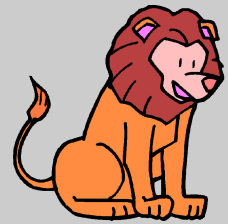


South Secondary School Alumni Association Fall 2008



LIONS' PRIDE

Virtus Repulsae Nescia Sordidae



HOMECOMING 2008

by **Connie (Woods) Weir**
(‘66)

Once again the weather gods were kind, as South hosted its second fall Homecoming on Sat. October 11. Attendees basked in glorious sunshine and above seasonal temperatures as they watched football from the bleachers or mingled with friends along the sidelines.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The day's events began at 10:30 AM on the James A. Giffen Field. **Dan Knight** (‘07), chair of this year's planning committee, introduced **South Principal, Larry Schneider**, who welcomed returning alumni,



commenting that writer Thomas Wolfe's famous line "You can't go home again" clearly didn't apply to South grads.

"Every South student, every Lion who studied, played and

grew within the tradition-filled halls of South has always left a little bit of him/herself behind, whether it was in a team championship banner, a picture in the yearbook, a painting, or more ephemerally, the echoes of their voices in the halls as they laughed, participated in classes, cheered on their teammates, or raised their voices in song.... So too when each of you left South, you took away a part of it in your mind and in your heart.... Being a South Lion is, perhaps, forever, and your return here today is proof positive of those strongly felt ties, alliances, and the common thread that joins you all."

While Homecoming weekends are a common tradition at colleges and universities, high school Homecomings are rare. Wikipedia claimed that the only Ontario Secondary school to celebrate Homecoming was in Newmarket, an "injustice of misinformation", that South's principal challenged his audience to "fix". (Readers will be pleased to note that the Wikipedia error has now been corrected.)

Following Principal Schneider's address, **Students' Council President, Harrison Berton** (Free Press editor Paul Berton's son and

writer Pierre Berton's grandson) added his welcome and outlined the student-run activities taking place during the day: Students' Council BBQ & Clothing Sales, Grad Committee Bake Sale, Garnet Club Face Painting and Social Justice Committee Display and Water Bottle Sale.

ENTERTAINMENT

Tyler Edwards

This mega-talented grade 10 student treated attendees to a powerful rendition of "Oh Canada", as well as providing half-time entertainment during the junior game. Only 15, Tyler has already built up an impressive resume. In the last year he has performed with Jean Meilleur of the Jeans 'n Classics Band, at Springbank Gardens and at Ribfest. Tyler, who says he started singing at age two, when he would "walk around the house and sing with a turkey baster," is hoping to pursue music as a career. (Interested readers can "Google" Tyler for more info.)

Nikki McCombe

Nikki, another talented South student, sang two songs before the start of the senior game. Currently in grade 12, she first performed at South as a grade 10 student in the 2006 Musical, CATS.



Melissa Peters

Melissa, also a grade 12 student, was scheduled to provide the half-time entertainment during the senior game. Some readers may have seen Melissa perform in a production of *A Secret Garden* at the Wolf Theatre in April 2005. Unfortunately, we never got to hear Melissa sing. About 1:55 PM, just before half time, there was an unexpected problem...

THE POWER FAILURE

All of a sudden we had no power... no sound equipment for Melissa to perform or to make announcements for the rest of the game, no electronic scoreboard, and no light in the school except for some temporary emergency lights. The entire neighbourhood, as it turned out, was "in the dark." While the loss of power was definitely an

(Continued on page 2)

inconvenience, most participants tried to look on the “bright” side. The sun was still shining outside and there were candles and a skylight in the cafeteria for the Tailgate Party after the game. And so the fun continued...



THE GAMES

Football – Unfortunately, the teams from St. Thomas Aquinas were too strong for both the Junior and Senior Lions, although the Seniors came within striking distance in the final quarter. On the positive side, we were privileged to once again have South benefactor, **Matt Giffen ('85)**, in attendance, to perform the ceremonial kickoff on the field dedicated last year to his father.

Volleyball – At noon, the Senior Boys team faced a tough Alumni squad in South's gym, and while all games were close, the alumni team emerged the victor in all three. Playing for the alumni team were **Bret Askin ('02)**, **Scott Askin ('04)**, **Mike Edwards ('98)**, **Lee Greenwood ('99)**, **Geoff Hiscox ('99)**, **Andrew Huff ('99)**, **Matt Kearns ('07)**, **Tom Lewis ('99)**, **Andrew Ross ('08)** & **Dave Sewell ('08)**.

PHOTO RESTORATION PROJECT

Following the senior game, attendees were invited into the cafeteria to view the newly restored photographs of past students' councils. Although there are a number that still need to be done (an ongoing alumni project for which we welcome donations), the 29 photos that have been restored look wonderful on the end wall of the cafeteria. (Many thanks to **Dan Knight** for spearheading this project.)

