

CKC 20th National Convention

THEME

"Giving our Children a First Class Education in a First Class Environment."



Saturday, July 14, 2018

Oak Lawn Hilton

9333 S. Cicero Ave, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

CHICAGO



2 principals, 2 icons..., separate eras.



**Our Founding Father,
*Bishop Charles Heery***



**The first indigenous principal,
*Rev. Fr. N. C. Tagbo***

On the left is the first principal (our Founding Father), ***Bishop Charles Heery***, an Irish. When the school was started in 1933, he essentially set the tone and tenor for the educational standards that CKC Onitsha would become known for.

The first indigenous (African) principal was ***Rev. Fr. Nicholas Chinedu Tagbo***. He assumed that role when the last Irish principal left just as the Civil War was starting. ***Fr. Tagbo*** stayed on as principal until he was transferred to Government College, Afikpo in early 1973.

He would later return to CKC in 1977, where he finally retired from that position.

These two gentlemen will forever be remembered as ***Giants in school administration***.

Program of Events

1. Introduction of the MC
2. Introduction of Chairman and special guests
3. Opening prayers
4. National Anthems (Nigeria and US) - CKC Song
5. President's welcome address
6. National President's remarks
7. Keynote address by the Chairman of the occasion
8. Musical Interlude / Refreshment
9. Fund Raising
10. Dance - Dance - Dance
11. Vote of thanks
12. Dance - Dance - Dance





Welcome Message by Host Chapter

Tony Okoye, *President*
Chicago Chapter

Good evening. On behalf of the **CKC Alumni Chicago Chapter**, I would like to welcome our distinguished guests, fellow CKC alumni, and all the ladies and gentlemen who took time out of their busy schedules to attend our 20th CKC-AAA Annual National Convention/Gala Night. I would like to thank the members of the Chicago chapter for their relentless effort and hard work in making this convention a success. This is the third convention held by the Chicago chapter, the first two were hosted under the leadership of our late chairmen, **Charles Okoye**. We want to give a special tribute to him for his role in making the Chicago chapter what it is today. He worked tirelessly with great passion in moving the CKC legacy forward. He was one of a kind. To the family of **late Charles Okoye**, the Chicago chapter says **THANK YOU**. We also want to pay homage to our first indigenous principal, **Reverend Father Tagbo**. He was one of the greatest educators and disciplinarians of our time. Every student has a different story about their encounter with his methods. Lastly, we would also like to thank the friends of the CKC alumni who contributed to making this convention a reality.

Christ the King College (CKC) Onitsha is an all-boys school founded by Irish missionaries in February, 1933. Its goal was to facilitate, nurture, and instill a thirst for goodness, discipline, and knowledge based on catholic moral principles in youths, in preparation for life's journey in order to create a better world. This mission is reflected in the college motto, **Bonitas, Disciplina, Scientia**, (goodness, discipline, and knowledge). Who we are today is a direct result of these principles. Because of this foundation, our alumni can be seen in every facet of government and in every profession. CKC remains one of the best secondary schools in Nigeria.

The theme of this year's convention is **"Giving our Children a First-Class Education in a First-Class Environment."** Walking through the campus today, one can see updated libraries, state-of-the-art dormitories, and modern computer and science labs. This is a far cry from years ago after the Nigerian civil war. Back then, students had to sit on cement blocks in classrooms without tables, and buildings had half torn roofs, if any at all. This new campus is the result of the hard work of numerous alumni who give without the expectation of anything in return. This is the true spirit of CKC. We do this not to be praised or honored. We do it simply to pay back the debt that we owe to the institution that contributed immensely to make us who we are today. The knowledge, discipline, and morality instilled in us during those formative years still guides us in making the world a better place today. We want to pass this passion to the present and future students of CKC. We want to show appreciation and thanks to past and present staff for all their sacrifice and for their role in molding future minds.

May the fame of our college last forever is an excerpt from our college song, **"Three Cheers for CKC."** This infamy is a result of the work and contribution of the alumni as well as the staff. If we continue to work together, there is no reason why our fame cannot last forever.

During our gala event this evening, your generosity will help support our on-going rehabilitation and capital improvement projects and offer financial assistance to students in different disciplines. It will also bring us closer to achieving the theme of this convention, **"Giving our Children a First-Class Education in a First-Class Environment."**

Thank you.

