



Alere Flammam

The newsletter of the Lisgar Alumni Association
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Thanks, and Goodbye to Margaret Pippy, Alumni Association Secretary Emeritus

by Doug Arrand

About 12 years ago, the Alumni Association was about to lose its first secretary, Marie Hutt, who was not only an alumna from the late 1930s but was the secretary for many years in Lisgar's Guidance Department before her retirement. That was the new department that Mr. Wright Neil established in the late 1940s when the Department of Education decided we all needed to be advised as to career and educational paths and choices.

Once Marie gave her notice — she was going to southern Ontario to be closer to her daughters and their families — the Association advertised in our newsletter for a volunteer who would work for *one* afternoon a week. We received one reply from one Margaret Pippy nee Lugsdin, grad of 1953, a woman of many talents and someone who had been a recipient of Mr. Neil's guidance upon graduating from Lisgar. Margaret had recently finished a long career at the National Research Council here in Ottawa. It wasn't that Margaret wasn't already a very busy woman. She was the Organist and Choir Director of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Almonte for 40 years until her recent retirement. She was and is a life-long member of the Cantata Singers. These were just two of the most demanding and time consuming of her myriad of activities. They do say if you want to get something done, give it to a busy person, and Margaret puts truth to the saying.

Once Margaret assumed the job with her typical efficiency, and eye to perfection, the Alumni

Alumni Executive Chair, Rod Haggung, presenting plaque to Marg

Association began to grow by leaps and bounds due in no small measure to Margaret's efforts. She first of all had to master our data base, so off she went to a course at Algonquin to better understand the program we were using. Soon she was improving the data base and membership lists by adding even more information for us to draw on. Margaret took on the job of recording all donations from the membership to the Lisgar Fund, a task that required tremendous accuracy both for tax receipts and to meet the government's tax record requirements. When the Fund was audited a few years ago, the auditors found a few errors in accounting procedures but absolutely none in Margaret's records. Margaret then printed out and mailed all the receipts.

Margaret brought in new members by the dozens. Her memory of former Lisgar students was fantastic and she reached out to them reminding them to become members. She took on the onerous task of responding to inquiries sent by our members to the Alumni office. Many people commented on the quick and interesting responses they received, almost by return mail, even if they required extensive research to come up with the answers. Many members came to depend on Margaret to the point where they assumed Margaret was the chief admin officer of the Association, which in reality she was.

We were falling behind on shipments of memorabilia orders



Margaret is a life long learner. She worked with Dan Kekez and Avi Caplan, two of Lisgar's more recent graduates who are the Alumni Association's software and programming whizzes — upgrading the computer services in the alumni office. This required Margaret to learn new computer procedures and processes and those of us who did not grow up with the computer know just how challenging that can be.

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Hurrah! Hurrah!

Friends of Lisgar Campaign Thriving

Alumni board members were *absolutely delighted* with the response to the Friends of Lisgar fund raising campaign. The campaign recognized Lisgar's 160th Anniversary and aims to provide funds to refurbish our Auditorium. In return the school agreed to rename the facility Alumni Auditorium in recognition of the generous and continuous financial support the school has received from your Alumni Association over the last 20 years. This most ambitious campaign of your Association to date set a target of **\$60,000** to repair the plaster, repaint and improve lighting, etc., in the auditorium where so many of us spent so much of our time at Lisgar. Whether it was the daily home room program, or involvement in skits, orchestra, band, dramas, musicals, commencements or whatever, many of our fondest memories center on the Aud. The estimate for the complete and necessary refurbishment is in the range of \$120,000 based on estimates of work needed to bring the facility up to 2004 standards. Your Board felt that \$60,000 was a realistic goal for our Alumni and the school community will attempt to raise the remainder if possible.

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Members' Forum

Margaret Pippy, our newly retired Alumni Secretary, received this letter at the Alumni office. Obviously Bruce Kirby knows who is really running the Association!

You might not be the right person to be receiving this letter, but as you are running the alumni association I know you will make sure it gets into the right hands.

I was very pleased indeed to receive from my sister, Beverley Brown, of Ottawa, the plaque naming me to the Lisgar Wall of Fame. It resides proudly here in my home on the shores of Long Island Sound in Connecticut.

I had fully intended to be at the 2004 reunion but managed to break my hip late in April and was laid up for a while. However, I would like all my Lisgar friends to know that I have mended well and continue to work at my yacht design business and am back racing my sailboat at every opportunity.