TAILGATE PARTY

Using garnet tablecloths, silk autumn leaves and tea lights, the cafeteria was “modestly” transformed. While numbers weren't as high as hoped for, those who attended managed to drink all the beer purchased by party planner, **Knute Dohnberg ('65)**. So I guess it's safe to assume that a good time was had by all.

HOMECOMING 2009?

The SCAA executive has decided to make Homecoming an annual event. The date for 2009 is Sat. October 10th. Suggestions? Contact us at contact@southalumni.ca.



To Helm and Back... Part 2

Updates on the lives of South's principals

by Sandy Ross ('79)

Paul Mennill's relationship with South is truly a family affair. Father Del attended in the '20s and brother Dave in the '50s. Paul arrived in 1957, a green grade 9-er, and graduated five years later as class valedictorian. Son, Dan, became a third generation "South-er", graduating in 1993.

"I truly enjoyed a rich, happy education at South. The academics were rigorous and diverse; the music and arts, both demanding and enjoyable; and the sports were often electrifying."

Paul's return a quarter century later ('86) as Principal was, again, exceptionally happy. The school culture had matured and found a central focus: a genuine attempt to meet each student's needs individually in a supportive, community-centered way.

"Teachers had mastered not only their

subject disciplines, but also concentrated on understanding all students as unique persons. They made my job very easy."

South's strong character had made it one of the best schools anywhere.

In 1990, his move to Saunders showed that as South had tradition and intimacy, Saunders had diversity and size. Seeing that each school has a life of its own, unique and engaging, mirrored two of South's many lessons that Paul most treasures: *"that every individual is important, and that principals must ask everyone to give their best to the school."*

Later promoted to Superintendent ('96 to '02), Paul worked with 68 area schools – a rewarding time when he developed as much support as possible for each of them.

In 2002, he and wife, Sandi, retired to the shores of Lake Huron.



Paul Mennill, Principal, 1986-89

"In these last six years, I've worked as an education consultant and, for much of my time, in municipal politics, and also enjoy reading, maintaining our property, and traveling the world" ... a world surely seen more uniquely for his "South-ern" perspective.

LOSS OF SOUTH'S OWN HOCKEY HERO

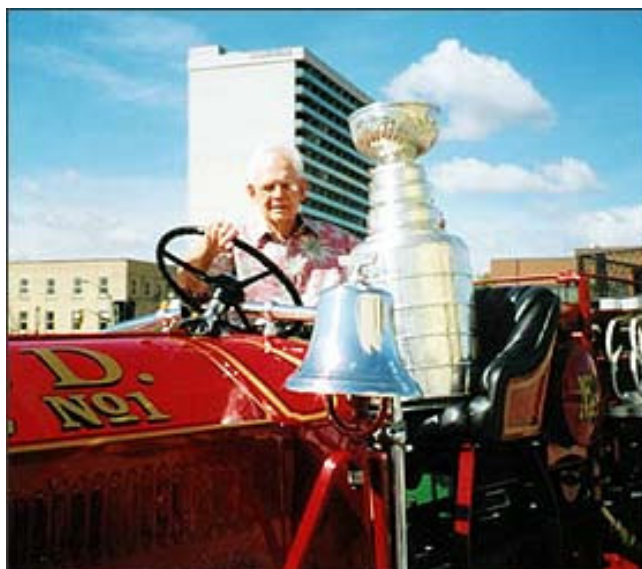
Ray Getliffe ('33), the second oldest ex-NHL player, passed away June 15/08 at the age of 94. He played for nine seasons (1935 – 1945), winning two Stanley Cups during that time. The first was in 1939 with the Boston Bruins, and the second in 1944 with the Montreal Canadiens. Ray was the person who gave Maurice Richard his nickname, the "Rocket" in 1942. In 1943, his best season, he scored 29 goals and 53 points in just 44 games.

"He ate, slept and talked hockey," according to daughter, Lorna Yurchuk. *"He loved every minute of it."*

Unfortunately, a bad knee forced Ray to retire at 31. He remained active, however, refereeing hockey and lacrosse, while enjoying a successful career in business in Montreal. He also developed a passion for golf. Until a few years ago, Ray played three or four times a week and twice qualified as an amateur for the Canadian Open.

Ray and his wife returned to London in 1990, after many years in Montreal. In 2004, Ray was inducted into the London Sports Hall of Fame and in the summer of 2005, the NHL decided to honour forty of its oldest alumni by letting them have the cup for a day. London organized "Ray Day" to mark the occasion, putting Ray on an antique fire truck along with the huge silver cup for a ride through the city. It was one of the highlights of Ray's life.

Ray Getliffe was clearly a remarkable athlete. But he was also a family man who loved people. He is survived by Lorna, his wife of 74 years, two children, John and Lorna, seven grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.