A Captured Heart – My Love Affair with CKC Onitsha

There are many things I do not remember about my life.

For example, I do not remember being born. I simply became aware of myself after the fact – indeed it took many years for me to be self-aware after my birth.

I do not remember my first soccer game, my first dance with a girl, my first pair of shoes, my first... you get the idea.

A “first” that I certainly remember is MY FIRST DAY at CKC Onitsha.

Please bear with me as I wave this tale of my love affair with CKC Onitsha.

In the Beginning:

I had just started Grade 2 when the Civil War started in Nigeria. Like most families, mine was displaced from my parents’ place of work. Like other families, we moved around in search of a safe place to set roots, temporarily, until the war was over. My family happened to settle in Orlu for the duration of the war, during which period I completed Grades 2 and 3. Grade 4 came after the war had ended in 1970, followed by Grade 5.

At the time, East Central State ran a Common Entrance Examination for prospective college-bound students (be sure not to confuse the Nigerian “college” with the American “college”). Since I was in Grade 5 and a 10-year old runt, my Dad believed that I was still too “tiny” to go to college, even as he was convinced that I could withstand the mental rigors. Like most moms, my mom had her own ideas, and she surreptitiously procured the entrance forms for me, filled them out with me, and we selected 3 colleges, namely CKC Onitsha, CIC Enugu and St Theresa’s College Nsukka (to be close to home, I presume).

When the results were published in the Renaissance newspaper which served ECS at the time, we naturally looked through the admitted students in the columns for CKC, CIC and STC, but my name was not there. My dad, having learnt of our escapade, declared that it may be God’s way of telling me to wait to mature before going to college.

That my dad *sef*!

But my mom was convinced that I was good and ready for college, my tiny size notwithstanding. She dutifully searched through the entire listings until she spotted my name among the students going to a school named Zixton Grammar School, Ozubulu.

Our aghast reactions were: What? Where? Why?

Off to Zixton, Ozubulu:

Having finally secured my dad’s approval, I was bundled off to ZixtonOzubulu, into the hands of the school proprietor, Chief Vincent Ikeotuonye. Although I was home-sick the first couple of days, I quickly made friends at Zixton. My good friends till date – Charles Ewenike, OkeyAzike, Patty Ubajaka, Afam Obi etc were from that hallowed school. It also helped that Maryland Lodge, the home of Chief MbzulikeAmechi (The Boy is Good) which was situated in his Niger Farm, was a short distance away, so my Sunday rice was assured.

CKC, Here I Come:

While I was forging a new path at Zixton, my dad was working to get me relocated to CKC Onitsha. Oh, did I mention that my dad was an Old Boy as well? And that Old Boys enjoyed some privileges there? Or that the Principal, Rev. Fr NC Tagbo was the younger brother of my mother’s brother-in-law (Mr Ignatius Tagbo was married to my mother’s oldest sister).

Let me not hear *pim* from anybody who wants to shout nepotism. Man-know-man is good, but it is even better when it is familial as well as Old Boy network-reinforced.

So I was transferred to CKC Onitsha, and started a new phase of life.

To start, CKC was much bigger than ZixtonOzubulu. As you entered the main gate, you were met by a very wide two-story building that seemed to stretch to the ends of the earth. With Greek columns set every few feet apart.

Yes, some of the windows were missing.

Yes, the paint was peeling off.

Yes, some of the stair risers were missing, forcing students to jump between steps or risk falling through the gaps.

Despite all those flaws, I felt that I was finally HOME.

Until I entered **MrAziwe**’s Latin class, to discover that Declensions and Conjugations *no be joke*...

Continued on next page

Continued from last page

...And the tortured culture clash between Traditional Maths and **MrAniga**'s Modern Maths.
Or Chief Ezenwa (**Agbalanze**) and his infamous "Exams without Time-Table".
Or **Buzuzu** (Chief Joe Martins Uzodike) and his Bazaar rip-off via Allagoa House.
Or the dreaded punishment of **RaphAgazie** (now a Vet Doctor and a very good friend of mine).
Or the enigmatic "**Hitler**", Mr Anthony Ibeziako whose mere look sent grown men into panic.
Or Mr**Nwaishienyi** (nothing more to add except to say "**Warming Up**")
Or the world-famous quarrel between "ndi-Q" (QRC Onitsha, our sister school) and CKC boys, whereby our mortal enemies (DMGS) became the new darlings of "Q-girls". I'm still shivering from that sad episode which had massive social ramifications for both schools!!!
But despite all that, CKC was the crucible within which raw iron ore was refined into fine shiny steel.

