jawdeh, Joe Hawayek, Leila Hecheimeh, Nazih Khattar, Ahmad Barbir



From L to R : Amer El Kurdi, Joe Hawayek, Leila Hecheimeh, Sarah Aoun, Amer Barbir, Nazih Khattar, Ahmad Barbir, Youssef Kapadia, Edward Azar

BAHRAIN VISIT

February 8, 2020

On February 8, 2020, Old Scholar and Bahrain Chapter Head Mazen Al-Umran '71 hosted a wonderful dinner attended by 13 Old Scholars and members of the OSA delegation, OSA President Nazih Khattar, Head of Fundraising Committee, Riad Barraj, as well as our beloved former Housemaster John Kirkbright. It was pleasing to see the new generation of Old Scholars attending the event; the younger colleagues expressed their willingness to be active at future OSA occasions and activities.

The next day, the visiting delegates had lunch with Old Scholar Rashed Al-Khalifa '71, who was not able to attend the dinner the night before.

President Nazih Khattar seized the opportunity on both occasions to inform the attendees on the well-rounded and newly established Fundraising and Financial Aid platforms.



First Row | From L to R : Gina Angelo Al Mangour, Maria Angelo Khattar, Magdalena Chureva, Mariam Shaheen
Second Row | From L to R : Adel Al Mangour, John Kirkbright, Nazih Khattar, Mazen Al Umran
Third Row | From L to R : Dawood Nassif, Riad Barraj, Shaheen Shaheen, Fadi Wassef



From L to R : Riad Barraj, John Kirkbright, Mazen Al Umran, Maryam Shaheen, Shaheen Shaheen, Nazih Khattar, Fadi Wassef



From L to R : Nazih Khattar, Rashed Al Khalifa, John Kirkbright, Riad Barraj

RIYADH VISIT

February 21, 2020

On February 21, 2020, Old Scholar Mr. Turki Al-Athel '06, hosted a delightful lunch in honour of the OSA delegation, including OSA President Nazih Khattar '66, KSA Chapter Head and Head of the Fundraising Committee Raid Barraj '70, and special guest Dr. Walid Khoury, the school's Principal during their tenure, who was immensely welcomed by his former students as they expressed their pleasure in seeing him in Riyadh.

The event was attended by 14 Old Scholars who had a wonderful time interacting and sharing their latest news, and exchanging memorable and formidable stories.

The gathering was heart-warming, especially since the younger Old Scholars who attended the event, expressed their willingness to be active at future OSA events and activities.

Regrettably, the recent virus pandemic has prevented us from continuing our quest in other countries, in addition to exploiting numerous activities including the 29th International convention in Brummana.

Also, we must note that WhatsApp groups were established in each of the cities we visited, in order to keep OSA members connected and allow us to reach our scattered Old Scholars easier. Although some groups are more active than others, it is a successful move that will help us preserve and broaden the scope of networking for Old Scholars in the Gulf.



From L to R : Mousab Arkobi, Firas Al Shayif, Rashid Al Ladki, Abdullah Al Muhanna, Adam Alwan, Majeed Al Zayer, Abdullah Gwaiz, Nazih Khattar, Fahd Al Athel, Walid Khoury, Riad Barraj, Akram Masri, Ahmad Hussein, Turki Al Athel



Back row | From L to R : Firas Al Shayif, Mousab Arkobi
Middle row | From L to R : Andrew Barraj, Hassan Bakallah, Riad Barraj, Majeed Al Zayer, Abdullah Al Muhanna
Front row | From L to R : Abdullah Gwaiz, Adam Alwan, Walid Khoury, Nazih Khattar, Turki Al Athel



From L to R : Rashid Al Ladki, Andrew Barraj, Mousab Arkobi, Hassan Bakallah shaking hand with Majeed al Zayer, Firas Al Shayif, Turki Al Athel, Abdullah Gwaiz, Akram Masri, Walid Khoury

MINI GULF REUNION

March 6, 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic that hit the world by storm, the annual BHS OSA Gulf Reunion scheduled for March 2020, was postponed and instead, OSA President, Mr. Nazih Khattar and his wife, Old Scholar Dr. Maria Angelou Khattar, hosted an elegant dinner on March 6, at Eauzone restaurant at the One and Only Mirage Hotel.

The event had 35 Old Scholars in attendance – many who were already residing in the UAE – and others who had come from other countries specifically to attend the OSA Gulf Reunion.

Old Scholars who had flown in from neighbouring Gulf countries, as well as those who had come from Lebanon and Europe, enjoyed the jovial mood and had a wonderful time swapping stories and sharing fond memories of their time spent at BHS.



From L to R : Youssef Khattar & Spouse, Naji Hawayek & Guest



From L to R : Samir Halawi, Raad Jarrah, Fawzi Nahas, Ahmad Barbir



From L to R : Ramez Sawabini, Nabil Tohala, John Kirkbright, Nayla Cookson, Joey Tawil, Nazih Khattar

MINI GULF REUNION

March 6, 2020



From L to R : Ahmed Barbir, Maher Beydoun, Nazih Khattar, Majed Beydoun, Samir Halawi, Saadeddine Alayli, Raad Jarrah, Fawzi Nahas



President Nazih Khattar welcoming the attendees



From L to R : Naji Hawayek, Nazih Khattar, Saadeddine Alayli



Old Scholars catching up on the latest news

MINI GULF REUNION

March 6, 2020



“Investing in **Tomorrow**”



From L to R : Nabil Tohala & spouse, Fawzi Nahas, Nayla Cookson, Nazih Khattar, Raad Jarrah, Maher Beydoun, Ahmad Barbir