SCHOOL NEWS... *Here and Now*

Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee (SoJo for short) continues to be a going concern. Membership is approaching 100. This large group breaks into sub-groups at their weekly meetings to work on this year's projects (the Vow of Silence, a Big Give Oprah-style type of competition, a volunteer trip to Ecuador and the Barefoot Walk). They are raising awareness about Darfur, selling water bottles to raise money for the water project in Sierra Leone, investing money through Kiva, and sponsoring children from Kenya to go to high school. The overall goal this year is to have an impact on 50,000 people.

At the recent "Me to We" day in Toronto, most schools sent five students. So many South kids wanted to go that seventeen went a day early to train as volunteers. A total of 32 people from South were involved.

There is such enthusiasm in this group. In the words of staff leader, Anita Watkins, *"There is nothing stopping these kids."*

Commencement

South's annual Commencement took place Thurs. October 9th at 7:30. 181 students crossed the stage to receive diplomas and various awards, including 23 students who received an Alumni Award (funded by SCAA) for earning a minimum average of 90% in six Grade 12 courses. **Dr. Jeff Hopkins ('81)**, an SCAA Director, represented the Association to present these awards and to inform all graduating students that they are now members of SCAA. He also had the pleasant task of presenting the **75th Anniversary Award** to **Mr. Joe Robinson**, Head of the History Department and last year's acting vice-principal.

The **Carla (Mills) Cameron Memorial Scholarship** was awarded to Eric Hawn. Eric, named the Top Grade 12 Male Athlete, is also a strong student academically, well liked by staff and students. He plans to attend Royal Military College.

The **Valedictorian** was **Alex Hughes** who has agreed to be the representative for the class of 2008 in the Alumni Association. Congratulations, grads and welcome to SCAA.

School Show

It was created more than three decades ago, yet **A Chorus Line** feels as fresh and powerful today as when it first played on Broadway. South Musical Theatre is honoured to present this outstanding musical in the spring of 2009. Twenty-four of our finest students will bring this emotional show to the stage (something no high school in London has ever done).

Shows will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights starting April 30th and continuing the following week. Tickets will be available through the Grand Theatre box office. We hope to see all alumni back at South for this "singular sensation".

75th Anniversary Award Winner: Joe Robinson

This year's worthy recipient of the SCAA sponsored 75th Anniversary Award was **Joe Robinson**. Joe joined the South staff as a history teacher in 1998, after having been a volunteer coach with the Junior Football team prior to being hired. The popular, hard-working teacher became History Dept. head in 2001. In 2007, he was appointed acting Vice-Principal, a job for which he received several staff accolades:

"He has held the school together this year during its major transitions. He really has been a rock."

"He works very hard and does his job well. He's a man of many hats who continually faces challenges, yet succeeds every time. He runs the school and finds time to still remain connected to the staff and the students in a positive way."

Despite his obvious success in an administrative role, Joe chose to return to the classroom this year, as a full-time teacher and department head. He is also back coaching football. It is surely an indication of staff respect for Joe as a *"driving force in the school"* that his colleagues were equally supportive of this decision.

"He is a great teacher who has taken a major leadership role in helping students be successful, as well as improving the learning culture of the school."

"He demands the best from students, in a firm and friendly manner."

Joe Robinson, a hard-working, dedicated teacher, respected by both staff and students, is clearly a deserving winner of the 75th Anniversary Award.



LOSS OF A CELEBRATED EDUCATOR:

EDWARD (TED) MCTAVISH



Last June, London lost not only a very fine educator, but an exceptional human being.

"He taught us a lot about life. He was such a good person. He inspired us all." (Julie McTavish, Ted's wife of thirty years)

Born and raised in London, Ted taught Geography and Phys Ed at Clarke Road, Thames and Ross before becoming Vice-Principal at Beal. In 1993 he transferred to South, where he remained until 1997, the year his oldest child, Tyler, started grade 9. Arriving at South was almost like "coming home" for Ted. As a young boy he had gotten to know a number of the student athletes who were products of the long coaching career at South of his father, Ernie McTavish. (See note below)

Ted left South to become principal at Banting, a position he loved and at which he excelled. Even after being diagnosed with leukemia in October 2001, Ted continued to dedicate himself to his profession. In 2006, he was presented with the TVDSB Award of Distinction. In her endorsement letter to the Selection Committee, Colleen Canon, Federation Services Officer, OSSTF, and Art Dept. Head at Banting, praised Ted's leadership:

"Ted's greatest strength was his ability to create a nurturing, caring community where people would thrive. Ted always put people first, and he valued everyone for the role they played.... He fostered a climate that was respectful, moral, caring and fair.... The measure of Ted's success as a leader is best gauged in terms of the impact he has had on others. In the face of a daunting medical diagnosis, Ted modeled courage, and as a school, we all drew strength from his example.... He refused to let cancer shape or define his life. More than most of us, he live(d) his life with clarity and understanding of the importance of each day."