Last time I was in Ottawa was in October of 2002 when I was delighted to be invited by the Governor General to lunch at Government House with 49 other Canadians and the Queen and Prince Philip. It was wonderful to have as the host another Lisgarite.

I attended the old school (as did my brother, sister and father) in the late '40s and was head boy in 1949. I have had a lot of good fortune and good times since then, but the older I get the better the Lisgar days look.

Sincerely yours, Bruce Kirby

[Editors' note: See also story on page 5.]

Received in the Alumni office was a letter from Darrell McDonald (Welland Ont.) enclosing a further donation to the Friends campaign, noting that:

... my original donation ... was made before I was aware of what a splendid job the Alumni Association is doing. ... Congratulations on the well organized 160th Anniversary and thank

Editor

Contributors

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Bill Fraser | Neil Petrie |
| Joy Heft | Margaret Pippy |
| Jim Kerr | Milton Shaffer |
| Betty Jane Marsh | George Toller |

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you for providing me the opportunity to re-connect with classmates and old friends.

P.S. You might be amused at the reaction of my 14-year-old granddaughter on seeing Lisgar later in the summer. As soon as she glimpsed the building she exclaimed "Hogwarts! Do you have Harry Potter listed among the alumni?"

Our very own, long-time Alumni Executive member Milton Shaffer adds a few words from his perspective regarding the 160th reunion (and borrowing a word or two from the Bard): "To be or not to be" that was the question in the bleak meetings of Lisgar's Alumni in late 2001 and early 2002. In the beginning when the question raised its ugly head: Do we go for the 160th? I looked around the table and met the gaze of sad, worried and 10-year-old faces than those for our 150th.

"Not to be!" the afore-mentioned 10-year-old faces said, citing the loss of principals who were well Lisgarized at the time of the 150th, and the predominance of staff and teachers brand new to dear old Lisgar.

When I returned to Ottawa from the South in April of 2002, was I ever glad to see and hear it was "To Be!" with new faces aboard, already working and even some committee chairpersons named.

G o l l y Gee! it would fill a book to tell you the work, the meetings, the marvellous new people who came out to plan to the minutest detail for all the events, including our CEO (who stepped in to replace the original reunion committee chair) Rod Hagglund.

Well, suffice it to say that sitting in the ball room at the Congress Centre on Saturday night for the Dinner Dance, and seeing 600 or so happy Lisgarites — if it wasn't that I would have dirtied my fine clothes — indeed, my cup literally, if not actually, did runneth over.

Bill Shakespeare, were you ever right! All's well that ends so *very* well.

Kudos to the Lisgar Alumni, the 160th Committee and all who were aboard: the Principal, the teachers and staff, and all of you who came — from as far away as Australia, Norway, the East and West coasts and the United States. ■

Editor's note: Picture shows Milton with Sylvia Kershman about to hand over the torch to young members of the Lisgar community.

In Memoriam

Douglas, Hugh C. (1942) Alumni Life Member, died peacefully at home in his 81st year. He is survived by his wife Shirley (Blakeman); children Ellen, Jane and Gordon; seven grandchildren; and sisters Dorothy Mackie of Toronto and Jean Forward of Perth.

Fraser, Kenneth V. (1940) D.F.C., World War II pilot 100 Squadron, died suddenly at home on August 16, 2004 in his 81st year. He is survived by his devoted wife Mary (Learoyd, 1941); his children Wendy, Kerry and Roderick, and eight grandchildren; and his sister Jean Bowen.

Gauer, Peter (1957) on August 28, 2004 after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife Daphne and his son Drew; and was predeceased by his brothers Hans and Rolf and his sister Christa. He was a long time employee of the CBC.

Gordon, M. Laird (1949) died peacefully on October 13, 2004, leaving behind his loving wife of 50 years, Joan (Ashton, 1947); his children David, Jill, Cathie and Bruce and eight grandchildren; predeceased by his sister Diane Kent.

Hendelman, Devra died on August 25, 2004 in Kelowna, BC. Devra will be greatly missed by her loving husband Grant Rice, parents Teena and Walter, sister Lisanne, family and friends.

Hickman, Maud (1934) died on February 22, 2004 in her 90th year. Born in Sandy Hill, she remained in the same house until her illness in 1998. She was predeceased by her brothers and sisters Mary, Thomas, Irene, James and Joseph. Left to mourn are her extended family, neighbours and friends who worked with her at Veterans Affairs.