Old Scholars socializing



MINI GULF REUNION

March 6, 2020



From L to R : Joey Tawil, Faris Azzawi, Eddie Eshoo, Mirna Kurdi, Amer Kurdi



From L to R : Maher Beydoun, Nayla Cookson, Majed Beydoun



From L to R : Maria Angelo Khattar, Youssef Khattar & spouse



From L to R : Nabil Tohala, Raad Jarrah, Ahmed Barbir

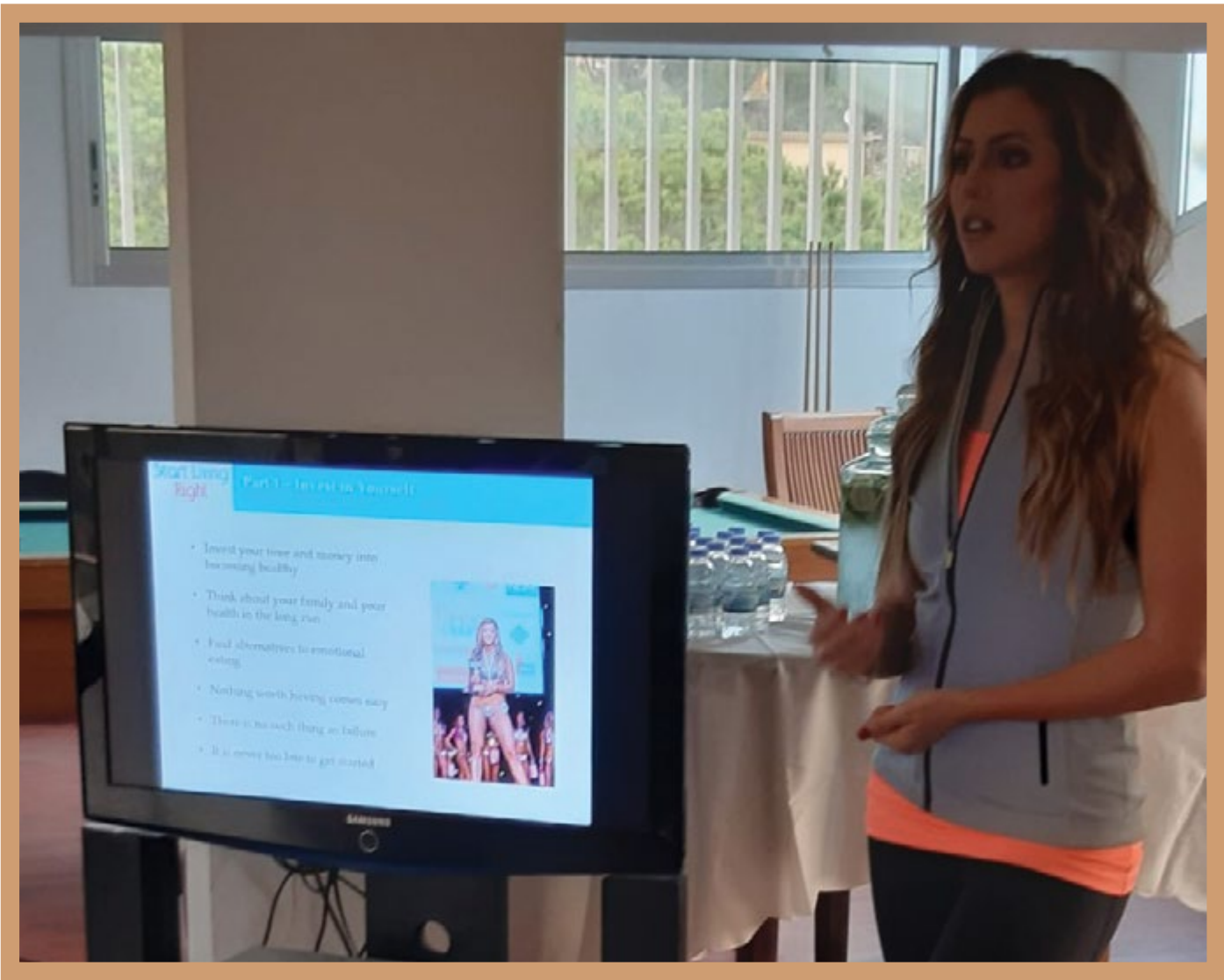
START LIVING RIGHT - ROUND TABLE

BY MAYA NASSAR *February 4, 2020*

On Tuesday February 4, 2020, the BHS Old Scholars Association hosted its first Round Table Workshop of 2020, entitled: Start Living Right: How to Become the Best Version of Yourself.

Our guest speaker was Old Scholar and fitness guru, Mrs. Maya Nassar Maalouf '03, who gave the attendees a “Basic 101” course on fitness, the myths and facts on how to lose weight, and how to juggle motherhood, home, work and still manage to workout.

At the end of the session, Maya offered the attendees multiple prizes and a full body work out.



Old Scholar Maya Nassar addressing the audience



The audience listening intently to the session



Workout session at the OSA House

START LIVING RIGHT - ROUND TABLE

BY MAYA NASSAR *February 4, 2020*



Round Table Group Photo

OLD SCHOLARS VISITS



Old Scholar June Musallam Baroudy '98 and her family came from the UAE for their summer holidays and visited BHS



Old Scholar Naima Haddad Gomez '96 and her family came from the USA for their summer holidays and visited BHS



Old Scholar and Vice President of the BHS OSA, Naji Chakhtoura '92 took his two lovely daughters to visit the dear old school last summer



Some very special guests visited the OSA House!
From L to R: Ross Campbell (son of Mrs. Jocelyn Campbell), Jocelyn Campbell (wife of former BHS Principal Duncan Campbell and former BHS teacher), Kathleen Campbell, and Old Scholar Neemat Baz Little '64

OLD SCHOLARS VISITS



A visit from dear Old Scholars Ghassan Jabra '61 and his wife and Muhieddine Samadi '63 and his wife to the OSA House



Old Scholar Ali Zabarah '75 visited the OSA House with his friend Abbas Hamidadin. He shared beautiful memories of his time at Brummana High School and promised to stay in touch



**ENJOY
DESSERTS
GUILT FREE**



STEVIA - SUCRALOSE - SACCHARINE

ARTICLES

JOHN KIRKBRIGHT

FORMER BHS TEACHER & HOUSE MASTER (1964 – 1971)

THE OCTOGENARIAN TURNED QUINQUAGENARIAN

I never thought that I would be an octogenarian + 2. Nearly 30,000 days. walla. Rod Grosvenor is a nonagenarian. (Allah ye3aysh-uh in the southern hemisphere), the legend of BHS, Emile Sawaya, the same. (Allah ye3aysh-uh miyat sinah biSaHHah Tayyibah); Jocyline Campbell Yorkshire nonagenarian; ; Renee Baz (R.I.P), my role model for Christianity a noctogenarian. Barty Knight (R.I.P) also a noctogenarian (if it were done when tiz done, then t.were well it were done quickly) from the Scottish play and Fareedat Al3aqi (R.I.P) lived to be a gentle centenarian. Nada Saidi is a 'borderline' octogenarian. I think that when she was born in Tripoli (everyone was eating too much samakee Haarra) and they registered her on the Islamic calendar. She was born on the first of Muharram but they didn't write the year. (Niktee niktee)

This longevity must be something connected to being associated with that wonderful school, Brummana High School. It can't come from being a Quaker as, although I try to live by the principles of 'that of God in every man', I still belong officially to one of the 'bells and smells' group. All I can say after looking at this, is 'You, too, Get ready for longevity, insh allah.' It might have something to do with better health care but I think it goes back to the Quaker ethos which we all picked up, some consciously, some by osmosis. (I do know some scientific words even though languages are said to be my forte).

I joined the school in 1964 after graduating from Durham University in the north of England in Honours French supported by written Arabic, only to find that Lebanese Arabic and 'naHawee' had



very little to do with each other. To one who had learnt: kayfa Haaluka : the expression : keef-ak ustayz : meant very little but my students in class were very good teacher of Arabic outside class and soon had me saying : mish 3amm beshoofak. I still hadn't ironed out all of my Yorkshire dialect and said: boook ; and razzberries with delight.

I remember during my time at BHS that one of my Sunni Saudis from Jeddah told me how enamored his father was of the school but wondered what he would have said when all the students were singing 'Oh come let us adore Him' at Christmas. I don't think he would have minded, actually, as he knew there was no conscious effort to convert. Just to show us by example and help us all become better people. God bless the Quakers. Allah ye3aysh-hum. It is now 49 years since I physically left Brummana High School as a teacher but I never really left Brummana High School, just like you didn't.

I hope these few words have made you laugh and made you think how we are all one. I'm still only 50 at heart, really. That is why I am a quinquagenarian. Allah ye3aysh-kum, too.

AN ACCOUNT OF MY TIME IN LEBANON

In 1972 I was working in Bogotá Colombia as the assistant to Mr. Paul Gotch, who was the British Council Representative there. The British Government transferred him to Beirut Lebanon as he was a specialist in Middle Eastern affairs. As the British Council Representative Paul Gotch was on the Board of BHS, he asked me, as I was an art teaching specialist, if I could design an Art-room if he sent me the ground plans, I agreed. About six months later, he wrote to me asking if I would like a job teaching Art at a Quaker School. I submitted my CV to Mr Barty Knight and the Board, and started work at BHS in September 1973, utilizing the same Art room I had designed from afar, in Bogota!

