

Lisgar Alumni Newsletter

Volume 4, Number 2

Lisgar Alumni Association

Autumn 1987

Lisgar Hollywood Star Dies

Among Lisgar's illustrious alumni, Lorne Hyman Greene (1915-1987) was undoubtedly the most world famous of all; he succumbed to cancer last September 11th-- adamantly refusing any heroic hospital treatment to prolong his life. From his humble home in Lebreton Flats of Ottawa, where his Russian parents settled as immigrants, to his ranch-style mansion in Los Angeles' wealthy Brentwood suburb, he lived a very full life, latterly so often in the public eye.

After Lisgar and Queen's University, where he was active in stage shows, he had a brief spell with theatres in New York before joining the CBC as a radio newscaster. "Still only 24, Lorne Green had a meteoric rise to prominence as the baritone backdrop to the early years of the war. He narrated National Film Board efforts as well... [Then he] left his CBC broadcast role in 1942 to join the army, but his (by now famous voice) took him on a

detour to Hollywood where a series of celebrity interviews had been arranged to help sell Canadian war bonds," (The Ottawa Citizen September 12, 1987, p. C2)

After the war, he started Canada's first TV clinic and



Young Lorne Greene at Lisgar

created the Academy of Radio Arts which graduated over 400 announcers during the years 1946-53. Greene moved on to an acting career playing star roles on Broadway in 1953-54 and at Stratford in '55; then he co-founded the Jupiter Theatre in Toronto. Starting in '59, NBC launched the first TV western in colour, *Bonanza*, and with the leading role, he acquired an *alter ego* portraying Ben Cartwright whose father-son relationship was much like his own father's. The shows and his popularity soared in the 1960's when *Bonanza* was screened worldwide. Although patterned on earlier cowboy series, Lorne made his portrayal seem less violent and more tolerant than most.

Nonetheless, while earning his fame in Hollywood, Lorne Greene retained his Canadian citizenship and welcomed op-

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A Tribute to Lorne Greene

By Sidney Katz

When a person achieves fame, inevitably a host of people come forward with the claim that they were the ones that gave the celebrity his or her start. Well, in the case of my long-time friend, the late Lorne Greene, I believe that I can validly claim that I put a future star in orbit, and, it took place- of all places- in the auditorium of Lisgar Collegiate in the 1930's.

It all began with our history teacher, Mr. Blake, who was also in charge of the Historical Society. Mr. Blake approached me with a suggestion: "Can you please write a play with a Canadian Historical theme that we can stage at our big annual meeting?" My first inclination was to reject the proposal. After all, my knowledge of playwriting was zilch and my enthusiasm for

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An Invitation to Cap's Bar & Grill

By Sean Meehan

In the summer of '72, fresh from an illustrious high school career, I consulted with every university in Ontario before choosing to become a sales clerk at George Richards King Size Clothes.

After one year in the real world I opted for early retirement. The following six months I spent travelling in Caribbean and South America.

Upon returning to Canada, I decided to go into the restaurant business with my sister while continuing my education at the University of Toronto in Economics and Commerce.

My sister and I spent our first six years in business experimenting with a variety of ventures. These included a remote summer lodge, concession stands in parks, an ice cream parlor and a greasy spoon. Through all of these ventures my sister developed the concept for Lick's Ice Cream and Home-made Burgers. Lick's is now a popular fast food chain in the Toronto area. I, on the other hand, developed the idea that running fast food outlets was too much work.

I sold my interest in Lick's intending to pursue another aspect of the restaurant business—one that my days at Lisgar had well prepared me for. In 1980 I opened Cap's Friendly Bar & Grill on Jarvis Street.



Cap's has become a popular spot in Toronto and seven years later is enjoyed by many regulars.

I'm still running Cap's and while the hours are long, I enjoy the business very much.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all ex-Lisgarites to stop in at Cap's. On your first visit present your Lisgar Alumni card and in the best of neighbourhood bar traditions, I will buy you a drink on the house.

Cheers! ■■■

Alumni Violinists Play On

These are some of the recent achievements of Lisgar graduates who were all once violinists in the Lisgar Orchestra:

Anne McRuer '72 was manager of the Kitchener Symphony, and is now managing the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Doug Briarley '72 is now a professional violinist and freelances in Montreal and Toronto.

Tu Mach '87 is at the University of Ottawa and will play at one of the Ottawa Music Club concerts at the Château Laurier this Fall.

Phong Mach '87 has been awarded a scholarship by the Toronto Conservatory. He receives free tuition and board for one year, and is studying under David Zafer.