Hirsch, R. Forbes (1931) died peacefully in his 90th year at the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre. Beloved husband of Dorene June (Sutton); father of Forbes William, John Gordon and Fraser Sutton; grandfather of five and great-grandfather of two. He was employed at the Bank of Canada since its inception in 1935, retiring as Chief Auditor in 1974.

Lister, Marilyn Jane (Jeckell, 1955) died peacefully on July 28, 2004 in her 67th year. She was the beloved wife of Bruce, loving mother of Stephen of Toronto, Graham of Ottawa, Jane of Vancouver and Matthew of West Lafayette, Indiana; grandmother of six; sister of the late Frances "Bonnie" (1959) (Murray Crozier); and a tireless and dedicated volunteer.

In Memoriam

McCullough, D.Earl (1939) World War II Veteran died July 2, 2004. Predeceased by his loving wife Christine and a granddaughter, he is survived by his children Bill, Janet and Valerie, eight grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.

Roderick, Elizabeth H. (Smiley, 1938) died at home in Oakville on December 11, 2003. She leaves Gerald (Head Boy, 1938), her husband of 58 years.

Rothman, Marlene (Baker, 1955) on August 14, 2004 at the Hospice House in Winchester Massachusetts, leaving her husband Harry.

Sparling, Earl (1959, staff 1964 to 1970) died peacefully at home on March 28, 2004. Predeceased by his wife Donna (Weisman), he is survived by his children Scott and Devon and three grandchildren.

Tommy, Andy B. Jr. (1950) died peacefully at the Ottawa Heart Institute on August 2, 2004, at the age of 71. He leaves his wife Marion; children Sarah, Randy, Lisa and Michael; and seven grandchildren. He was predeceased by his brothers Art and Fred.

Whitfield, David A. J. (Dave) (1947) died October 2, 2004, after a long illness, at Granite Ridge Long Term Care Facility, Stittsville, Ontario. His sense of humour and mischief will be missed by his wife Audrey (Cuff); his children Linda, Glen and Janet (John Luxton); his granddaughter Samantha; his stepchildren and their spouses; predeceased by his first wife Phyllis (Wynn), his parents and his brother Roger. He was a proud Lisgar alumnus and a valued member of the Executive Committee. *(See tribute, this page.)*

Mail has been returned to the Alumni office marked "deceased" from the following alumni:

Lusick, Carolyn (Cobb, 1051)

We have received phone calls and e-mail to the Alumni office regarding the following alumni:

Massé, Godfrey (1948) died November 3, 2003.

Mills, Donald (1948) died February 26, 2003.

Stevens, Douglas C. (1934) died March 22, 2000 (second husband of Lois Tomkins [1936] Miller)

Thank you David!

by Doug Arrand

The Lisgar Alumni Association has lost a very special member. David Whitfield (1947) passed away on October 2, 2004.

A very successful Ottawa insurance broker, David completed his career as senior partner in one of Ottawa's most senior and successful insurance brokerages.

Those of us who have served on the Executive Board of the Alumni Association with David for a number of years throughout the 1980s and 1990s well remember David's enthusiastic support for the Association and its activities. His quiet but infectious sense of humour contributed greatly to the fellowship and enjoyment of his fellow board members as we conducted the monthly association business. His contribution to planning and organizing Lisgar's Sesquicentennial Anniversary celebrations in 1993 was without equal. Among his many duties related to the event, he and a small committee stayed up all night on occasion to organize the seating arrangements for the dinner/dance held at the Congress Centre. He satisfied every request of attendees as to whom they wished to be seated with at the banquet and there were over 1600 of us who made specific seating requests, of which many came in just a day or two prior to the event itself. Subsequent to the great weekend celebration, his leadership in assisting the Association to pay off its very large financial undertaking in the publication of the Alumni Association's wonderful history book covering 150 years of Lisgar history and edited by alumna Joan Finnigan MacKenzie was invaluable. He sponsored our first Alumni Golf Day as a fund raiser.