I taught several subjects besides Art and lived in a small apartment half-way to Beit Meri. BHS was new to me - all those 'strange' students were a new experience too, from such unknown, (to me), exotic countries like Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Syria and others. Lebanon was totally new to me; the food was very different too - later I was to miss the Lebanese cuisine. Arabic was a mystery, (I took intensive lessons) and very quickly, because of the general congeniality of the Lebanese people started to integrate into the warm culture that is Lebanon's.



Brian and Susan Dickson

At a Rizkallah House party hosted by Peter and Angela Colledge I met a young English girl visiting her parents who lived in Beit Meri (working for the UN AID) and there was no looking back! Together we explored beautiful (and peaceful) Lebanon from the Beqaa Valley to Byblos, Bikfaya, Jounieh, Beaufort Castle and many other sights, and fell in love!

On December 20th 1974 my wife Susan, and I were married in St George's Chapel in Beirut harbor. Our families came to Beirut to attend the wedding. The 'best man' was Mr. Paul Little (fellow teacher at BHS - married to Na'amat Baz who is the daughter of Renee and Najeeb Baz, both of whom were important to BHS). The Baz family were always so welcoming to us since our arrival in Lebanon and we grew to love them as family.

After the wedding, we spent our honeymoon in Syria and Jordan, with Christmas in Bethlehem. We arrived back in Lebanon just in time for the outbreak of the Civil War, early in 1975.

The mood in the country changed significantly at the start of the war and life was extremely difficult for a young newly married expatriate couple. We spent months living in the wood store under the Main building of BHS. Many of our students were quickly evacuated - mainly boarders. Airports in 'As I Was Travelling Round the World...'

That was an exhilarating, emotional and exciting start to married life! However, I will be forever grateful to the wonderful people who took us under their wings during our time there -we shall never forget the hospitality and kindness we experienced. I am especially grateful that I met and married my wife there - Lebanon will always have a special place in our hearts.

For those who may be interested, I went from the U.K. that year to The Bahamas to teach - our daughter was born there in 1977. Next stop on the International school circuit was Bogota at The Anglo-Colombiano as Head of Primary and later as Head of Secondary. Our son was born there in 1979. I was 'head-hunted' to found a school in the north of Colombia for the Bechrel Corporation at a huge Nickel mine called Cerro Matoso which has grown to be the best school in that region of South America. From there we moved to The British schools in Montevideo Uruguay as Head of Primary. To Chile next as "Rector" (overall Head of School) at Craighouse School in Santiago. After a short stay in the U.K. we took off again this time to Gabarone

Botswana for a couple of years as Director of Education at Westwood International School to introduce the International Baccalaureate - (I had become a specialist in the IB, over the years in International schools and still carry out inspections for the IBO in North and South America). I ended my 41-year career in education (with 15yrs as Headmaster), in the USA - Falls Church Virginia - as IB Coordinator at George Mason HS in 2006 and now live in happy retirement with Susan in The Villages Florida.



Brian Dickson coaching a tug-o-war team on Sports Day at BHS 1974



Khalifa Al Nahyan bin Hamdan, Brian and his wife Susan in 1974

When I think of BHS, pine trees and green doors come to mind. If I were to describe it, BHS was home away from home. It was an all-encompassing umbrella that nurtured hundreds of students from all over the world.

BHS was never just a school for me. It was an experience. I vividly remember being mesmerized the first day I set foot on campus. It can be overwhelming for a new student to attend a new school with all new faces, but there was such a positive energy that particular day that all my jitters and nervousness melted away. Everyone was so friendly and warm and the whole campus was buzzing with life. How wonderful it was to be surrounded by genuine people in a beautiful and peaceful setting, where new students were hailed and appreciated. There is such freedom in knowing that; all thanks to the hospitable, friendly, and supportive administration and classmates who made me feel welcome and gave me a secure sense of belonging.

Initially, I was a student in a different school where I had a negative experience. When I changed schools and attended BHS, my self-esteem evolved and solidified over time, and the shell I was in eventually cracked- similar to a butterfly breaking out of its cocoon. In growing and maturing, you acquire skills that help you overcome negative experiences and channel discomfort in a positive and uplifting way. This experience inspired me



to write my first children's book and share my lesson with other children who might be feeling the same way.

What made BHS more special was its teachers. All teachers had an impact on me one way or another, but a handful were closer to my heart. One was Mrs. Yvonne Nasr. She was such a role model for me, a firm yet gentle Head of Department and a born leader. I considered Mrs. Lara Nahas Feghali to be a friend and not just a teacher.

Mr. Kamil Sawaya was one of the most memorable teachers as well; a fantastic, optimistic, jovial person who was always in

a good mood. You learn that being in a good mood is contagious, and soon enough, whatever temperament you're in, you're immediately uplifted after his class. I credit Mrs. Karine Chebly for my love of Biology, and Mrs. Sarah Naamani for inching me one step closer towards accepting Math as a subject that was not evil and out to ruin my life.

I have always regarded the past as romantic, nostalgic, and bittersweet all at once, so it was fitting that my favorite subject was History and remains to this day. The school library was my favorite go-to place not only because of its grand selection of books, the rich scent of which still lingers in my memory, but also because of the warm and lovely librarian, Mrs. Kamel.

And who could forget Mr. Saad Saad's strict supervision and impeccable weather forecasting skills? He not only spread wisdom everywhere he went but also detention slips, left and right! Need I say more?

When I was elected Captain of Rizkallah house in my senior year, I was taught valuable life lessons subtly and organically. I learned how to organize multiple activities at once and how to manage a large group of people which proved to be very helpful in my initial career path as a TV producer and then later on as a Project Manager. I learned how to take initiative, how to function as a team member, and how important it is to listen to others. Actively

participating in extracurricular activities and community service enhances a person's communication skills and he/she is rewarded with overwhelming self-satisfaction as a result.

I credit this experience with shaping who I am today not just professionally, but on a personal level as well.

In a nutshell, BHS taught me to be a citizen of the world, to accept others just the way they are, and that being different is encouraged, not criticized. I learned so much about the world not only from the books that I read but from the people I met and friends I made. For me, education isn't only found in books and classrooms. It is also found in friendships, experiences, and memories; three key fundamentals that stick with you for the rest of your life.

"I Serve"



From L to R : Rana Barakat, Jenny Jahjah, Nadine Nehme

MY CAREER PATH

As a proud graduate of Brummana High School, I am proud to say that I have found my career in the fitness industry in Lebanon and have reached most of my goals. I am an entrepreneur, business owner, athlete and mother of 2 boys. My story has appeared extensively in local and international media. I have won international awards in fitness modeling and became the first Arab female to represent Lebanon in such competitions.

However, I was not always fit and healthy! Ever since my school days, I had enjoyed sports and being physically active. I used to participate in school events and compete in showjumping competitions. In 2001, I became the junior champion of Lebanon in showjumping and was the vice president of our sports team Little House in Broumana High School. Somewhere along the way after graduation in 2003, I stopped being physically active. I joined the American University of Beirut and stopped doing any exercise. Healthy meals at home were replaced with fast food and sports were replaced with hanging out on campus.

Before I knew it, I had gained around 20 kilograms of fat and was becoming overweight. I had no self-confidence and was not happy with the way I looked. I also used to get sick very quickly and suffered from asthma and would have difficulty



breathing going up the stairs. After hitting rock bottom, I decided to turn my life around and change my lifestyle.

During this time, I joined a gym and completely changed my diet. I instantly started seeing results and losing weight. In a few months, I lost all the weight I gained and much more. I became so passionate about health and fitness that I became certified in personal training and sports nutrition. After becoming healthy, I decided to compete in fitness modeling competitions abroad. I didn't just want to be healthy but wanted to push my limits both mentally and physically. I also started my website and blog called "Start Living Right" to share my journey and my passion with others.