After retiring from his final post as principal of WD Sutton in 2006, Ted finally had time to devote to another of his passions: travel. With wife Julie, he traveled to Alberta by RV to visit their daughter, as well as to Cuba, France (Provence) and Italy. *"He really loved to travel. He never quenched that thirst that began when he first set off to see the world as a 19-year-old."* (wife, Julie).

If education and travel were two of Ted's enduring passions, his family was the other: *"He loved watching his kids grow up. He loved being their mentor through their athletic and scholastic journey."* (wife Julie). Fortunately, Ted lived to see all three of his children graduate and reach their post-secondary goals. Son, **Tyler ('02)** now has his MBA and works for a Toronto law firm. Daughter, **Terri ('04)** is an officer in the Canadian Armed Forces, and **Mariko ('05)** is working in Hotel Management in St. Andrews, Scotland.

At Ted's memorial service, his long-time neighbour, Dr. Ian Chin-Yee, who became his doctor and then his dear friend, gave an inspiring eulogy. He spoke of the sense of duty he felt to honour Ted's spirit and memory: *"It's the small acts of kindness we do day to day that have an impact on each other, and for these you (Ted) will be remembered.... I'm sure Ted has sown many seeds of kindness in his all too brief lifetime and these acts of kindness will never be forgotten."*

Ted McTavish was only 56 when he died on June 24th. At the time of his death, he was survived by his wife and three children, two sisters (Carole & Kathy), one brother (Terry) and his mother, **Marion (Sutton) McTavish ('41)**. Unfortunately, his mother passed away earlier this fall (See "In Memoriam" section).

NOTE: As an educator, Ted carried on in the tradition of excellence established by his father, the late Ernie McTavish. Ernie, who started his career at South as a Phys Ed and Geography teacher in 1947, went on to become a highly respected Board Superintendent, dubbed "Mr. Integrity." After his death in 1973, the London branch of OSSTF established the E.C. McTavish Award, given out annually to recognize graduating high school students who have overcome some obstacle or challenge in their short lives.



IN LOCAL NEWS....



THE WOODMAN ROOM — On October 19/08, the Michael Gibson Gallery honoured **Ross and Marion Woodman** by naming the gallery's new space after the couple. **Marion** was a much beloved English teacher at South from 1954—74, and her husband Ross, who has done extensive writing about visual art, is professor emeritus of English at UWO. The Woodman Room is a unique meeting place below the gallery's street-level exhibition space.

"The Woodman Room has been a concept in the back of my mind for years," said Michael Gibson. "The space is meant to evolve and inspire artistic expression and appreciation. Ross and Marion Woodman have been a source of great inspiration to my career, likely without them realizing it. Today is meant to both honour their dedication to the arts and encourage others to follow in their legacy."

BASKETBALL FAME — **Roger Macaulay, principal, 1964-68**, was inducted into London's Sports Hall of Fame on Nov. 5/08, along with the team he coached: the 1957 Beck Spartans, the only London team to ever win the All-Ontario Senior Boys' Basketball Championship. The team finished the 28-game season without a single loss, then won the provincial title.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION — **Thom McClenaghan ('55)** was in the news again—twice! An article in the Oct 5/08 LFP acknowledged Thom for opening Canada's first nature education park behind Arthur Ford Elementary School in London. The park, which just celebrated its 20th anniversary, began when McClenaghan was principal of the school. He wanted to restore the meaning of kindergarten: "children learning from the garden." As well as trees, plants and flowers, the park includes an amphitheatre for outdoor classes and a garden plot for students. The second article, in the Nov. 10 LFP, pictured a smiling Thom, "ecstatic" over the city planning committee's expected recommendation to rezone the site of the former Ah-So Gardens Restaurant into a public open space leading directly into the Coves. Thom, who is president of the **Friends of the Coves**, is excited about the potential for a significant expansion of the trail system in London and dreams the Wharncliffe Road site will one day include a gateway to the East pond and information that explains the significance of the Coves.

SOUTH AT THE FRINGE — South was well represented at London's Fringe Festival this summer. **Playing With Matches**, a comedy co-written by three Londoners, including South grads **Paul Merrifield ('72)** and **Sandy Ross ('79)**, was chosen by 5000 voting patrons as the "Funniest Show" at this year's Fringe. Originally conceived by Paul and friend Tim Condon, Sandy was invited to join them midway through the writing process when they discovered they needed a woman to "properly capture the female voice". The website (www.playingwithmatches.ca) describes the play as "a politically incorrect comedy" about what happens "when two outrageous people meet on a blind date. Terry, a brilliant 37-year-old virgin with a hate-on for David Suzuki, finds his match with Catherine – a real lady, especially in the evening."