David always loved a party and was a marvellous host. He initiated the annual June executive luncheon at the Laurentian Club which was located in the former family home of the Booth family whose children also attended Lisgar. He and his lovely wife Audrey opened their home to host an executive get together after a challenging year of hard work on behalf of the Association. When he retired from the Board a few years ago, his foresight, his leadership, wonderful sense of humour and generous support for the Association was immediately missed. Shortly after his retirement, David began to experience a degenerative disease that eventually took him away from us. Those of us who had the pleasure of knowing David and the opportunity to work with him have been blessed. Our deepest sympathies go to Audrey and David's children. ■



Elizabeth Fripp and Joan Finnigan enjoy a Reunion moment at the Congress Centre

Notes from Down Below

.....where there's more than meets the eye.

by Joy Heft

One elderly gentleman standing in the middle of the alumni office asked me recently if I would show him the archives sometime. "This is it," was my response. Indeed, most of the Lisgar archives, not currently housed at the City Archives, except for excess copies of the *Vox Lycei*, are in that little room. That being said, I think most alumni would agree to the eye's occasional deficiency judging from the variety and quality of displays that added to the enjoyment of the reunion: photos, newspaper clippings, books, clothing, spoons, medals, and other memorabilia featuring different eras of cadets, sports, musical and other events, Lisgar authors, former teachers, Senator Eugene Forsey, 1921 *Vox Lycei* editor whose centenary was being celebrated elsewhere that week-end...

In addition to clothing, old documents, photographs, and other items, many copies of the requested years of *Vox Lycei* were received at the time of the reunion. A hearty thank you to all donors for your generosity. To reach our goal of two copies of *Vox Lycei* of each year from 1910 onward for the archives, we are still looking for 1912 (2), 1916 (2), 1953 to 1956, 1959, 1960, 1962, and 1963. Sales of excess copies of the *Vox* and photocopies from various *Vox* issues were very brisk during the reunion week-end. We still have copies of many years for sale, however. If you wish to buy, please e-mail me at jheft@lisgar.net or write to the alumni office — Attention: Joy Heft, or watch for future issues indicating available years.

An archival initiative for Remembrance Day was a display about Alexis Helmer and cadets in general in the alumni showcase. As well, I receive many requests for information about alumni for genealogical or other purposes. These had been put on the back burner during the reunion and its aftermath, but I hope to get back to them soon. If you have requested information and have not had word from me, please do remind me; requests may have been misplaced in the frenzy of activity. ■

Sports “Wall of Fame”

by Bill Fraser

One of the many successful under-takings of the 160th Reunion was the establishment of an athletic “Wall of Fame” and the induction of its first members during Friday night’s Alumni Assembly.

The idea behind this project is two-fold: to honour former Lisgar athletes who have gone on to great success at the university, Olympic, national, and professional levels and to inspire young athletes who attend our alma mater. The concept embodies the theme of the reunion – “completing the circle.”

The ceremony honoured 10 inductees, covered the decades from the 1930s to the present, represented eight different sports and featured seven Olympians. It even included a former Head Boy and Head Girl! At the close of the ceremony, the group received a standing ovation from the proud audience.

Initial inductees included Petra Cada (1996) who, as well as having a distinguished international career, competed in both the Atlanta and this summer’s Olympics in table tennis.

Petra was followed by Pat Stoqua (1976) who went on to an outstanding university career at Carleton in both football and basketball, and played six years of professional football for the Ottawa Roughriders.

(Judge) Hugh Fraser (1970) was honoured for his outstanding career as a sprinter at the international and Olympic level, and, among other things, for his work on the Dubin Commission and at the International Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne.



Lisgar Athletics Association holds barbecue

The 1960s were represented by former Head Girl, Joan Fisher (1967), an outstanding sprinter who highlighted her career by competing in the Mexico Olympics, and by Paul Paddon, who attended Lisgar from 1960 to 1965, and went on to quarterback Ottawa U to the Vanier cup final and win the Hec Crighton trophy as Canada’s outstanding university football player.



Pat Hood, Kathy Ullrich, Linda Thom, Erik Spicer and Betty Jane Marsh at Sunday Brunch

The 1950s were well represented by Linda Thom (1958) (seen above) gold medal winner in pistol shooting at the 1984 Olympics; by Anne Heggtveit (1957) who won Olympic gold in the slalom at the 1960 Squaw Valley Olympics; and by Donald Jackson (1957) who won bronze in the 1960 Olympics and gold as the 1962 world champion in figure skating.