It was very well received and later became a mobile application which was ranked as the number one fitness app in Lebanon by the Apple Store, competing with international apps.

A couple of years later, I entered my first Bikini Fitness Competition in the United Kingdom and didn't win. I learnt from my mistakes and told myself that a winner is a loser who tried one more time. During this time, I approached the Minister of Sports and became the first Arab female to represent her country in such competitions abroad. This helped me get a lot of media exposure including magazine, TV, newspaper and radio interviews. I am proud to say that that year I ended up winning first place and ever since 2013, I have been competing and won 9 trophies in total.

After winning my second competition, I was approached by MTV Lebanon to host a morning fitness show which was aired live for 2.5 years, demonstrating workouts that people can do at home. I also opened my own gym called Start Living Right, which I named after my online platform. We later opened a second branch in Faqra and will soon be opening a third branch in Brummana in the spring of 2020.

My gym offers everything a person needs to live a healthy lifestyle including personal training, classes, diet consultations, physiotherapy and motivational support. We have changed

the lives of many people and help them reach their goals. In September 2019, I also became the fitness guru for Virgin Radio Stars with a live segment every Monday from 8:00 am to 8:30 am.

Currently my mission is to help others, especially those like my old self, to live a healthier lifestyle. I have firsthand experience with how rewarding it is and it is extremely satisfying to help others achieve the same thing. I enjoy sharing my story to show others that even if you were unhealthy and unfit, it is never too late to turn your life around and become the best version of yourself. It has been a long time since my school days, but my days at Broumana High School have taught me to follow my dreams, believe in myself, and never give up no matter what.

"I Serve"



Maya Nassar conducting a workout at the OSA House

When I got the phone call from the OSA asking me if I would be interested in writing an article for the OSA Yearbook, I felt humbled and honoured and I immediately accepted this wonderful request.

I came to Brummana High School in 1986, graduated in 1994 and became a third generation Old Scholar. I am sure that my friends and classmates would agree with me when I say that our years at BHS were the greatest years of our lives. With all the turmoil that surrounded us, the war, the school closure and the uncertainty we lived in, we managed to have the best time of our lives. There's an aura about BHS that engulfs you and helps in creating who you are and who you become. It was never about the books or grades. It was about the way things were done. The science projects in Grade 5 with Mr. Sawaya, how we measured the amount of water every time it rained, and how we learned to read the Barometer. It was the things we were taught outside the textbooks, whether it was about St. Patrick's Day in Ms. Rima Habib's class, or the appreciation of the Library and its sanctity with Mrs. Kamel. It was the Quaker Ethos, that we are all equal in the eyes of God. It was the activities that we engaged in, the Field Day and the May Queen. It was the Dobbing Hall, the Meeting House, the classrooms, the famous tree in the middle of the campus. It was this and more, but most importantly, it was the BHS motto that defined who we are: "I Serve". Even when school was out, we'd come back and spend



Summer days on campus. I've travelled the world, from the Far East to the West, I've embarked on adventures equipped with love, understanding, acceptance and enthusiasm, because these traits were embedded in me growing up at BHS, and they helped me soar and learn more. Every time I visited Lebanon, I would make a stop at BHS, to walk on campus and to just take in the beauty that never fails to amaze me and to take my breath away.

And now, after being away for 25 years, I find myself back where it all started. Back at BHS, working here, giving back to my community, embodying our school song and our motto: **"I Serve"**

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WHY IS BHS SO SPECIAL?

In May 2018, my childhood friend, Khater Abi Habib, called me and among other things mentioned that he is recommending me to give a speech on the 50th anniversary of our class during the International Convention to be held in July of 2018. At first, I declined telling him that I do not feel comfortable in giving speeches. He finally persuaded me, and I told him my speech shall be an unprepared one, and I shall just talk about whatever comes to my mind then. This took me back almost 50 years, when on an April 1969 day, Mr Bruce Howell (our English teacher), asked me to accept to be the Valedictorian during the 1969 Speech Day. Again, I initially declined, and when I accepted, he helped me in editing the speech. I did not, and still do not, like to give speeches to big audiences.

Well, what I am going to write here, is based partly on the speech I gave in July, and I added things which I felt were important, but did not come to my mind then.

Why did my parents choose BHS in 1957? Well, I was 7 and the youngest and only boy, among 5 sisters and my father did not want me to get spoilt at home, so he decided to put me in a boarding school. At that time, he was living between Colombia and Lebanon, while our family had moved to Beirut, a few years earlier. My father had befriended Dr Anis Freiha, a professor at AUB then, and the famous author of books on the Lebanese traditional village life.



From L to R : Bechara Traboulsi, Akram Masri, Mr Grosvenor (the Principal), Nicolas Saade and Amir Soubra

Dr Freiha recommended BHS saying it is the best English language school in the Orient. No wonder BHS housed students from different parts of the world including children of ruling families.

I remember it very well. It was a gloomy afternoon in early October 1957 when my parents drove me up the mountains to the School. I started weeping after they left. I remember it well, a rather chubby and fattish boy, who was one year my senior, took me by the hand to Miss Baker, the Principal of the School then. She soothed me, then that boy took me to meet other boys in my dorm. That boy was Kamal Ghazzaoui. Kamal and I became good friends. My parents visited me once a week and supplied me with goodies (sweets and cookies). Each boarder had a locker to keep the goodies. We were allowed to open the lockers in the afternoon after classes; Kamal used to accompany me to open my locker and have his share of the goodies!

Kamal was also a good tennis player, and that year he taught me how to play tennis. I was interested in tennis, as my much

older paternal cousin, Roy Karaoglan, was the tennis champion of Lebanon at that time. Incidentally, Roy (who passed away in January 2019) was a BHS student and Mr Albert Kamel taught him tennis some 65 or 70 years ago.

At that time BHS was probably the only school that had 2 or 3 tennis courts, and international tournaments were held there, that received tennis legends such as Roy Emerson. I remember seeing Roy Emerson playing at BHS in 1963, when he was then the number 1 player in the World (before the Open tennis era when grand slams were not open to professionals).

What I found so special about BHS was the flexibility it gave to the student. When I was in Form 5 (Grade 11), studying for GCE 'O' levels, I remember going to my Arabic teacher, Mr Antoine Ferzli, and asking him to allow me to do the 'A' level instead of the 'O'. I was average in Arabic, not that good in poetry, but good at the historical context of the poems. He accepted and I passed with a good grade.

I still remember the name of the book: A Literary History of the Arabs, by Nicholson. While the book was in English, we had the option to answer questions in either English or Arabic.

More about flexibility. At the beginning of the following year when I was in Lower 6th (Grade 12), I decided to do Islamic History, which was not in the curriculum of



From L to R : Imad Hamdan & Amir Soubra

the School. Along with another student, Khaled Chehab, who was in Upper 6th, and who came to BHS just to do his 'A' levels, we went to Dr Mikhail Khoury, who was the Vice Principal then, and History teacher. As the School did not offer this subject, he agreed to coach us once a week using the 'A' Level syllabus. The textbook he gave us to read was 'History of the Arabs' by Philip Hitti, which has gone into 12 editions and considered now a standard reference of our history. He also gave us another textbook on the Ottoman Empire. Well I managed to pass.

Another distinguishing feature of the school is the size of classes. In 'A' Level Economics and 'A' Level Geography we were only 3 students in the class. Khater Abi Habib, Raja Mezher –may he rest in peace– and me. Another distinguishing feature of the school is the breadth of knowledge it gave us. In the Primary and Intermediate (or Middle) School we studied all subjects in Arabic, and once in High School, we studied all the subjects

NICOLAS SAADE '68

in English. If I remember correctly, at that time the High School started from 3rd Secondary (Grade 9). So, we ended up knowing all the technical terms of Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics in both Arabic and English.