We wish them luck in their future endeavours. ■■■

Lisgar Alumni Newsletter

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Lisgar Hollywood Star Dies

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opportunities to return to Canada and Ottawa. When Lisgar held its 140th reunion in 1984 he was among the celebrities attending and just recently Friends of the Museum of Natural Sciences in Ottawa presented him with an award recognizing his special interest in wildlife. In latter years his love for nature and animals found expression in To the Wild Country and Lorne Greene's New Wilderness.

Lorne is survived by his wife, the American actress Nancy Anne Deale (whom he married in the early 1960's), their daughter Gillian, and twin children from his first marriage. ■■■



The Lisgar Orchestra in 1932. Lorne Greene is standing third from the left in the second row.

A Tribute to Lorne Greene

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history was restrained. But I was no fool either. My history marks were rather on the borderline and realized that if I turned Mr. Blake down my chance of improving my standing could be in jeopardy. Feigning enthusiasm, I told Mr. Blake, "I'd just love to write an historical play!"

With much travail, I cranked out an epic, with a cast of thousands, which covered the war with the Iroquois, the fall of Quebec, the War of 1812 and several other historical highlights. It also had dancing and music. When it came to casting, I realized there was only one person in Lisgar who could carry the lead. Even then, Lorne Greene showed evi-

dence of being both versatile and talented. He could sing, play the violin and deliver lines like a young Richard Burton.

Lorne reluctantly allowed himself to be conscripted into lead. He was no fool either. His marks in history were shakier than mine, and it would have been suicidal to antagonize Mr. Blake by refusing him.

In the haze of nostalgia for those dear, golden halcyon days at Lisgar, I wish I could report that our show was a smasher. It wasn't. To be utterly honest, it was an unmitigated disaster. Lorne's explanation was, "What can you expect from a production when the script was so lousy?"

My response was, "What chance has a gifted playwright got when his script is marred by an un-talented cast?"

However, the failure didn't impede either of us in our future careers. Lorne-- as he was to fully demonstrate later-- was a dedicated, intelligent, gifted artist. He was also a compassionate human being who supported many good causes throughout his lifetime. Lorne will be missed by millions of people throughout the world who made him a star. He will be missed, even more, by the smaller group of people whose privilege it was to know him. ■■

Inside Lisgar

New Executive Takes the Reins

The front office at Lisgar has acquired some new faces over the past year or so including three key administrators. In our last newsletter we paid tribute to Principal Stephen Glavin and other departing staff members. Now we extend a warm welcome to some successors.

Mr. D. Ian MacDonald - Principal

Ian took over the helm last September after being principal of Rideau High (1974-78) and Ottawa Technical High (1978-87) Schools. Born and educated in Montreal, he began working for the Ottawa Board of Education (O.B.E.) in September 1960 at the then new Woodroffe High School as a science teacher, then Head of Science and later vice-principal. When the Carleton Board was formed in 1969 he was elected as a Trustee.

Mr. MacDonald is married and has three sons, two being R.M.C. graduates and the youngest attending McMaster University in his third year of Engineering Management.

Mr. Marc Buchanan - Vice Principal

Marc's career started with teaching at Rideau High School in 1968-71 and assisting the Head of English at Highland Park H.S. (1971-75). A tour with the Lahr Senior School in West Germany (1975-78) and spells as English Consultant at O.B.E. (1978-82) and as Head of English at Sir John A. MacDonald H.S. (1982-87) followed. During part of 1986 he was seconded to the provincial Ministry of Education. Over these years, in extra-curricular endeavour, Marc has been much involved in coaching basketball, soccer, skiing, golf and track teams.

His wife is a career teacher with the Carleton Board. With their children, a boy and girl, they are still active in recreational sports.

Mr. Peter Everett - Vice Principal

Before his Lisgar appointment in September 1986, Peter's High School experience included Head of Science at Ridgemont High School and Glebe Collegiate. Previously he had taught at Rideau, Brookfield and McArthur High Schools and at the Senior School in Lahr, West Germany. He has also served on the executive of the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario and the Board of Directors, Youth Science Foundation.

Skiing, boardsailing and gardening are some of his favourite outdoor activities. ■■■

Lisgar Notes ✓

Music

The Lisgar Octet performed in the Ballroom of the West Block of the Parliament Buildings on October 21st.

The Lisgar String Ensemble performed at Knox Presbyterian Church on November 1st, with the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir and the Knox Choir.