Former Head Boy, Bruce Kirby (1948), a three-time Olympian in sailing who is equally well-known as a yacht designer, with the laser design and both Canada 1 and Canada 2 to his credit was the next. He could not attend because of a recent injury, but was represented by his sister, Beverly Brown, also a Lisgar grad. [Editors note: See also letter, page 2]

Finally, Inez Zelikovitz accepted the award for her late husband, Joe, an outstanding multi-sport athlete at Lisgar from 1930 to 1934, who went on to a successful career in professional football for the Ottawa Roughriders, where he still holds the CFL record for interceptions in a single game (seven).

Both the reaction of the audience and the comments received by committee members indicate the general approval for both the concept of the wall itself, and for the initial selection of inductees.

The organizers of this Wall-of-Fame project regard the initial ceremony as a beginning only. They are aware that there may have been oversights, and that some worthy candidates may have been omitted. If you would like to nominate someone for the next induction, please contact Bill Fraser at coachf@cyberus.ca or write the Phys. Ed. department at Lisgar and direct your letter to either Tanya Asselstine or Peter Niedre. Be sure to include the years that he or she attended Lisgar and as detailed a biography of post-Lisgar athletic successes as possible. This will ensure that your nominee will receive consideration for the next induction. ■

Sadly, the Rant Is Gone

by Doug Arrand

A number of years ago, one John Barclay, 1953 grad, retired career army officer and all round good fellow volunteered to serve on the Alumni Association Board. He agreed to take on the Treasurer’s mantle. I might add the financial books that had been maintained to this point in the history of the Association were accurately maintained but very rudimentary. John quickly and without fuss had a new set of books and journals created and all entries and records were up-to-date very businesslike in both appearance and accuracy. The Association recognized John’s talents and voted him one of the Association’s two representatives on the Lisgar Fund Board to oversee the management of all monies donated by Alumni. John’s leadership talents became evident on a number of fronts in succeeding years but especially in the campaign to pay off the debt incurred by the Association when it published the now famous Lisgar History Book edited by Joan Finnigan MacKenzie in recognition of Lisgar’s 150th Anniversary. He supported the decision to create a Life membership fee and subsequently managed the investment of that trust fund.

He helped us find a more efficient way of dealing with Canada Post in mailing out our newsletter twice each year. That in itself is no mean feat as anyone who has dealt with Canada Post will know. Most recently he served on the 160th Anniversary Steering Committee again involving himself in the money management side. His goal was to ensure that in addition to seeing that all monies were properly accounted for, the reunion party would not leave the association with any debt when it was over. John succeeded in that!

For years your Board has been engaged in an ongoing debate of sorts over whether the Association should mail newsletters only to paid up members or follow the more inclusive policy of sending a newsletter out to every alum in the hopes that everyone will eventually pay their membership fee. Once it was decided to stick to the inclusive approach, the Association had to make a more aggressive appeal to the members to pay their annual fee or take out a life membership. John wrote his first rant to challenge the delinquents among us to pay up. The number of alum who appreciated John’s humour and sent in their fees sometimes covering multiple years along with wonderful comments about the Rant delighted the Board.

We will miss much more than John’s Rant—we will miss his enthusiasm, sense of humour, singing voice, Latin translations, his memories but most of all we will miss his thoughtful solutions and creative support in carrying on the work of the Association.

So long Rant, we will miss you! ■

Teachers Meet at City Hall

Breakfast at Andy Bear's beat breakfast at Tiffany's as 55 enthusiastic former staff joined several of the current faculty for a pleasant gathering of reminiscing and renewing friendships prior to a staff/student gathering in the Rotunda. Enhancing the occasion were displays featuring former headmasters, principals, and vice principals, prepared by the current V.P., Susan Smith, as well as a memorial display of faculty deceased since the last reunion provided by the committee. It was a delight to welcome two elder attendees, the gentlemanly former principal, Robert McMichael, and Etta Neil, widow of another former principal, Wright Neil, who remains the gracious person many remember pouring tea at the formal Lisgar teas of yesteryear held in the school library.



Above: Heinz and Phyllis Paryas, Bob Hursti, Dave MacGougan, Bob Green

A few well known teachers who were unable to attend sent us these notes:

- "I still meet many former Lisgar students around the city and enjoy every contact. I hope that the 160th celebrations, your breakfast and student reception will go really well." John Parsons — former V.P.
- "Please extend my best wishes to all my teacher friends at Lisgar and to all those wonderful students who made my teaching days so enjoyable. When I look back to my years at Lisgar the memories are always very happy." Bob Behan — former head of Mathematics. ■



Above: Seylvia Klein, Yvonne Seiers, Liz Kostash, Carol Pali, Angus McCabe.