I remember in 4th Form (Grade 10), we were taking about 10 subjects: Arabic, English, French, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Woodwork, Moral Instructions and PE. In PE, the classes alternated between basketball, football and volleyball. I used to sneak out of these classes and play ping-pong, which was not allowed during school hours. Mr Kamel used to turn a blind eye.

Years later, when I was doing my MBA in USA, in one of the top business schools in the world, I had in one of my classes an American doctor who had graduated in Medicine from Harvard Medical School and was doing an MBA in Hospital Administration. I remember very well; we exited a class in Finance and went into a large hall that had a TV on news. The news was about children playing in a swampy area who were attacked by a crocodile and word 'Everglades' was written across the TV. My American classmate said, "I wonder where that is?" I told him "in Florida." He told me "Stop pulling my leg." I told him "The Everglades are in Florida." He said, "Swamps in Florida, it cannot be, stop joking." About a minute later when they were closing on that news clip, the TV presenter mentioned "Florida." My classmate shocked, asked "How in the



From L to R : Bechara Traboulsi, Akram Masri, Mr Grosvenor (the Principal), Nicolas Saade and Amir Soubra

hell did you know that?" I told him that at School they taught us the geography of USA in both Primary and Secondary School. He said in an astonished way "You studied this in Lebanon?" I said "Yes." He said, "I'll be damned, in USA we do not know anything about the state next door!"

Another distinguishing feature is that, by the time we reached 4th of 5th form (Grade 10 or 11), we knew what we wanted to study at university. I knew then, I wanted to study economics then do an MBA in banking and finance. I remember my classmates also knew what they wanted to study. Today, it is totally different, students reach university and do not know what they want to do. My daughter reached her 3rd year at university and did not know what she wanted to major in. My son who was accepted for pharmacology at a university in Canada switched to Economics and Mathematics once he started.



From L to R : Sami Saad (Registrar), Maitre Abdallah Lahoud, Bassam Hadid, Raja Mezher, Nicolas Saade and Violette Sawwan

An education consultant I know told me that today it is normal for 1st and 2nd year university students not to know what they want to do! Well, how did BHS at that time raise us to know what we wanted to study in the future, I really do not know. It was really a unique system.

Boys used to play pranks on one another. Here is one which I will never forget. When I was in Lower 6th, my roommate at Edinburgh was a Saudi fellow called Misha'al Bin Abdul Aziz, who was in Upper 6th then. He was a rather shortish fellow with dark skin. I had a very close friend of mine who was a day scholar, named Haigo Tchamitch. His father was an ex-French teacher at BHS and was the author of 'Toto et Nini,' a well-known and standard textbook then to teach French to beginners. Haigo loved playing pranks. One afternoon, I was playing chess with Misha'al in our room, when Haigo walks in. Misha'al was complaining of a headache. So Haigo, draws a pill out of a small container

and gives it to Misha'al, telling him this is very good for headaches. Some two hours later, I see Misha'al entering the room and his dark face was very pale, yellow pale. He told me in a scared way, "Nicolas, my piss is blue!" Well Haigo gave him a medicine he bought for his mom to treat urinary tract infections that turns urine into a bright blue colour!

In my early years at BHS, I wept each time we drove up the mountains to go the school. During the last two years we did not want to leave the school!

Even when we had weekends off, we used to go to Beirut to see a movie, then eat falafel or shaourma, then go back to the School and sleep there.

BHS was our home. BHS was one big family. One important note: I should not forget to say that Mrs René Baz, made it our home.

"I Serve"

SAID HANY '63

'AS I WAS TRAVELLING ROUND THE WORLD...'

When I was a student at the Secondary School at BHS, from 1958 to 1963, I came to know many students, but befriended a select few. An amazing friendship developed with Issa George Sawabini from Beit Meri. During those five years, I came to know Issa's parents and many members of his family. At that time, my parents were living in Ghana, West Africa. On many Sundays Issa's father, George, would take me to their home to spend the day with them. In 1963, I went to Egypt to pursue my education in medicine. Issa left BHS a couple of years later, and since then, we lost contact with each other. Apparently Issa, worked in Kuwait, and later emigrated to the USA.

I currently live in the Greater Manchester area in England, UK. While visiting my son in Twyford, Hampshire, I went on a photography tour of the area. On 7 March 2013, I took photos of the bridge in the village of Marlow, which I uploaded the next day on to Facebook. My sister, Rabab, who was Issa's classmate at BHS and who lives in Ghana, shared my album. Two days later, I got a message from Issa: "Are you here?" I answered: "Here? I'm not in the USA. I'm in Berkshire visiting my son." The surprising answer came back: "I'm not in the USA, I'm only few miles away from you. I am in Windsor!"... After a flurry of questions and answers, we arranged to meet the next day in Sonning, the village where Jean, my wife, and I were staying.



Said Hany and Issa Sawabini



Issa & Said meeting in Sonning 11.03.2013

It was an emotional reunion at The Bull Inn in Sonning, Berkshire on 11.03.13 – half a century later... We spent a reminiscing dinner talking about our time at the BHS in the late 50s and early 60s.

In July 2013, my family had a week's holiday in Dorset, and on the 9th of July Issa joined us and spent the whole day with us.



Said in the middle. Issa on the far right.

In February 2014, I revisited my son in Hampshire and met with Issa again. We spent a couple of days in Windsor and the surrounding area.

During the following two years Issa and I stayed in touch regularly. We used to spend a long time on the phone or one of the social media communication portals. We exchanged family news, international events, cultural issues and many other topics.

When Issa visited us while on our holiday in Dorset, we went for a long walk, during which we exchanged views and opinions. Issa showed great interest in my upcoming book about the number nine! He kept on calling me every now and then to tell me that he found something about number nine,

on top of asking me tens of mathematical questions. Issa, like me, became fascinated and obsessed with number nine.

Sadly, Issa passed away suddenly on the 24th of February 2015 while in Windsor, UK. In June 2015, I published my book 'The Simple Complexity of Number Nine' which I dedicated to my grandchildren ... and to Issa George Sawabini.

"How lovely to find somebody after all these years only to be cruelly taken away. The sorrow is counter-balanced by the joy of meeting again after half a century, and a precious memory extending over a lifetime!"

"I Serve"

TAWFIQ TAJI '78

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF MY GOLDEN YEARS AT BHS

As I go down memory lane, I remember setting foot at BHS for the first time in 1969 for my entrance exam. A 9-year old boy baffled with pleasure coming from a bare Amman, to a small village in the mountains full of trees and beautiful old buildings with red roofs. I was enrolled in the 4th Primary grade and in the junior boarding house with Mr. & Mrs. Albert Kamel where I stayed for two years, sharing it with the boarding girls before moving into Little House with Mr. & Mrs. Emile Sawaya and Mr. & Mrs. Peter Coleridge.

In spite of having difficulties at the beginning - a totally new environment and my lack of English - Primary School was great fun, it didn't take long for me to adapt as I was spoiled by all the teachers and older students for being so young. I remember feeling so special and unique as I was the only student at BHS who had a one-digit number (no. 4) to identify my laundry, as opposed to the rest who had two or mostly three digit numbers.

Three years of Secondary School were very informative. Putting academic and sports aside; I learned so much from the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme that was run by Mr. Coleridge, I received the Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards.

Taking part in extracurricular activities was one of my favorite things. I learned photography with Mr. Brian Dickson. I helped in renovating and building the new Sickbay and outdoor stage with Mr. Baz Senior. During Ramadan I was in charge of registering names of fasting students at Little House, and



every night collected food (Suhour) from the main dining hall after finishing homework to distribute to the fasting students before bedtime.

