

ENTERTAINMENT

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# Silver Stars hosts concerts

By ANGELA PIDDUCK

SILVER STARS Panyard on Tragarete Road, was recently turned into an entertainment venue hosting several concerts. First pan aficionado, Alvin Daniell, who celebrated his birthday and with wife Diane, their 38th wedding anniversary, launched his 2007 Calypso compilation — *Pan Gone Soca*.

A CD comprised of 15 songs, composed with the pan in mind, reflecting the trend of arrangers who have departed from the classical style of some panorama arrangements and according to Daniell “have gone for a more party flavoured offering.”

“Even the choice of tunes suggest that the youthful players in the bands today have pressured the arrangers to choose the soca styled tunes that they enjoy.”

Live performances by some of the following frontline singers of pan songs on the new CD — Denyse Plummer, Destra, Candy Hoyte, Designer, Derrick Seales, Eunice Peters, Lil Bits, Crazy, Skatie, De Panman, Scanty and newcomer Kensia Thomas — were lapped up by those who take the annual Panorama ‘pan’ offerings very seriously.

They were given a preview of the wealth of tunes, from which the pan arrangers can choose for Panorama 2007, courtesy Daniell, who himself has co-composed five



of the tunes on the CD, interspersed with pan presentations from Silver Stars and Tripolians. *The Pan Gone Soca* is on sale at leading shops.

On Saturday night, the last night of the 16th annual presentation of Parang and Steel by Silver Stars drew hundreds who enjoyed

dancing or chipping under the stars to the band’s varied repertoire.

Good parang presentations by the paranaderos of La Divina Pastora, and other performers such as Skatie, Debbie Nahous and Poser, along with retro music by DJ Remix were also enjoyed. The Newtown band

which was well known for its annual Carnival Tuesday night last lap jump-ups in the streets was formed in 1952 in the backyard of the Chan brothers at 80 Picton Street.

Known for its sweet sounding pans, and the only steelband to have won the Band of the Year Title with *Gulliver’s Travels*, moved its ‘yard’ around the area many times before settling at the present Tragarete Road venue just about 15 years ago.

Nicky Inniss, one of Silver Stars’ early members remembers, “The band moved from the Chan’s to the Pantin’s at upper Woodford Street, the home of the late Archbishop Anthony Pantin and his brothers; then to lower Woodford Street at Ramon Young’s home, to somewhere on Warner Street, to Cipriani Boulevard, back to Woodford Street, and finally Tragarete Road. Some of the band’s more memorable hits were ‘Jean and Dinah’ for las lap 1956, the ‘Happy Wanderer,’ and ‘Salud D’Amour.’”

Edwin Pouchet, the latest in a long line of Pouchets to have been connected with the leadership of Silver Stars, is the present arranger who is currently putting the band through its 2007 Panorama paces with “Soca Is It” composed by Pouchet and Daniell, and sung by Chucky. It is one of the many songs on the recently launched CD.