Right: Etta Neil, widow of long-time Principal Wright Neil



Margaret Pippy

cont from page 1

What we are trying to say is that Margaret in many respects is one of the key building blocks of the current Association as it has become. Once the Association and its mission had been established, Margaret created the administration and operations systems and put in thousands of hours of at times lonely work in the tiny office in Lisgar's basement, actually located where the boys dressing room was when the gymnasium was in the basement of the north building.

And even though she has earned her retirement many times over, Margaret is still helping by training her two replacements — yes, you read correctly. It has taken *two* good people to carry on the work and the Association is delighted to have them. They will be well trained and Margaret is still ever the loyal Lisgarite as she continues to attend

Board meetings and take on special tasks. Margaret personifies Lisgar's motto Alere Flamman in that her flame burns brightly and she continues to feed the flame (spirit)!

On a personal note, I want every member of the Association to know that I had the pleasure of working closely with Margaret for the 12 years and I cannot thank her enough for the many personal sacrifices she has made during that time to accommodate the many, many demands the Association and I made on this fantastic, charitable and talented woman. I think it is fitting here to tell the readers that Margaret's reward for her tremendous gift of time and talent to the association was an annual free lunch provided by the Association at the Rideau Club and hosted by our very own George Toller. SOME DEAL!!!!!! Thank you, Margaret. ■

Alumni Executive Changes

Now that the 160th Reunion is behind us, we face several changes in your Alumni Association Executive. Marg Pippy, has officially resigned her duties — to be replaced by two people! (We all knew she did the work of many all at once!) And Doug Arrand has resigned as Alumni representative for the Lisgar Fund. Both Doug and Marg received thank-you plaques for their long service at the annual luncheon of the Alumni Executive, hosted again by George Toller at the Rideau Club. As well, John Barclay has ended his time as Treasurer. We will miss his curmudgeonly rants! We welcome new Executive members Elizabeth Hale and Yvonne Seiers who will divide the secretary's duties, Marie Hartmann who will take on John Barclay's duties as Treasurer, Mark Orbay and Brian Mitchell.

We asked our new members for some information about themselves...

- Mark Orbay N.D. (1994) practices naturopathic medicine in Ottawa at the OptiHealth Holistic Centre treating all health conditions from colds to cancer using natural medicines. He was coach and captain of the Lisgar Rowing Team, performed in the orchestra, and worked on the *Vox Lycei*. He completed his BSc from McGill University in Microbiology and Immunology, worked at Health Canada for the Canadian Blood Secretariat, and received his naturopathic medical degree at the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Portland, Oregon.
- Elizabeth Hale: As the infamous Godfather would say, "Just when I thought I was out... they pull me back in!" And so it goes for my return to the Alumni Executive. After a brief stint in 1999, and working on the 160th Reunion last year, I decided to return to the Executive because I was looking for something interesting to do and I wanted to keep in touch with my alma matter. Little did I know that I would rise to the challenge of becoming the new Alumni Secretary for Correspondence. I have already had my first training session with Margaret Pippy and I hope to be able to fill her shoes, although I know it will be difficult. She had that office running like a well-oiled machine! If you have contacted the Alumni office this past summer, please be patient with me — I am catching up on all requests and correspondence as fast as I can. I hope that I will be able to serve my fellow Lisgarites well and help ensure that the Alumni Association continues successfully for many years to come. Alere Flamman! ■

There is a new plaque on the wall outside the Library, honouring two of our most hard-working and longest serving Alumni Executive members: *In Honour of • Doug Arrand • Guiding Presence of • The Lisgar Alumni Association • Major Contributor to Lisgar's • 125th, 140th 150th and 160th Anniversaries and In appreciation • Margaret Pippy • Loyal Volunteer Secretary for Many Years • Presented by The Lisgar Alumni Association June 2004* ■

Features

Friends of Lisgar (cont from page 1)

We have **not** reached our target yet but we have made a great start! The campaign provided for three types of donations: Benefactor, Patron and Sponsor: Benefactors each donated \$1000 or more, Patron \$500 or more and Sponsor \$25 or more.