Learning To Serve:

It was while at CKC that one's sense of service was honed and cultivated. We watched as Old Boys stopped over at the school to visit and speak with current students:

My dad's Class of 1948 would don their faded school blazers and show up on the feast of Christ The King.

Justice Oputa, an eminent Old Boy and a Justice of the Nigerian Supreme Court, would land in his Jaguar Sovereign limo.

Justice Anthony Aniagolu would visit the school as well.

Through the years, we saw many alumni return to the school to teach specialized classes free of charge. **Dr Anyaeji** (a Professor at University of Benin) was known to make the monthly trip from Benin to Onitsha to teach his classes as a way to elevating the knowledge base of our Chemistry students.

Professor Alexander Acholonu (Emeritus Professor at Alcorn State University) would visit the school whenever he was in Nigeria. Indeed, he provided the motivation and resources for the first Computer Lab in the school, as well as the ultra-modern school kitchen.

Our Old Boys (our school has produced 3 state governors, college Professors, Federal Ministers and State Commissioners, Ambassadors, Justices at various levels, MDs, Teachers and people in all professional endeavors) have learnt that Service to School is the only way to ensure that our school Motto: **Bonitas, Displina, Scientia** is retained in perpetuity.

CKC-AAA enters the picture:

This story would be incomplete if we fail to mention the fortuitous way that CKC-Alumini in Americas (CKC-AAA) came about. My recollection is that two of our Boys had traveled to Nigeria, and somehow by Divine Providence (conveniently called **coincidence**), they individually decided to go visit CKC.

On the same day.

At the same time.

Upon arrival on campus, they met a school in a sorry state. The paint was peeling from the buildings. Windows are missing from classrooms. Roofs, where they existed, were rusty and leaking. Meals were being prepared in a shed that was better suited for cattle than for students. Students generally had very little to look forward to, in terms of quality education and a half-decent campus in which to live and learn.

When these Old Boys returned to America, they initiated a series of meeting with their classmates and other Old Boys, which eventually led to the formation of CKC Alumni Association in the Americas (CKC-AAA).

This was in the 1997/98 timeframe.

In the intervening years, CKC-AAA has hosted annual conventions (biennial since 2016) where new ideas are explored, old ideas concretized, and projects are initiated/continued or concluded. The results of our (CKC-AAA) efforts have been demonstrable and concrete.

As an individual and a son of an Old Boy (2nd Generation Alumnus), I can attest the pleasure of working for the revitalization of CK Onitsha is immeasurable.

My heart has been captured!

Emma Onua

CKC Onitsha Class of 1976



DR. MICHAEL *and* DR. ADA
AZODO

*and family congratulate CKC, Onitsha
students, alumni and staff as we celebrate
our 20th National Convention in Chicago.*



THE FAMILY OF FIDEL & HELEN
OKEKE

and their children

(Fidel Jr, Byron, Melvyn and Sharon)

heartily congratulates all “Amaka Boys” here and in Diaspora
on the 20th National convention of the Great
Christ The King College, Onitsha
taking place on Saturday, July 14th, 2018
at The Oak Lawn Hilton, Oak Lawn, IL.

Have a great fun evening!!!

LONG LIVE THE GREAT CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE, ONITSHA!!!
PRIMUS.

Fidel Uche Okeke



Rex and Nneka
OGBOGU

and family
congratulate

CKC students, alumni and staff
as we celebrate our
20th National Convention in Chicago.



**TONY
AND
NGOZI
OKOYE**
and family
congratulate
*Christ The King
College, Onitsha
Alumni
Association in
America
as we celebrate our
20th Annual
National
Convention
In Chicago*





**DR. CHRIS (EZENWAMADU)
& MRS. CHINEZE
NKEMIEHI**

**AND CHILDREN CONGRATULATE CKC
ON OUR 2018 CHICAGO CONVENTION.**



PATRICK ACHEBE

congratulates

Christ The King College, Onitsha

and its students, alumni and staff

as we celebrate our

20th National Convention in Chicago.