So many memories come to mind; like watching movies at the Assembly Hall every weekend, and the plays and musicals run by Mrs. Audrey Knight twice a year. The famous Scandar preparing the best Halloum sandwiches and pancakes while we played with the flipper machines, air hockey, baby-foot and the pool tables comes to mind. I could go on and on...

Brummana High School was our home away from home, it provided us with a safe and happy environment and had such a wonderful and positive impact on us. Unfortunately, I had to leave in 1975 because of the civil war. Today, 50 years since that journey started, I can safely say, nothing beats my years in BHS, and if there's one thing I learnt, it's that I will always abide by its great motto:

"I Serve"

WALID A. TAKIEDDINE '58

"As I was travelling round the world, I landed in Brazil, and there I met an ancient friend, who loved Brummana still ...!"

At 80 years old, I have decided to write my memoirs for my children, a big part of which took place at BHS.

I was at BHS in the 1950s and in 1957, the BHS Administration decided to honour the highly esteemed Principal, Mr. A. Herbert Dobbing on his retirement by naming the champions' Field Day Cup after him. The Cup was to be presented to the champion of the Field Day that took place on April 13, 1957.

I belonged to Little House, and on that day I won the 400, 200 and 100 meters Track events, and won the Dobbing Cup. I was elated to have been informed then, that no athlete had ever won the three events in one Field Day at BHS. I was also - from day one in 1953 - the youngest player on the Football Team at just thirteen years old. I was on the Team until 1957, after which I sadly left BHS to join the International College-IC in Beirut, as my father, a judge, had been transferred from Tripoli to Beirut.

I was honoured to have received the Cup from Mr. Dobbing, at the end of that memorable Field Day. Then again, later on during the Graduation Ceremony of the Sixth Secondary class, I was announced as "Best Athlete of the year in BHS". A couple of decades later, I often ran into old scholars from those BHS golden years. They would glance at my protruding belly smiling and flare at me: "What have you done to yourself; Best Athlete!"



I would like to stress my admiration and gratitude to BHS, for the special value credited to sports. I always felt the importance of this vital factor in contributing to raising a healthy generation of students.

A brief update would be proper about an old, rather ancient scholar of BHS. I was born in Baakline in 1940 to Adel Takieddine and Jamal Alamuddine. My uncle Sulayman Alamuddine, was a student in BHS in the 30s. My mother once mentioned that even her father Salim, was a student at BHS! That could have been towards 1900, or a few years earlier.

In 1965, I graduated from Louisiana State University in USA, with a BS in Engineering. My daughter Dana is an LAU graduate in Interior Design and my son Adel is a graduate of Alba University in Architecture. Both took over the consultancy firm I had founded in 1971.

"I Serve"

When I was asked to write this piece about my school years at BHS, lots of memories flashed by. From my first day in Grade 1, to the amazing teachers I had, the beautiful, breath-taking scenic campus, to the field days and May Queen Festivals....up until I graduated in 2003.

Yes, I won't forget the years I spent at Brummana High School and the values I learned along the way: tolerance, hard work, compassion and fulfilling the school motto: **"I Serve"**

I graduated from BHS and life went on... Fast forward several years and our beloved school - through an Old Scholars Association event - was the reason I met my husband (Bassam Abu Jawdeh), who himself is a BHS alumnus (class of '96).

We now live in Cincinnati, USA, however, we make sure to spend our summers in Lebanon every year. Both our sons, George (8 years) and Michael (7 years) have been attending BHS summer camp since they were 3 years of age.

Just like Bassam and I, they love BHS, its spacious campus, its football field, swimming pool, outdoors amphitheater and the many many stairs!

Watching them run and play among its historic buildings is so heartwarming and gratifying as it brings back all our fun and sweet memories.



From Cincinnati to Brummana, I won't forget Brummana School and certainly, won't let you forget!

**CHEERS TO MY TEACHERS!
I LOVE YOU ALL!
BHS, YOU ARE SECOND TO NONE!!**

"I Serve"



LEBANON



IRAQ, ERBIL



QATAR



EGYPT



OMAN



AFRICA



GENUINE PROLIFIC PROJECTION

Brummana High School has continued to be a beacon of world class education since its inception in 1873, setting forth many successful Old Scholars into the world. Our school is a resilient academic institution, that even after the Lebanese civil strife, was able to regain its polished and unique educational reputation that it has always been known for.

Today, third world countries are poorer than ever; with unemployment and inflation rates at all-time highs and burdened by public health and education systems that are inadequate and mostly politicized.

These countries lack the basic socio-economic factors to sustain themselves.

Presently, 50% of Lebanon's population is under the poverty line, with a 40% unemployment rate. The short term forecast is grim, to say the least. Moreover, a virus known as COVID-19, took the world by surprise and forced the world into lockdown, fostering a sense of unease and helplessness in all parts of the world. Lebanon in particular was hit hard; not only were the Lebanese people burdened by below par socio-economic conditions, but now they had to deal with a fear of the unknown: the psychological panic of contracting the virus balanced by the distress of not being able to provide a living for themselves and their loved ones.

As a result, most organizations had to temporarily freeze their business and cut down on their work force, resulting in an abrupt and severe drop in revenues, and a spike in unemployment and poverty, spiralling the country into an economic and fiscal catastrophe.



As history has taught us, nothing is as important to a nation as education is!

Today BHS – and similar schools in Lebanon – are perhaps facing the most challenging circumstances ever. The adverse socio-economic situation is unlikely to change in the near future, thus everyone will be affected including students and their families who are struggling more than ever to pay their children's tuition fees.

The purpose of this message is to explore transparently how we as the Old Scholars Association can assist BHS's transformative role of continuity. We, as passionate Old Scholars, intend to preserve our school's golden reputation and pledge to keep the institution's torch forever lit. Therefore, we must all join hands for the sake of our school's survival.

Indeed, The OSA Board of Trustees is capable of undertaking significant strategies in order to deliver and fulfil this profound objective; but we need the support of all our Old Scholars around the world, as this will certainly help alleviate the BHS students' financial hardships and support the pressing issues of the school.

Let's all commit.
"I Serve"

Let's All Commit!



Old Scholars Association
Brummana High School

BHS OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION (BHS OSA)
PLEDGE FORM

Guided by the mission of the BHS Old Scholars Association to promote, support and protect the interests and welfare of Brummana High School, we look forward to your donation and continued support to achieve our objectives.

Donations could be directed to an **Endowment Fund** and/or a **Financial Aid Fund**.

Endowment Fund: The original capital plus your donation will be invested and the returns of the investment may be used for financial aid, property refurbishments, upgrading and maintenance of the school facilities, etc.

Financial Aid Fund: Will be utilized to help students in need and/or of merit to pay full or part of their tuition fees.