Sports

Cross-Country Running. Lisgar's senior girls team was our most successful entry in the city meet this fall. They placed third and qualified for the division finals. Our most consistent competitors this season were Megan Bower, Vanessa Cumming, Devra Hensdelman, Lesley Milley, Shelby Banner, John Haddon and Peter Manga.

Senior Girls' Basketball. The 1987 edition of the senior girls' basketball team is one of the strongest the school has produced in many years. As they are about to enter the play-offs, their record is 15 wins and 3 losses, having lost to only one other high school team. Recently they won the Cornwall Collegiate and Vocational School Tournaments. The forward line of Jennie Laughton, Maureen Van Wart, and Jane Ross has played particularly well all season, and these girls should be strong contenders for the city all-star honours.

Boys' Volleyball. After initial round-robin play the team had entered the "A" league with a 5 win and 2 loss record. The team is about to enter the City of Ottawa quarter-final playoffs. Team captain J.C. Villeneuve was recently selected high school athlete of the week.

Tennis Team.. Won 18th consecutive City of Ottawa Championship!!

German

Eleven Lisgar German Students had an extended field trip when they attended the International Student's Conference in West Berlin from October 13th to October 27th. Along with teacher Leonard Schmidt and 1600 other students and teachers from around the world, the Lisgar students met to discuss the political, economic and social situation of Berlin and its history. The trip, funded mainly by the West German government, is also a cultural and language exchange involving sightseeing to East Berlin and boarding in the home of a German student. The students were selected after an Ontario-wide essay writing competition. ■■■

Members' Corner



Members' Forum

Again we would like to share with you letters that we have received:

Thanks for another excellent newsletter. I'm surprised how many names I recognized!

*Katherine Milliken Elton
(1939-45)*

I was very impressed with my first visit back to Lisgar in 45 years, everything so neat, well maintained, no graffiti! Please inform me of planned reunions.

*Robert R. Bower
(1936-41)*

Thank you for the newsletter. Read some familiar names. Bob Laughton was the "Bob Hope" of Lisgar. He entertained the whole audience at basketball games. The school had so many wonderful skills and hobbies—from the Orchestra and after-school dances, to the gun-shooting course, as well as the girls' hockey refereed by Ernie Lapensee. Such dedicated teachers. The gym team with early morning practicing taught by Bessie Smith was also a highlight. Nice years to remember.

*Anna Casey McLewin
(1928-33)*

I attended the 140th and thought it was a marvelous experience. After all these years (nearly 50) I was able to call students of my decade by name. They hadn't changed. Incredible! I hope you are planning a 150th reunion and I hope to be there.

*Chris Spence Ogden
(1932-35)*

Where Have All the Alumni Gone?

Here are some of the achievements of Lisgar graduates:

Kazumi Nagai '79 is interning in Toronto in dentistry. Brother Ryuta is beginning residency in Internal medicine in London, Ontario.

Jayne (Viets) Fleming '46 is residing in Merrickville, Ontario. Last winter she bicycled 1600 km through New Zealand.

Eleanor (Bates) Dunn '55 is residing in Ottawa, Ontario. "I enjoyed your last mailing, particularly the items on former students. I'd like to see more of these because, like so many others, I've lost track of my classmates. My sister Gretal (Bates) Nieboer, is a tax auditor in Calgary, Alberta. Another sister Miriam Bates is living in Anchorage, Alaska. As President of the Media Club of Ottawa, I regularly see Dorothy Bishop who was a great inspiration to me when I was a student at Lisgar."

George Jost '27 is residing in Phoenix, Arizona. "I shall be glad to support the Lisgar Fund for another few years because I spent such good times in Ottawa. The boys with whom I associated in those collegiate days had a well-organized club known as the Gatineau Sporting Club. We met every Friday night to plan a group sporting event for the next day. I was also captain of the ski team at Lisgar and we annually beat Glebe Collegiate for the Grey Cup. I wonder if that competition still continues."

J.A. McKim '26 writes, "Cheers and greetings from a retirement herb farm in Newfoundland! Thanks for the Lisgar notes. I relived a 'twisted ear' as I read the note from Jean Spence, and recalled the 'Mathematical Sisters', Sis and Minnie, and I can view the plane of Marathon in my Form IV class with Mr. Gilchrist. Looking forward to more memories!" ■■■

Looking for the whereabouts of:

Donald L. Blair
Dorothy Norris
Otto Max Klotz
Arthur Hyndman

Drop us a line with news about these or other Lisgarites or, better still, about yourself. The mailing address is:

Lisgar Alumni Association
29 Lisgar Street,
Ottawa, ON
K2P0B9



You are invited to:

*The First Annual
General Meeting
of the Lisgar
Alumni
Association*

Spring 1988

*Watch for details, such as
time and location in our
spring newsletter.*

The Lisgar Alumni Association

The Alumni Association Committee is a group of approximately 10 volunteers who meet monthly to produce the semi-annual newsletters, respond to correspondence, and manage the affairs of the Association. The Committee is also very fortunate to have the services of Marie Hutt, a former Lisgar secretary and alumnus, who donates her time to issue membership cards and to do typing for the Association, as well as the Lisgar Fund.