Grand Total received to date: **\$43,561***

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Benefactors(13) | \$20,600 |
| Patrons(18) | 18,000 |
| Sponsors | 13,651 |

* US exchange to be added to the total

Now you can see why we are so delighted with the results. It reinforces our belief that the Alumni Association **will** meet its target. We only require approximately \$16,500 to achieve our target. We appeal to each and every Alum who did not have a chance last May to make a contribution. Let us show **our** appreciation for our alma mater, and at the same time provide a role model for the current Lisgar students by achieving our goal and giving the auditorium its much needed refurbishment, one that has really been required for over 30 years. When Lisgar was completely renovated in 1976-77, there was insufficient money set aside to refurbish the auditorium at that time. Since then, money has just not been forthcoming from the normal government and school board sources for the necessary improvements.

Lisgar has faced these kinds of challenges in our history many times before, such as installing the Heritage Wall and its stained glass windows that the Alumni and students of Lisgar paid for as a 140th Anniversary project when the Board refused to provide funds. Alumni have donated in excess of \$30,000 over the last 20 years to establish a number of scholarships and bursary awards for Lisgar students. In addition, we have purchased special physical education equipment, Infocus projectors, computers, TVs, library books and science apparatus, etc. that would not have been available without the generosity of you the Alumni through your annual donations to the Lisgar Fund.

We **must** achieve our objective of \$60,000 and we can! Every dollar helps and no amount is too insignificant. So be quick to respond! What a wonderful Christmas gift to Lisgar if we achieved our goal by the end of 2004! This would permit the work to commence immediately in 2005. Don't forget that cheques are made out to the Lisgar Fund, and you should designate your donation to go to "The Friends of Lisgar."

Once the work is completed in the new year and all the plaques and brass plates are installed, we plan to host an evening of music in the Alumni Assembly to show appreciation for a job well done. And every Alumni I know loves a party, so let's get going. **ALERE FLAMMAM** is translated to mean "feed the flame" of learning, and what better goal than for us to do our part for the current generation of Lisgarites. ■

160th Golf Tournament

by Jim Kerr (1962)

Judging by the feedback from participants (alumni, teachers and friends), the tourney was a success and a welcome addition to the range of Reunion Weekend events available for the 160th. Not only was it



apparent that a good time was shared by all, but many suggested that we undertake more frequent alumni golf outings in the future. To that end, we now have a substantial e-mail and telephone list as a starting point for possible future golfing endeavours. And to top it all off, when all was said and done, we were able to turn over a substantial contribution to the Lisgar Fund.

On behalf of all alumni, sincerest appreciation goes out to those alumni and friends who donated contest and draw prizes, including, Ottawa NCR YM-YWCA, Carleton University Athletics Department, Capital Hill

Hotel and Suites, Lapointe's Restaurants, Mont Cascades Golf, The Meadows Golf, Hillary's Cleaners, Texas Chop House, Barley Mow Pubs, Clocktower Brew Pub, Top of the World Clothing. And a very special thanks to Malcolm (Mac) Ross for his generous financial contribution to the ultimate success of the event.

Many thanks to the Golf Committee (Drew Love, Bill Fraser, Kathy Ullrich, Bill Giff) for their advice and support, and to the special ladies who greeted and registered golfers and ensured the smooth organization of the reception and prize ceremony (Kathy Ullrich, Judy Turner, Lannie (Pieters) Scaife, Sandra Fraser and Bonnie Kerr). And finally, a big thumbs up to Rod Hagglund and the 160th Committee for the inclusion of a Golf Tourney in what was already a busy



roster of Reunion Weekend choices. Congratulations to all for your continuing support of the one and only, Lisgar Collegiate! ■



Above left: left to right, Ted Radmore, Bob Scaife, Kathy Ullrich, Bill Giff, Bob Hum

Above right: left to right, Bill Giff, Bob Hum, Bob Imrie, Jon Purcell, Terry Pender, Mac Ross, Dave Halliday, Bob Green

Left: George Hathaway and friends.

Joan Finnigan Mackenzie (former *Vox Lycei* editor) has recently published her 30th book *Life Along the Opeongo Line* with Penumbra Press. It is social history of one of the earliest intact and best preserved colonization roads in the country, using text from original diaries of surveyor Hamley Burritt, transcripts of interviews with descendants of first settlers, advice to immigrants from Crown Land Agent T.P. French, letters from pioneers to relatives in the Old Country, even stories about the Timber Barons who used the Opeongo to run supplies. As well, the history is enhanced with many archival and recent black and white photographs by the late Erik Christensen of the *Globe and Mail* and Dr. Jonathan MacKenzie of Carp, Ontario. Colour photography is by Joan Finnigan.