Donor: ☐ Personal ☐ Organization

Name _____

Phone (s) _____

Email _____

Address _____

Type of Payment:

☐ One-time Payment: \$ _____

☐ Yearly Payment: \$ _____

Pledge for:

☐ Endowment Fund

☐ Financial Aid Fund

Date of Payment: ____/____/____

I, the undersigned, _____ (Name) _____ (Last Name) _____ (In Words) _____

_____ contribution, it is greatly appreciated.

CLASS REUNIONS

CLASS REUNIONS



Class of '91 at Escobar, Brummana, on July 11, 2019
From L to R : Lana Hawayek, Dany Tannous, Joyce Khoury Akiki and Nadine Zeinoun Khoury



Class of '92 at Casper & Gambini Brummana, on July 13, 2019
From L to R : Jimmy Daghalian, Naji Chakhtoura, Serene Musallam Farah, Rabab Saad Khoury and Josiane Saadeh

CLASS REUNIONS



Class of '12, Lebanon, on July 14, 2019.
Sitting From L to R : Raghed Charabaty, Dana Atallah, Sally Bou Habib, Tiffany Moujaes, Lea Moujaes, Colin Nehme, Christer Sawaya and Bassel Chamseddine
Standing From L to R : Michel Maroun and Leticia Rahal



Class of '82 Reunion at Couqley Brummana, on July 17, 2019.
From L to R : Rima Maatouk Habib, Huda Ardakani Maamari, Emily Kanaan Salem, Claude Chalhoub Khoury, Samia Aswad, Vivian Kanaan Shmaisani, Pierre Sawaya, George Karam, Hamsa Karam and Juhaina Abi Khalil



Class of '01 Reunion in Mar Chaaya, in July 2019.
From R to L : Elie Sawan, Rita Bahnam, Myriam Taouk, Nadine Baroud, Elias Soukhen, Philip Nasr, Fahed Abou Samra, Lisette Mattar, Rania Fadel, Mary Assal and Gregory Mardikian



Class of '82 Reunion at Couqley Brummana, on July 17, 2019.
From L to R : Rima Maatouk Habib, Huda Ardakani Maamari, Emily Kanaan Salem, Claude Chalhoub Khoury, Samia Aswad, Vivian Kanaan Shmaisani, Pierre Sawaya, George Karam, Hamsa Karam and Juhaina Abi Khalil

CLASS REUNIONS



An Old Scholars' reunion in Dallas, in July 2019.
From L to R : Mounir Allam '88, Hani Allam '91, Fadi Khoury '88 and Rabab Saad Khoury '92



Class of '82 Reunion at Fakhreddine restaurant, on August 13, 2019.
Sitting from L to R : Mouin Atallah, Adel Samaha, Leila Samaha, Samia Aswad and Emily Kanaan Salem
Standing from L to R : Juhaina Abu Khalil, Rose Marie Saoud, Simon Saoud, Pierre Sawaya and Claude Chalhoub Khoury



Class of '94 Reunion in Hazmieh, Lebanon on August 6, 2019.
From L to R : Karen Ghawi, Christina Majdalani , Sami Dayeh and his wife, Tina Sader, Toufic Shaiboub and his wife, Eliane Alfa, Jimmy Joujou, Rabih Feghali, Andrew Francis, Imad Haddad and his wife and Raja Raad



Class of '82 Reunion at Burj il Hamam, Lebanon on Seprember 4, 2019.
Sitting from L to R : Andre Kasparian, Simon and Rose Marie Saoud, Samia Aswad, George and Hamsa Karam
Standing from L to R : Aline Kasparian, Philip Salem, Juhaina Abu Khalil, Gladys Nawfal Awwad, Rony Awwad, Joumana Khater, Emily Kanaan Salem, Huda Ardakani Maamari and Vivian Kanaan Shmaissani

CLASS REUNIONS



Old Scholars Reunion at Garcias, Brummana, in September 2019.
From L to R : Serene Musallam Farah '92 and her husband Fouad Farah, Jihad Hassrouni '92, Seri Musallam '91 and his wife Mirna Bechara Musallam '93 and Carla Btaish Hassrouni



Class of '99/'00 Reunion at Escobar, Brummana, in August 2019.
From L to R : Edward Azar and his wife, Mireille Azar Hawayek, Naji Hawayek, Mona Karam, Paola Chakhtoura, Sarah Aoun Balesh and Ayla Sader Rizk



Class of '10 Reunion at Fabrck Mar Mkhayel in October 2019.
In this photo : Marc Srou, Reem Sawaya, Karen Gholam, Zeina Dika, Andrew Barakat, Joy Chamoun, Marushka Hajj, James Fox, Maya Rizk, Rania Younes, Mia Hajj, Mark Zoghby, Jana Mouawad, Joseph Aoun and Edmond Riachy



Class of '92 Reunion in London, UK on Sunday November 24, 2019.
From L to R : Serene Musallam Farah who came from Lebanon, Iman Issa Kortbawi who came from Sweden, and Danielle Finan who came from France.
It had been more than 20 years since the three classmates had seen each other!

CLASS REUNIONS



Mini Reunion for the Class of '88 at Mano Snack, Bourj Hammoud on February 27, 2020.
From L to R : Hany Khechfe, Eddy Goraieb, Mounir Allam and Nadim Maalouf



Virtual Reunion of the Class of '07 held on April 20, 2020.
First row | From L to R : Joelle Abi Nakhoul, Christina Karam, Zeina Samen
Second row | From L to R : Tony Bou Habib, Tala Hawasli, Dany Mattar
Third row | From L to R : Lynn Charabaty, Christine Zeinoun, Carol Abou Laban
Fourth row | From L to R : Tatiana Chmaisany, Andre Sayah



Virtual Reunion of the Class of '92 held on May 28, 2020.
First row | From L to R : Kamal Khoury, Serene Musallam Farah, Naji Chakhtoura
Second row | From L to R : Dany Costa, Iman Issa Kortbawi, Amin Najjar
Third row | From L to R : Elie Salloum, Selim Diab, Zeina Khoury

A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

A Walk Down Memory Lane

"PHOTOS COURTESY OF OLD SCHOLAR RURIK HALABY '58"



Abdel Wahab Kaygali
& Munir Asfar near
the shool gate.
-Feb '57-



Vth. yr. at 10 o'clock
break. -Jun '57-

A Walk Down Memory Lane

"PHOTOS COURTESY OF OLD SCHOLAR RURIK HALABY '58"



"Ma mni'bal ya Jalal!"
The Vth. Vs.
Jalal Abbas,
the Head Prefect.
-Jun '57-



Pizante Chapourian,
Biol.; -May '57-



IVth. yr. students.
-Jun '56-



David Birkinshaw,
Maths. -Mar '57-

A Walk Down Memory Lane

"PHOTOS COURTESY OF OLD SCHOLAR RURIK HALABY '58"



Nazir Azmeh, Arabic.
-Jun '57-



Badredinne Milly,
Physics. -Jun '57-



Ramez Afifi,
Chemistry. -May '57-



Michael Marcoff,
English. -Feb '57-

A Walk Down Memory Lane

"PHOTOS COURTESY OF OLD SCHOLAR RURIK HALABY '58"



The school's car near
Fleysseh. -Jun '57-



Robert' Kfoury's
bulldozer, working
on football field.
-Jun '57-



ثقافتنا هي الحضارة

لا للعنف
No to violence



Change the
الصورة Image

BHS BOARDERS : A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

“To live independently and amongst our dear friends is an experience we will come to cherish forever. Life in boarding prepares us for the road ahead; it has primed us with the necessary skills to grow independent and succeed in life.” (Sulaiman Al-Aini, G12IP, Head Student Boarder)

What a year it has been and perhaps even more so for our boarding community. Nestled in at Edinburgh House, under the ever-watchful eye of Rabih Aouad, his wife Lamiss and the team, boy and girl boarders ranging from Lebanese to Yemeni, from Jordanian to Syrian and from American to Iraqi, lived harmoniously together, whenever the situation in the country and world allowed that is!

We're not sure the old building, inaugurated in 1967 by H.R.H. Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, has ever seen a year quite like this one. As if the events on October 17th and the weeks that followed didn't have a substantial enough impact on school life and boarding in particular, what came next with Covid-19 still remains completely bewildering.

Through it all the boarding community stood tall. Through it all the boarders succeeded in their studies and developed as individuals. Through it all the staff completed their duties and acted on all their responsibilities. Through it all new boarding opportunities developed (full, weekly and flexi).