Like many volunteer groups, the Committee is always looking for alumni who would like to assist in any one of the functions of the Association (Membership, Newsletter, finances, archives, special projects), or just to provide fresh ideas. This need is becoming particularly apparent since, for the most part, the Committee members today are the same as those at the Association's inception in 1984.

The last three years have witnessed an enormous growth in the letters and enquiries from members, and in the level of donations to the Lisgar Fund from alumni. To help ensure this growth continues, the Association is planning a general meeting of the membership for the spring of 1988. At that time it is expected that an executive for the association will be elected and it is hoped that many Ottawa area members will turn out to take an active role in your Association. Watch for specific details of this meeting in the spring newsletter.

In the meantime, any Ottawa area members interested in attending a Committee meeting are encouraged to call either Brian Mitchell at 235-3525 (evenings only) or Barbara O'Brien at 733-3400. ■■■

Lisgar Fund Report

Once again, the executive of the Lisgar Alumni Association and the Board of Directors of the Lisgar Fund wish to thank all those members listed below who donated to the Lisgar Fund since the last newsletter. Your gifts allow us to plan special projects such as the recently installed new scoreboard for the gym. It has not been decided yet what this year's special project will be, but many ideas are being considered. We will inform you of our decision in the near future. Thank you for your continuing support.

David MacGougan
Chairman, Lisgar Fund

Donald Brown	John MacFarlane
David Sproul	Delores Smith
Dr. M.C. Pettapiece	Shirley Pratt Weeks
Kenneth V. Fraser	Gwen Bradley Randolph
Neil W. Alder	Mary Learoyd Fraser
Nancy Maguire	Dr. Sheila Embleton
Naura Mosley	Ronald E. Newman
Irenka Stankiewicz Familo	Dr. Benjamin A. Levitan
A.W. Quayle	E. Gertrude Ferguson
Sarita Rill Levitan	Ralph E. Raynolds
David Gooch	Audrey May Rider
David Armstrong	Gordon F. Henderson
Jean Conger Mather	Dr. Robert B. Bower
Jean Hood	Muriel Wilson Mayhew
Jack MacLeod	Gorman Kerr
Marian Tripe Ade	Margaret Reid Mason
Mary Kettles	James E. Woods
J. Arthur McKim	John Lamont
Douglas K. Dale	Elizabeth Olmstead Rose
Elliot Levitan	Elizabeth Thackeray Dale
A.E. Smith	Josephine Lightfoot
Margaret Lumsden Pippy	Marjorie Stevenson
Tamara Tarasoff	A. Ronald Elliot
Carol Tubbe Stokes	J. Fenton Telford
Barbara J. Wilson	Jean Dempsey Webb
Dorothy Ing Wall	Christian Spence Ogden
Kathleen Pincombe Taylor	Chris Ward
Christina Cardinal Ogden	Gayle Benson Jakubinek
Ross Stewart	Mary Gemmill
Jean Neil	Gail Luther Larose
W. Randolph Franklin	Jeffrey Gould
Alta L. McIntyre	Elizabeth Short Goodson
Ralph Kassie	Daniel Kimmel
Milton Greenberg	Dr. G. Robert Brown
Rev. Lawrence Battle	George B. Jose
Frank G. Boucher	Vera Thompson Jones
Peter H.D. MacArthur	G. Victor Knowles
Betty Gray Binning	S.J. Glavin
Ruth Lockhart Larson	Dr. C.Y. Lu

Attention all Lisgar War Veterans!

Your Alumni Association is attempting to update the plaques in the Lisgar Collegiate front Lobby which have the names of former Lisgar students who served in the Armed Forces during World War I and II. However, some plaques are not complete and we would also like information on those students who served in the Korean Conflict.

Would you kindly fill out the form on the next page and return it to the Lisgar Alumni Association with the necessary data. As well, we would like to know if you served for a country other than Canada. Also please report if you know of any other Lisgarites whose names may have been omitted from the plaques. ■■■