

LION'S PRIDE

Winter 2003 Newsletter

Virtus Repulsae Nescia Sordidae

The Biggest, Best Reunion Ever!

On May 2-4, we are going to show London what a high school Reunion is all about!

Over 1000 people have already registered to join the celebration at the corner of Tecumseh and Belgrave – and later at the Western Fairground. If you aren't one of them, now is the time to sign up.

5000 Registration brochures have been mailed out. More are available for those who need them (order by phone at 519-679-9833).

At press time there were only 290 tickets remaining for the Friday musical revue, and 310 for the Saturday matinee. It is clear both will sell out. Orders for the 75th Anniversary Yearbook have been so brisk we have increased the print run to 750. Be sure you reserve one. With over 300 photographs and some very creative text, this book will be a collectors' item worth having.

New Features added since Brochure

1. A special display room depicting **75 years of Latin** at SCI.

2. A **South football center** which will feature videos of football teams of the past (a schedule of showings will be listed in the Reunion programs).

3. A display room depicting **Dance at South** (1970 to the present), which will also feature a series of videos).



This "75" was formed by the present students of SCI on the football field last October. Photographer Simon Rossiter (2003) was flown over the school by pilot Andrew Clark (1993) to take this aerial photo.

4. Continuous showings of the videos which chronicle the careers of **South Hall of Fame Members** Anna Baker, and Robert Ford, and an opportunity for all to nominate future Hall members.

5. A Writers' Room – an idea suggested by several *South* grads who have written books and have said they would like a place to get together with other writers (and all who are interested) to share ideas. Books will be put on display, with authors available to sign copies for prospective buyers. (If you are a *South* author and you wish

to display your work, call the "hotline" at 519-679-9833).

6. Arrangements are underway to have some **vintage cars** on display, in keeping with the theme of "75 years."

7. The **Official Opening Ceremony**, on Saturday morning at 10:30, will see the former Principals of *South* "piped in" by our accomplished piper Andrew McClenaghan (1997 grad).

(See *Reunion Notes*, page 3...)

From Chapel to Classroom

The following article was written especially for the 75th Reunion by former South teacher Bob Stamp.

Picture a young married couple starting their teaching careers at *South Secondary School* just 10 days after their wedding. Imagine the giggles *South* students would have at their expense! But, there we were – young Mr. and Mrs. Stamp – fresh from our August 27 wedding, home from a brief honeymoon, ready to face our first classes on September 6, 1960.

Earlier that year, before completing our university degrees, we had job interviews with several Ontario school boards. *South* principal **Claude McCallum** was part of the London interviewing team. We told the school boards of our wedding plans and our hope of finding separate jobs in schools fairly close geographically.

London was our first choice, since it was Arlene's home town, and because we met at *UWO* and felt good about the city. So, we were thrilled when the London Board of Education offered us jobs – expecting they would put us in different schools.

When they placed us both on the staff of *South Collegiate* we couldn't believe it; our friends were astonished and we sent the teaching profession scurrying for the record books. Had a freshly-married couple ever been assigned to the same school before?

Along with other new hires, we spent an orientation day at *South* in late May. We arrived together at 8:30, and by 9:00 our secret was out. Every kid in the school went wide-eyed over this soon-to-be-wed young couple who would join the staff in September.

With teachers in short supply during those years, there was no time for an extended training session in pedagogy. We were taught the tricks of

the trade in a brief 8-week emergency summer program (held at *Beal Technical School*), then thrown into the classroom.

So, hello *South Collegiate* on the day after Labour Day in September 1960. Bob began with a grade 10 History class, Arlene with a grade 12 Math.

Thanks to plenty of good luck we survived the first day, the first week, the first year. The novelty of being a young married couple certainly worked in our favour with impressionable teenagers.

What became of all the scholars (and scoundrels) we taught at *South*? Apart from **Karen Chant**, our neighbour for a few years, and **Sam Shortt**, a colleague in the History profession, we have had little continuing personal contact with those bright young faces of the 1960's.

Yet we cheered on several careers from afar – **Bob Wood** as a member of the Ontario legislature, **Jane Pepino** as a Bay Street corporate lawyer, and actress **Kate Nelligan**. Whenever we see Kate in films, we think of the skinny little girl (she went by the name Trish in those days) who sat at the back of the Grade 9 classroom. Was she dreaming of stage and screen instead of focusing on her lessons?