Sulaiman Al-Aini addressing the community at Christmas



Boarding Girls and staff at Christmas Dinner

Through it all new facilities were made available (e.g. the new gym and indoor sports court) and through it all new school practices developed (e.g. pastoral care).

Around half of the boarders will be returning in September, to be joined by the school's next batch of new boarders who have a very internationally diverse mix also, from Dutch to Costa Rican and from American to Saudi Arabian, and that's just so far!

It is this diverse mix which adds to the boarding experience of so many boarders who have passed through the school's doors. A long and illustrious list of Old Scholars who boarded, with even one who

attended from 1967 to 1971 succeeding his cousin as Sultan of Oman, His Majesty Haitham bin Tariq, on January 11th of this academic year.

Returning to Sulaiman, himself the grandson of former Yemeni Prime Minister Mohsin Ahmad Al-Aini, and his sincere words on the boarders' experience and what is to come in the future, we look forward to hearing all about the boarders' successes to come.

Keep in touch!

Richard Bampfylde
BHS Marketing Manager

BHS BOARDERS : A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER



This way to Edinburgh House!



Charbel Yammine at study time in his boarding room



Edinburgh House



Zane Al Samman enjoying some downtime

BR1 ACTIVITIES 2019 - 2020

BR1 ACTIVITIES 2019 - 2020

At the beginning of the scouting year, BR1 said Goodbye to its former Group Leader C. Mona Karam '00, and welcomed Chief Farah Salem as its new leader. For the first time in 3 years, in December 2019, Rover Scouts Michel Ghaleb and Tarek Yared were appointed as assistant unit leaders in the BR1 council.

Chiefs Joe Rufka and Christina Sawaya were also appointed Scout and Guide Unit Leaders respectively in April 2020. During the first 2 quarters of the scouting year the group held 2 recruitment campaigns in Brummana High School targeting children of different ages. The group held its winter camp in December 2019 in which all its members and leaders participated.

Due to COVID-19, around the end of February scouting activities had to be suspended, and as a result, BR1 launched an online campaign to raise awareness about hunger where all members and leaders participated. The campaign ended with donating food items to a local initiative lead by Peter Abi Hamad that helped many families in the Brummana region who could not afford to leave their houses and get food.

The cub scouts started the scouting year strong by recruiting 20 new members after having 7 cub scouts transition into the green unit, we also had the first 2-night camp since 2014 over the winter vacation. The cubs unit ended last year's scouting year by winning the Golden Unit (Second Place) Award and the Cubs Who Care Award at the Lebanese Scouts Association End of Year Ceremony in September 2019. During quarantine, the cubs had weekly online meetings and activities tackling one SDG per week as per their quarter theme: Aim to Sustain.



BR1 Council 2020-2021

BR1 ACTIVITIES 2019 - 2020

The guides then refreshed their knowledge with a series of training overnights and long days focusing on scouting skills and discipline. From weekly meetings to the BR1 Winter Camp, the guides kept progressing individually, as patrols, and as a unit overall, and to keep up with the thriving development during quarantine, the guides had structured virtual meetings, from unit and patrol meetings to random general knowledge sessions, covering various challenges every week to maintain the spirit of motivation.

With their sights set on advancement and their diverse approaches unified, the Boy Scouts accelerated through the year. Improving pioneer work was a major goal, so these practical skills were displayed in the structures that they built throughout the Winter Camp. Additionally, the unit exerted its efforts onto Green Book progress; witnessing the official appointment of Ricardo Ghantous and Luigi Angelil as patrol leaders strengthened the team system, an integral factor of the Scouting Method. Most importantly, the Scouts made these achievements collectively, demonstrating that teamwork always yields great results.

The ventures unit had a very busy first quarter where they held their "Redder Christmas" fundraiser, several promise ceremonies, and took part in the BR1 3-day winter camp. The clan also welcomed several members from the scouts and guides units, which boosted the member's enthusiasm. The ventures went on their second annual snowshoeing trip in Shouf Biosphere Reserve in February, and unfortunately had to stop their activities in keeping with COVID 19 regulations issued by the government, however, they continued meeting online to catch up and keep updated.



Appointment of C. Michel Ghaleb as Assistant Troop Unit Leader - December 2019



Cub Scouts at BR1 Winter Camp - December 2019



Appointment of C. Farah Salem as Assistant Group Leader- December 2019



Appointment of C. Tarek Yared as Assistant Pack Unit Leader - December 2019



Girl Scouts Group Photo - December 2019



Boy Scouts at Green Book and Lashing Long Day February 2020



Luigi Angelil receiving his Green Braid - December 2019



Guide Kaya Haddad receiving her Second Scout and Red Braid - January 2020



Riccardo Ghantous receiving his Green Braid
December 2019



Venture Scouts snowshoeing in Shouf Biosphere
Reserve - February 2020



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**THE BHS OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION MOURNS
OUR DEAR OLD SCHOLARS AND FORMER BHS STAFF
WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2019/2020**

HANI TADROS '85

KHALID AL JAMIL '64

HANI KHOURI '68

FAROUK BIZRI '70

ABDULLAH MARDAMBEY '53

PHILLIPPE KANNAN '45

YASSINE DAFTARY '55

AHMED KARAME '64

NAIM BAROUD

Acting BHS Principal (1984-1986 and 1991-1993),
and beloved History and Social Studies teacher

LEILA ABOU JAOUDE

Former BHS teacher who guided many generations
of BHS students in their earlier years

ANDREW CLARK

A prominent and well-loved member of the Quaker community
who was involved with the Lebanese Quakers and Brummana High School
for more than 50 years

NAIM BAROUD RIP

The news of the passing away of Mr Naim Baroud, former Principal and Teacher at Brummana High School, needless to say, has come down very hard on me.

Mr Baroud and I and my colleagues in the Brummana High School Cultural Society spent some great times bringing back together a School that was "deserted" by the Society of Friends during the height of the Lebanese war in 1985.

Mr Baroud is an educator par excellence, he is a man who has dedicated his life to nurturing the spirits and young minds of students with ethical principles. Mr Baroud was a serious, knowledgeable, highly ethical, modest, positive, a man of high standard and principles and was proud of his profession, because it brought him close to the mission he set out for his life. A teacher of social studies he was by all means a visionary nationalist. He certainly knew that nationalism must be inbred in the spirit of the students and that it was imperative in the development process.

He believed in the mission that the Brummana High School Cultural Society (BHSCS) had in developing Brummana High School to become advanced in its education and one of the best schools with the highest modern levels of education.

هو من قال في العام ١٩٨٥ : "سمعنا بالأمس يقولون "نحن نريد ان نعود بالمدرسة الى ما كانت عليه". فقال : " فليعلموا انا نحن نطمح لأن ننتقل بالمدرسة الى الأمام ولن نسمح بأن يعيدها أحد قيد أنملة الى الوراء."

Mr Baroud was in the school during the most dangerous times, he traveled to and from the safety of home to be with the teachers and students and give them courage and strength.

Yes, Mr. Baroud feared the dangers, as we all did, but was never afraid to face them. He was the solid rock in the principal's office, and was the most cooperative Administrator.

We miss educators like Mr Baroud, he was a solid believer, and most righteous citizen.

I pray for his Peace and the Grace of his maker

Amine M Daouk. BHS 1955

Founder and former Chairman of BHSCS

Present Treasurer



Save The Date

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30th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

2-3-4
JULY 2021



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CONGRATULATIONS

TO EVERYONE ON THIS OCCASION
FROM AN OLD SCHOLAR RESIDING IN DUBAI