Another highly successful play at this year's Fringe was **Wuthering Heights**, a theatrical adaptation of the classic novel by Emily Bronte. This new adaptation was written and co-produced by South grad, **Marion Johnson ('67)**. "I love a live audience so I started writing plays." When her Jane Austen adaptation, *Darcy & Elizabeth*, won "Best Show" award at the 2006 Fringe, Marion says she was "hooked".

LONDON CITY MUSIC THEATRE— **Dale Henderson's ('65)** ambitious dream has finally come to fruition with the September opening of his new theatre. The cover story of LFP's Biz Monday, Sept. 15/08, described the challenging and expensive two year conversion of the old IMAX theatre into a 600-seat, state-of-the art, multi-use facility that includes a 50' x 20' stage, three large screens and a huge Wurlitzer-Barton pipe organ. Check www.londoncitymusictheatre.com for upcoming events. We wish Dale all the best in his new venture.

NATIONAL CROWN — Last May, South teacher and Boys Volleyball Coach, **Justin Fish**, successfully coached the Forest City Volleyball Club to its first national title. The under -17 team, which includes two South players, **Andrew Ross and Adam Orth**, was the first team to win a national championship since **Fran Wigston Eberhard (staff, 1957- 65)** led the UWO women's team to the university title in 1976.

CARLA'S CREW — The 2nd annual Westover Relay, a 332-km team trek from Port Stanley to Grand Bend, took place May 30-31/08. Although the main beneficiary is the Westover Treatment Center in Thamesville, the director has made room for other causes as well. One of these is Carla's Fund, created in memory of **Carla (Mills) Cameron ('95)**. The fund provides scholarship money to a South grad who shines academically and athletically and also shares Carla's sense of adventure. This year's winner was **Eric Hawn** (See **School News...** page 4).

BAREFOOT WALK — Last spring's issue reported on South's **Social Justice Committee's** efforts to raise money to build a school in Sierra Leone. The goal was \$10,000, and one of their final events of the year was a Barefoot Walk around the block to "show their solidarity with poor children in Africa." Last May about 200 students participated in the event, which was covered by both the LFP and The Londoner. The students were thrilled to announce their goal had been surpassed: \$12000 was raised! (For an update on this year's projects, see **School News...** page 4.)



MAIL BOX...

Letters and e-mails from alumni



1930 GRAD REMEMBERS

Even though the name has changed from LSCI and, for obvious reasons, news from the late twenties is fading, it is good to receive the *Lions' Pride*. What one can read between the lines are the memories all the way back to the old Victoria school on Askin Street.

Larry Barton ('30)



1944 GRAD IN OREGON FINDS SOUTH WEBSITE

I just came across the South web page. I went to South from 1940-44, when I left to join the army. After discharge, I attended Western and graduated in chemistry in 1950. Later I went to University of Connecticut for a PhD/MD and remained there on the faculty for several years. I subsequently moved to San Jose, California and worked 25 years for IBM research. I retired in 1980 and moved to Ashland, a small town in southern Oregon known for its theatre. I have lost contact with all of my high school friends but remember teachers such as **Jimmy Burns (Latin)**, **Mrs. Pickett (history)**, **Mr. Dinsmore (math)**, **Mr. Armstrong (chemistry)**, **Madame Carr-Harris (French)**, **Miss Nichols and Bugs Calvert (biology)**. I wonder what has happened to them and others that taught in those times. Also if there are other alumni of that period, I would love to hear from them. My e-mail is rjcox50@hotmail.com and my address is 615 Ashland St. Ashland, Oregon, 97520.

Robert Cox ('44)

IT ALL STARTED IN MR. FRANK'S CLASS...

Fred & Barb Penny celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this year. It all started in Mr. Frank's biology class in 1947...

I, Barbara, was disturbing the class in a discussion with my friend, **Joan Stiles**, and was moved to the front of the classroom to sit with Fred Penny, who was taking extra classes through rehab after the war.

Our courtship was pretty much proved in a field trip to Mr. Calvert's garden (original biology teacher at South who had taught my dad). During that field trip, I was given a forget-me-not from that garden by Fred, and offered his jacket to put over my arms. (Imagine that nowadays!) The rest is happy history.

Years later, we visited Mr. Frank's class with our six kids to show him our experiment and the results of his discipline. Such happy memories!

Fred & Barb (Mapletoft) Penny ('47)

GOOD MEMORIES

I enjoyed the Spring '08 *Lions' Pride* — so many familiar names triggered good memories: Tish Graham, Bob & George Hayman, Tom Abel, Dick Wilson, Ron White, Bill McDonald, Ted Hessel. The last Reunion was a good one; hope I can hang on until the 85th in 2013, bearing in mind that I'm only one year younger than South.

Gord Davidson ('47)

LUXEMBOURG GREETING

I enjoy reading *Lions Pride*

on-line. My thanks to those of you who put it together.