And we fondly remember our colleagues on the teaching staff – fellow newcomers **Don McCuaig**, **Judy Quick**, and **Richard Moore**; veterans **Ernie McTavish** and **Don Carson** who generously passed along teaching tips; longtime *South* stalwarts **Paul Wenn** and **Joanne Mayhew**.

South's English Department was especially strong in those days, headed by **Jessie McFarlane**, and including **Tom Crerar**, **Bruce Ashdown**, and the brother-sister combo of **Fraser Boa** and **Marion Woodman**.



Time passed. Arlene taught grades 9-12 Math for 3 years, then left to start a family. Her obviously pregnant condition during her last few weeks at school was yet again a cause of great interest to *South* students.

Bob stayed at *South* for 5 years, teaching grades 9-13 History, before leaving for post-graduate studies and a move into the field of teacher education.

We left London for Calgary in 1969, moved to Toronto in 1983, then back to Calgary seven years ago.

After brief careers as math teacher and mother, Arlene went to Art school and retrained herself as a painter and visual artist. Her creative work continues to attract national attention, with exhibitions in Edmonton, Halifax and Calgary over the past year.

Bob has combined university teaching with writing and bookselling. Today, as a professor in the Faculty of Education at the *University of Calgary*, he helps prepare new teachers for the schools of Alberta.

Every year when the subject of hiring and career beginnings rolls around, Bob regales his students with tales of how a young married couple began teaching together just 10 days after they were married. Today's soon-to-be teachers think he's spoofing them. But they didn't know *London South Collegiate* in September 1960!

Reunion Notes

a) Tables at the Dinner/Dance at the Western Fairgrounds have not been pre-assigned. For people who want to sit together, instructions on how to do this will be posted at the Registration Desk on May 2-3.

b) The Staff Luncheon, for all former and present *South* staff members, will be held in the school Cafeteria, at 12 noon on Sunday, May 4. Tickets for this Luncheon must be purchased at the Registration Desk on May 2-3 (spouses are welcome!)

c) the Class of 1953, which this year celebrates its own 50th Anniversary, has booked a special classroom for their classmates to meet.

d) Registration Kits: We expect over 2000 people will be entering the school on May 2. To ease the flow, if you have pre-registered, you can pick up your *Registration Kit* between 4:00-6:00 pm on Monday April 28, Tuesday April 29, Wednesday April 30 or Thursday May 1 at the school.

e) The Alumni Volleyball Tournament, running Saturday May 3 from 10:00 until 2:00, still needs more players – both men and women. If you wish to play yourself, or have a team entry, call the *Reunion hotline* at (519) 679-9833 by March 31.

Our New Website!

Some Alumni have made use of the Thames Valley School Board's computer website, on which the *South Alumni Association* has had a section for the past two years. However, beginning on 28 February, 2003, we now have our own independent site!

www.southalumni.ca

Designed by 1997 grad Andrew McClenaghan, through his recently-established company *Echidna Solutions Corp*, this website promises to be an immense boon to our efforts to communicate with each other. Log on and have a look!

Round Ball: The Ladies are Back!

For 19 straight years in the late fall, former *South* basketball players have returned to the old school gym to try to prove who were the best teams of the past.

On December 7, 2002, eleven "Lady Lions" turned out to battle the Senior *Lions* (the 2002 WOSSA Champions) in a 39-31 loss.

The men's alumni team, who had previously won in 1998 and 2000, scrapped their way to a 58-55 championship game victory over the 1980's team. Members of this winning team (Grads of 1993-97) were: Paul Bickers, Ian Kerr, Andrew McClenaghan, Jonah Melville, and Justin Thompson. The Alumni Basketball Champions Trophy, bearing their team photograph, is on display in the trophy case in the front hall at *South*.



BACK: l to r – Mary Jansenberger ('01), Alicia Burger ('99), Rachel MacMillan ('95), Emily Morton ('92), Kate McClenaghan ('93), Shawna Flynn ('92). FRONT: l to r – Charlene Lampman ('97), Kara McFarlen ('96), Katherine Tudhope ('92), Julee (Crinklaw) Bowen ('92), Andrea (Hansen) Mutsaers ('93).

Alumni Awards Fund Over the Top by May 4?

