



**Christian Medical College Vellore,
North American Alumni Reunion &
CME Program, Indianapolis, IN
June 16-19, 2011.**

We are delighted to be organizing the 2011 North American Alumni Reunion also known as the Gathering Of the Clan or the GOTC. This will be our 30th Annual Reunion and the first time in Indiana. The dates are **June 16th (Thursday) to June 19th (Sunday)**. The event will be held at the **Indianapolis Marriott Downtown**.

Website

The website is now up and running (www.vellorecmc.org/GOTC2011.htm). It provides an overview of the event and access to this welcome letter and registration form. A copy of this letter and the registration form are being mailed to everyone in our database. You can reserve rooms directly on the link to the hotels site. Links to various activities in Indianapolis, contact information for persons in charge of activities and links to photographs from earlier GOTCs are also on the site. The provisional list of speakers and details regarding the CME program will be updated as we get closer to the actual date. The first Participant List will appear March 1st and then be updated frequently

Arriving in Indianapolis

Indy has one international airport (IND). It is a medium sized facility with a brand new terminal and good connections to major cities. The Green Line airport shuttle operates every 20 minutes, the hotel is a 15 minute ride away. You do not need to rent a car if you are flying in.

Indy is also very accessible by road and often referred to as the Crossroads of America. If you are driving in you will be able to park free. Details regarding parking will be available to all attendees as we get closer.

Hotel

The Indianapolis Marriott Downtown is a AAA Four Diamond hotel located on 350 Maryland Street. The CMC Vellore Alumni rate for our get together is \$110 good till May 17th or till the block is sold out. It is good for the three days of the GOTC and two days prior and after. Please book your room early. You can do so on the link to the hotel on our website or by calling Marriott Reservations at (800)266-9432 and asking for the Christian Medical College Alumni Reunion rate. If booking online, choose 'attendee' from the drop down list for guest type when you reserve.

Registration

The registration fee is \$130 per family.

A copy of the registration form is enclosed and is available to print from the website. Please mail it to our home address at the end of this letter and include separate checks for Registration/Passes and food respectively.

Continuing Medical Education

The CME program is being organized by Bajie George ('76). It is jointly sponsored by Indiana University School of Medicine and approved for AMA PRA Category 1 credit. An initial list of speakers is available on the website. A final list and schedule will appear early June.

Friday Afternoon Activity

One of the major attractions of a downtown location in a city is easy access. Indianapolis is exceptional in that regard as you can walk to most areas of interest. On Friday, after the CME program and lunch at the hotel, we plan to walk the 2 blocks to White River State Park. We will leave at around 1.30pm. Please take a moment to look at the park website and review the many attractions available there. These include the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indian and Western Art, Indiana State Museum, IMAX Theater, The NCAA Hall of Champions Museum and the Indianapolis Zoo/White River Gardens. We have negotiated a significantly discounted rate from the rate available on line for the passes. Purchasing a pass allows you access to all the attractions in the park. The actual pass is a small booklet with tear off tickets good for one access to each attraction. It also contains coupons good for bike rentals, paddle boats, and segway tours. You can use the pass over the entire 4 days of the GOTC if you so choose.

Please note that you are not required to purchase a park pass and don't need one to enter the park. You are free to walk the 250 acres of the park including the 1.5 mile long canal without entering any of the attractions. You can also purchase individual tickets at the attractions if you choose to. The canal is a popular site for a morning walk or run.

Tennis and Golf

Alumni interested in tennis and golf need only to contact the respective coordinators. We are actively looking at potential sites and will have more information available soon. Both tennis and golf will involve a short drive to the respective sites.

Tennis Coordinator-Ravi George('73), email- rkgeorge13@aol.com

Golf Coordinator-Luke Cheriyan('68), [email-lcheriyan@aol.com](mailto:lcheriyan@aol.com)

Food

Starting with Thursday dinner through breakfast/brunch on Sunday, all meals are being provided at the hotel with the exception of lunch on Saturday which will be on your own. You can walk to over one hundred and fifty restaurants which will cater to just about any taste. The hotel has two in house.

The cost for food is,	
Adults, Children 12 and older	\$180 per person
Children 4-11 yrs	\$125 per person
Children < 4years	Free

If you are spending 24 hours or less at the GOTC, the cost will be 50% of the registration/food amounts. If you are attending one meal only, for example the Saturday banquet, please contact us directly.

Please pay for food and registration/passes with separate checks and as soon as possible.

Chief Guests

Dr Mammen and Mrs. Anu Chandy have accepted our invitation to be Chief Guests. Mammen, as we affectionately call him, retired earlier this year after 30 plus years of clinical work and teaching at CMC. He is now Director at Tata Memorial Hospital, a new 150 bed cancer hospital in Kolkata where he is starting a Bone Marrow Transplant program. He is scheduled to speak at the Friday dinner. Anu Chandy taught for years at Vidyalayam High School in Vellore and is now retired.

Scholarships

We do have a limited number of need-based scholarships for first time applicants who are junior alumni in training or trying to get into training programs. These will be handled by our overall GOTC coordinator, Alex Kuruvila('66). Please contact him directly (alexkuruvi@gmail.com or 951-780-0500) if you wish to apply for one.

In Closing

At the GOTC in Charlotte we asked for feedback from everyone attending the final day of the CME program. We received 85 responses and are grateful for that. The responses focused mainly on the CME program, however many of you offered suggestions to improve the overall program. We have kept these suggestions in mind while organizing the 2011 program. We hope you will continue to contact us with questions and suggestions over the next six months leading up to June 16th.

Please forward this letter to those who may not have received it and direct them to our website. We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year. Seasons greetings to all, we look forward to seeing you in June.

Reena('81) and Sajiv John('78)

1131 Turnberry Drive
Schererville, IN 46375.

srsjohn@hotmail.com

Home-(219)322-8936

Dec 11, 2010