Beverley (Veitch) Agolini ('55), Luxembourg

THANK YOU

I continue to enjoy the *Lions' Pride* immensely! Thank you ever so much for all your efforts.

Tom Orchard ('56)

REMEMBERING "JESSIE"

While in grade 9, when Elvis was the rage, my girlfriend, Arlene Moch, and I purchased pink and black striped pants that we had to lie on our backs to get into. Well, we decided to wear them to school. There we were marching through the corridors when along came Ms MacFarlane heading right for us. She immediately stopped and questioned us and said that there was no way that we could be at school dressed in those pants. SHE SENT US HOME TO CHANGE! For so many years Arlene and I have enjoyed discussing this incident and I wondered if the story might be shared.

Judith (Nutt) Mihlik ('59)

(Editor's Note: Judith, who currently lives in Phoenix, Arizona, ordered a copy of the DVD, *To Jessie with Luv*, shown at the last AGM).

ITEM ON COVES SPARKS INTEREST

I found your article (on Thom McClenaghan's work with **Friends of the Coves**, Spring '08) of great interest. I was raised in London, and as an avid butterfly enthusiast, often visited the Coves area on my childhood outings. As a first year chemistry student at UWO, I

worked during the summer of 1967 at the Alma Paint and Varnish facility in the Coves, lifting and mixing sacks of lead-based pigments. In those days the operating permits were less rigorous in terms of discharge of polluted effluents than today. I recall wondering about the effects on the water quality in that ecosystem.

I have not lived in London since 1973, when I graduated from UWO with my Master of Engineering, Environmental. I have spent the last 30 years working in Environment Canada in a variety of programs, including toxic chemicals management. As fate would have it, I have been involved from time to time in assessing and managing environmental impacts associated with paint production and application activities, reminding me of that summer job 40 years ago.

I now live in Ottawa, but it's encouraging to know that the City, undoubtedly pressured by groups like Thom McClenaghan's, has taken steps to protect the integrity of this unique ecosystem. It's also satisfying to learn that the area is being visited by young students to teach them about ecosystems and the importance of preserving and protecting sensitive areas for future generations. I will make a point of visiting the Coves with my family the next time we are in London.

Tim Leah ('66)



MAILBOX cont...

FROM SOUTH'S FORMER PRINCIPAL

What a wonderful newsletter. South's Alumni is the strongest in our system. Leaving South was so difficult for me. It was my home. All of my children attended South and I was so privileged to be the principal. My fourth child, Marcus, is now in grade 10. Reading this newsletter helped me to realize that the connections to South are only a newsletter away. Thanks for keeping us in touch. Keep up the good work!

Barb Sonier (Principal, 2002-08)

"ROCKUMENTARY" on Showcase

Brooks Gray ('93) is a TV writer/producer/actor on a series called **Cock'd Gunns** airing Fridays on Showcase at 9 PM. The show, a kind of reality/fiction hybrid is a "mock-doc" about a rock band of pathetic losers. For his character, Barry Ciccarelli, Brooks draws upon aspects of his own life. He imagines that Barry went to South and played football and so he often wears his South football jersey on the show. The independently made show received three Gemini Award nominations last year. Find out about the series on their website: www.cockdgunns.com.

WHO'S WHERE

Let us know where you are and what you are doing. E-mail your update to contact@southalumni.ca, or mail to SCAA, 371 Tecumseh Ave. E. London, ON, N6C 1T4.



Aileen (Lyon) Symington ('37) celebrated her 90th birthday with a reception on October 25/08 at Wesley Knox United Church on Askin Street. Guests, which included a number of former nursing colleagues, as well as family and friends, enjoyed sandwiches and treats prepared by the UCW as they visited with the new nonagenarian.

Margaret (McNaughton) Howard ('49), dietician and veteran cookbook writer, has co-written a new cookbook for diabetics called *Choice Menus, cooking for One or Two*. The cookbook contains a unique set of meal plans, which include carbohydrate

counts, nutritional analysis and health information. Howard, who has written or co-authored 16 books, worked for a Toronto food company for many years, but now lives in Leith, near Owen Sound.

Chris Blow ('92) is a writer/researcher for a television program called *Mayday* on the Discovery Channel & TLC. Chris recently completed a show on the crash of Pan Am flight 103, destroyed by a bomb on Dec. 21, 1988 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Gregory Oh ('92) is a talented pianist and member of the Toronto-based trio, Toca Loca. The group, whose name means "play crazy", was described in a *Globe* review as "an irresistible presence on the new-music scene." Last spring they toured a new show called P*P. Oh, who has two masters degrees in classical music, also plays in a pop band called The Lollipop People. (Alumni may remember that Greg played in "Baldwin's Debut" concert at South in Feb. '05)

Kingsley Gardner ('95) and Lainie Antone were married March 26/08 on the beach in Antigua.