Two and-a-half years ago the first alumni donations were registered in a fund that is destined to generate \$75,000 for Scholarships and Bursaries for *South Collegiate* students of the future.

From a challenge that all 75 graduating classes in *South's* history raise \$1,000 each, we have seen 12 classes reach that goal, and over \$32,000 raised. We are still hopeful that the Fund will go over the top by the last day of our 75th Anniversary Reunion in May.

To donate, issue a cheque to "Thames Valley District School Board", noting on it "South Alumni Awards, Class of ____" and send it to the SCAA at the address on this Newsletter's masthead (page 4). All donors will receive a tax receipt.

New Alumni Donors:

1931-Morris Wolf **1939**-Clendon Clatworthy, Archie Poulton, Tom Hammond
1940-Bill Christiani (in memoriam) **1942**-Joyce (Salmon) Dunn, George Bowie
1943-Art Graae **1944**-Marion (Sharpe) McKee **1945**-Joan (Adams) Avison **1946**-Ross Smibert, Dick Hutchinson, Beryl (Rafuse) Hutchinson, Fred Isaacs, Marilyn (Bell) Dunlop, Anita (O'Doud) Stratton
1947-Andrew Chisholm **1948**-Don Patterson **1953**-Bill Carey **1954**-Jean (Freeman) Paton **1956**-John MacArthur, Ray Koehler **1960**-William Barnett, Mary-Margaret (Leahy) Koreen **1962**-Beverley (Loptson) Shepherd, Vince Martin, Bev (Shepard) Busche, John Paynter, Oliver Robinow, Sandra (Eade) Kaplun **1964**-Jane (Rafuse) Laing **1966**-Connie (Woods) Weir, Judi (Jay) Guthrie **1967**-Paul Spence
1969-Peter Lemon **1970**-Harold Heffernin, Anne Miner **1972**-Karen (Humphries) Blake **1973**-Andrew Stevens
1975-Barb (Tarvit) Stevens **1977**-Patti (MacDonald) Hubbard **1979**-Tina (Nelligan) Methot **1980**-Brian Hayman, Liz Woods, Cathy (Thomson) Eckel (in memoriam), Barbara Robinson, Beth (Johnston) Wagner, David Hill **1982**-Dave Tuckey **1987**-Jason Russell **1990**-Angela Wong, Rob Bell **Staff**-George Maday.

Class Totals:

At press time, the year-by-year dollar totals were as follows: **1928** (0) **1929** (400) **1930** (100) **1931** (50) **1932** (10) **1933** (0) **1934** (330) **1935** (0) **1936** (225) **1937** (25) **1938** (285) **1939** (1945)* **1940** (545) **1941** (125) **1942** (292) **1943** (1300)* **1944** (1620)* **1945** (1215)* **1946** (2305)* **1947** (2422)* **1948** (375) **1949** (535) **1950** (435) **1951** (350) **1952** (515) **1953** (315) **1954** (160) **1955** (215) **1956** (645) **1957** (375) **1958** (175) **1959** (50) **1960** (170) **1961** (505) **1962** (585) **1963** (125) **1964** (175) **1965** (1000)* **1966** (275) **1967** (1612)* **1968** (410) **1969** (1526)* **1970** (630) **1971** (0) **1972** (275) **1973** (1060)* **1974** (134) **1975** (175) **1976** (25) **1977** (100) **1978** (150) **1979** (375) **1980** (470) **1981** (1000)* **1982** (780) **1983** (0) **1984** (0) **1985** (1000)* **1986** (100) **1987** (225) **1988** (50) **1989** (0) **1990** (430) **1991** (150) **1992** (100) **1993** (50) **1994** (0) **1995** (0) **1996** (0) **1997** (0) **1998** (50) **1999** (0) **2000** (0) **2001** (0) **2002** (0) **Staff** (500).

Count me in!

If you enjoy this newsletter, please help cover our costs. Join SCAA for just \$10.

Full Name _____		Maiden Name _____
Home Address _____		
City _____	Province/State _____	Postal/Zip Code _____
Home Phone _____	Email _____	
Graduating Year _____	Clubs while at South _____	

\$10 annual dues for a limited time. Please include a cheque made payable to the South Collegiate Alumni Association and mail to the address at right. **Thank-you!**

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