Emma and Ifey

ONU

and Family

congratulate

Christ The King College Onitsha Alumni Association in

America as we celebrate our

20th Annual National Convention In Chicago

"We are proud to be members of the Chicago Chapter!"

Chicago members, hosting branch...



Tony Okoye
President, Class of '73



Tim Anumba
Vice President/Treasurer Class of '77



Jude Nwokenkwo
Secretary, Class of '77



Michael Azodo
Class of '62



Fidel Uche Okeke
Class of '72



Chris Nkemeh
Class of '74

...2018 CKC 20th National Convention



Ndudi Aniemeka
Class of '73



Rex Ogbogu
Class of '75



Emma Onua
Webmaster, Class of '76



Boniface Okeke
Class of '74



Jude Nwokenkwo
Class of '77



Ernest Okeke
Class of '77

THE BONIFACE OKEKE FAMILY congratulates CKC students, alumni and staff.



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The Willy-Esther Foundation, Inc. **A Non-Profit Organization**

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Cover of Retirement Reception
Brochure held on April 25, 2018 at
Alcorn State University

A Legend in Academia
A Prolific Researcher
The Goliath in Academia

"The Sunset of an Academic Era"



Prof. Acholonu and Ms. Eucheria Chima-Jorji (Left) pose with Doctors, Nurses, Lab Scientists and others that participated in the free Medical Mission held at Awaka on April 2, 2018.



**Chief Sir Professor Alexander D.
Wozuzu Acholonu**

Professor of Biology and Former President Faculty Senate
First and Only Professor at ASU to receive Distinguished Contribution to
Science Award from Mississippi Academy of Sciences (MAS)
First & only Professor to be rated as one of the Top 20 Medical & Nursing
Professors in the state of Mississippi

**The Willy-Esther Foundation wishes CKC-AAA a beneficial and historical
biennial convention holding in July 13-14, 2018 at Chicago, IL.**

Chief, Sir Prof. Alex D. Wozuzu Acholonu, FNSP, FRAES, FAS, OON
Founder/President and CEO, WEF, Patron ISCA
Ogbuho Uzo, Ekwueme, Omereoha
Website: www.willy-estherfoundation.org



**School Main
Entrance**



**Main Block -
standing since
1933**

Campus view



Mega-dorm still under construction





**Ultra-modern
kitchen - CKC
America project**



**Chemistry
Lab buiding**





Tim, Ngozi, Tobechukwu, & Alexis Anumba

CONGRATULATE

Christ The King College Onitsha Alumni Association in
America,
and the Chicago Chapter, Illinois, USA. on the
occasion of
CKC-AAA 20th Annual National Convention/Gala Night

“Our Journey Must Continue.”



Dr. Ndudi and Mrs. Oby
ANIEMEKE

and family
congratulate

CKC students, alumni and staff worldwide

as you celebrate your

20th National Convention - Chicago 2018



JUDE NWOKENKWO
and family
congratulate CKC students,
alumni and staff
as you celebrate your
20th National Convention



Ernest Okeke and family congratulate CKC Alumni on the celebration of your 20th National Convention.



**May the Fame of Our College C.K.C. Last Forever!
Long Live our Alma Mater C.K.C. Onitsha
The Izuchi family of Ozubulu resident in
Boston, Massachusetts, USA**

would like to congratulate all C.K.C. alumni, especially the Chicago Host Chapter for their 2018 Convention. We wish for a very successful convention, and all attendees God's journey mercies.



Prof. / Ichie & Lady NT Izuchi & Family



IN LOVING MEMORY OF RICHARD GEORGE-CHUKWUEMEKA

His family congratulates
MR. AND MRS. EMMA ONUA

and the entire

CHRIST THE KING COLLEGE OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION

on the occasion of their 20th year Anniversary and Convention.

Your strong presence has fostered a community spirit and been the foundation for executing various projects worth millions including: completing a state-of-the art **science building**, adding a brand new massive dormitory and supplying the **science and computer labs** with top-notch equipment.

We wish you a wonderful evening as you celebrate this and all other achievements to come.

Mrs. Chima George- Chukwuemeka
on behalf of the family.