Kevin Mills ('97) and his wife, Allison were thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Jacob Cameron Mills, on July 26/08. Kevin's sister,

Carla (Mills) Cameron ('95) died in 2006 in a horse riding accident.

Trevor Johnathon ("TJ") Glassford ('00) and Julie Marie Dewars were married August 2008 in London.

Kate Neville ('00) holds a Master of Environmental Science from Yale University, where she studied public-private partnerships in the water sector in the Philippines for her thesis. As a biologist, she chased after birds, measured plants and sampled lake sediment in Costa Rica, Mississippi, British Columbia and Nebraska, before heading into the policy side of environmental work. She worked with the UN Diplomatic Mission from Fiji, and was fascinated by the insight into political negotiations. When she is not immersed in the challenges of a new PhD program in political science at UBC, you can find her exploring the trails and coastlines of Vancouver.

Lesley (Thompson) Willie (staff), South's librarian since 2003, came out of retirement to compete in her 7th Olympic games last summer in Beijing. Lesley, coxswain on the women's eight, first competed in Moscow in 1980. Although the women's eight failed to win a medal this year, Lesley's 28 year Olympic rowing career has been an impressive one.

A GRAD OF DISTINCTION



Dr. Donald Rix ('50), UWO alumnus (BA'53, MD '57, DSC'98) was appointed Chair of the Vancouver Board of Trade last June. Dr. Rix, a widely recognized member of the medical profession and successful entrepreneur, founded what has become the largest independent medical laboratory in BC: MDS Metro Laboratories. Dr. Rix's accomplishments have earned him an impressive list of accolades, including the order of British Columbia ('04) and the Order of Canada. ('07) The 77-year-old Rix is also a generous philanthropist, having donated millions of dollars for education, health and the arts in BC. In 2005 he donated \$2,000,000 to UWO's Schulich School of Medicine.

"To be successful over the long term, companies have to be involved and invested in their community.... If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. But if you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody else."

A true role model and South grad that we can all be proud of.

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia Cole (Staff, 1970-71) passed away April 17/08, age 71, following a sudden illness. Pat taught English Literature at South and Oakridge, before moving to Beal and finally Wheable Centre for Adult Education, where she finished her career as an ESL teacher. An avid reader, walker, birder and dedicated volunteer with organizations such as Amnesty International, Pat leaves behind "a vast legacy of friendships and admirers." Pat is survived by three children - **Judd ('81), Alison ('84), Stephanie ('87)** and four grandchildren.

Robert James "Tyger" Tyrrell (staff, 1986-93) passed away August 21/08, age 71, after a year long battle with cancer. During his years teaching geography at South, Bob also coached many school sports, especially basketball. After leaving teaching, he enjoyed a career in real estate for the past fifteen years. Bob was an avid fisherman and collector and a strong believer in community involvement. He is survived by his wife, three children and two grandchildren.

Dorothy (Price) Airey ('32) passed away on Sept. 19/08, age 94. Beloved mother of **Catherine (Barber) ('65)**, of New Westminster, BC, **Barbara (Trenholm) ('67)** of Oakville, & **Doug ('80)** of Edmonton, Alberta. As a Nursing Sister, Dorothy served in the Royal Canadian Navy during WWII. A long time London resident, she was involved in numerous community organizations. Dorothy is also survived by her sister, **Mary (Price) Aldis ('41)** and eight grandchildren.

Beulah (Coulter) Ray ('36), age 87, wife, mother, grandmother and great

grandmother, passed away last July at her home in Aylmer. Cousin, **Harold Coulter ('55)**, was one of the pall bearers.

Marion Kathleen (Sutton) McTavish ('41), beloved wife of the late Ernie McTavish, passed away Oct. 27/08, at age 86. Predeceased by her son **Ted McTavish** and brothers Keith and Everett Sutton. Cherished mother of three surviving children, grandmother of twelve and great grandmother of two.

Royden (Roy) Russell Lewis ('41), 85, died peacefully on Sept. 1/08 at London's University Hospital. Following graduation from South, Major Lewis enjoyed a 30-year career in the armed forces, including time spent overseas in the Royal Canadian Air Force during WWII.



After leaving the military, Roy trained as a teacher. Later, he used his Commerce degree from McGill to find challenging employment in business, first in Vancouver and then in Guyana, SA. When he finally retired, Roy built a cordwood home in the St. John River Valley outside Fredericton. A generous and compassionate man of faith, Roy was always active in community service. He also loved nature and gardening. Roy is survived by his wife, Irene, four children and three grandchildren.

Stan Readings ('45), a former City Treasurer with the

City of London, passed away at age 80 on June 26/08. He was appointed City Treasurer on March 17, 1980 and retired in the mid 1990s.

Editor's note: Stan is one of seventeen "Notable Alumni" listed in the Wikipedia article on South and was the SCAA '45 Class Rep.

Keith Tambling ('50), 76, passed away peacefully, on March 29/08 at Toronto General Hospital, after a long battle with COPD.

Father of three and grandfather of five, Keith will be sadly missed by family, friends and colleagues.

Keith proudly served as an executive in the insurance industry for over 40 years, last serving as a Vice President at Morris and Mackenzie.

Ronald Johnson ('52) died Sept. 24/08 after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Nancy, two sons, Trevor and Ron, and four grandchildren. After attending Parson's School of Art & Design in New York, Ron had a long career with Jensen's Furniture.

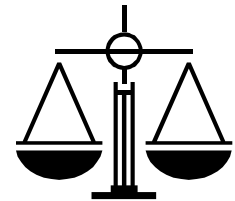
A lover of music, an avid reader, an antique aficionado and a hockey fan, Ron will be remembered as a fine father and a funny, kind-hearted man.

Linda Nichol ('63) passed away July 25/08 at Grand Wood Park, age 64. Cherished sister of **Bill Nichol ('66)**.

Janina (Janet) Korol ('70) passed away at the age of 57 in Toronto on April 8, 2008 after a long battle with cancer. During her years at South, Janina participated in many school activities: performing in all the school shows, being on the Confederate and

Yearbook staff, and playing in both the junior and senior bands. Her love of music and theatre continued throughout her life. What also continued were many of the friendships that she established during her time at South.

Janina went on to graduate with a Master's degree in Criminology. She had a lengthy career with the Ontario Public Service, most



recently as a Director for the Justice Sector. She is survived by her mother, her sister **Irena ('75)**, her niece, nephew and brother-in-law.

Peter Balderston ('73), age 53, passed away in Nagoya Japan on Apr. 5/08. Survived by brothers **Davis ('61), John ('65) and Steven ('70)**.

Peter had spent almost ten years in Japan, teaching English in Osaka, Shizuoka, Yokkaichi, Tokai City and Nagoya.

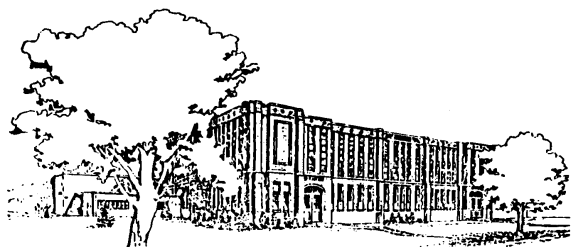
His friends remember his passion for teaching, his interest in history, and his love for model trains and cars. A kind gentleman, he will be greatly missed by all.

Sandra Sydorko passed away Sept. 25/08 after a brief battle with cancer. Sandie, a South "super parent", lent her considerable fundraising skills to the SCI Music Department, heading up the Citrus Fruit Sales campaigns while her daughter **Heather ('91)** and son **Drew ('93)** were students at South. The "Fund Raising Queen" will be remembered for her sense of fun and ready smile for everyone.

Another Talented South Alumnus

Beau Dixon ('92) (beaudixon.com) has been praised as an artist of "incredible creative energy, enthusiasm and talent." He is a musician / singer / songwriter / producer / actor / director and playwright. He has two solo CD's to his credit (*Detroit Folk* and *from here to east city*) and was voted Best Male Vocalist in 2001 by Wire Magazine. He now has his own music studio ("The Sound Kitchen") in Peterborough, where he is currently based. In October he finished production of a multi-artist Christmas CD to benefit Peterborough's Youth Emergency Shelter and is currently directing a production of *West Side Story* at Showplace Peterborough. Last summer he acted in a production for 4th Line Theatre near Millbrook and last January his two plays, *Once a Flame* and *From here to Africville*, were staged at Toronto's Factory Theatre.

All of this has been accomplished since Beau was brutally beaten in a home invasion / robbery last January, that left him with a mild concussion. Recovering from his physical injuries was only half the battle. The theft of his musical equipment was devastating. But his Peterborough friends rallied around and staged a benefit concert at Showcase Peterborough. The concert attracted over 600 people and Beau said he "had no words" to express the gratitude he felt for the support he had received since the attack.



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SCAA PRESIDENT: Pete Telford

EDITOR & GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Connie Weir

SCAA

c/o South Secondary School
371 Tecumseh Avenue East
London, Ontario
N6C 1T4

Tel. (519) 452-2860
Fax (519) 452-2879

E-mail: contact@southalumni.ca

Website: www.southalumni.ca

25th ANNUAL ALUMNI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



**Saturday,
November 22/08**

SOUTH GYM

**Spectator admission -
\$2**

**Games at 9:30, 11:00,
2:00 and 3:30**

**See full details on the alumni website:
www.southalumni.ca**

**Players can register at
contact@southalumni.ca**

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