A Grand 160th!

After more than a year of preparation, the Lisgar 160th reunion saw close to 850 registrants, including grads from as far back as 1925. They and the supporters of the Lisgar Fund and Lottery raised more than \$45,000 for the auditorium renovations, and \$13,000 for the Alumni Association. "Closing



the Circle" was done in grand style.

Alumni Milton Shaffer and Margaret Pippy passed the torch to the newest generation of Lisgarites at the student assembly. Over at the Meadowlands Golf and Country Club meanwhile, 84 golfers teed off (see also page 6). Hundreds of alumni arrived in the Library for registration. Many also purchased memorabilia, or a scarce copy of the 150th History book, autographed by its editor, author Joan Finnigan MacKenzie.

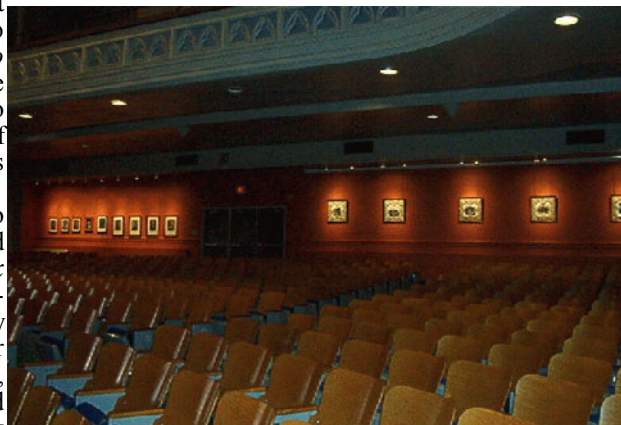
Alumni toured the Decade Rooms to meet former classmates, leave messages and see the faces of their youth in the old *Vox Lycei*. Current students and faculty demonstrated achievements and invited friendly competition in chess, debate and "Reach for the Top." The evening Alumni assembly, organized by Music Head Trudy Bradley and long-term teacher and alumni leader Doug Arrand, was emceed by David Love. The packed assembly enjoyed the excellent Lisgar String Ensemble, the classical piano of Evelyn Greenberg and Tu Mach, and the rousing folk stylings of Valdy. Ernie Tannis and Mike Tybalt provided comedy, and former teacher and alumnus Bill Fraser introduced the first athletes to be inducted into our new Athletic Wall of Fame (see also story on page 4).



A moving ceremony in memory of Alexis Helmer, first Lisgarite to die in World War I and the inspiration for the poem "In Flanders Fields," saw the unveiling of a plaque, donated by George Toller, to be installed in our Memorial Hall. Lisgarites at the assembly also saw the first effects of their donations to the Friends of Lisgar campaign in the new paint and decor. The message was clear: the money raised is a good start, but far more is needed.

After the assembly, alumni joined those who had been watching on closed-circuit TV from the Blue and Grey pub night in the Gym, where they mingled with all generations informally (and happily), enjoyed a pint and sampled the commemorative cake until the wee hours.

On Saturday morning, breakfast for former faculty members at City Hall next door provided an opportunity for alumni to meet their teachers in the Rotunda. The weather co-operated with a blazing sunlit morning as Her Excellency, the Right



Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada — and former Head Girl — hosted over 900 at beautiful Rideau Hall. Following a barbecue on the school mall organized by the Athletic Association, alumni enjoyed the rich displays of archival material and music-in-the-round as past members of band, orchestra and music programs "jammed." In the final ceremony at the school, a plaque was presented by the City of Ottawa recognizing Lisgar's Heritage status.

In the Congress Centre, all five living former principals (and our current principal, Pat Irving) received us for cocktails before the dinner-dance. Over 600 enthusiastic guests, hosted by Bill Fraser, met friends, chatted and learned the results of the Lottery (first prize to George Toller, who promptly donated it back to the school), and danced the night away.

Over 200 attended an informal Sunday Brunch where food and conversation abounded.



In the end, Lisgar and its alumni can look back on a fine occasion for the grand old school. Alumni went away not only satisfied, but looking forward to the next reunion

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the tremendous team of volunteers who worked tirelessly for more than a year to ensure that the 160th would live up to Lisgar standards, and the many others who just appeared when and where needed, like the ladies who showed up to prepare hundreds of registration packages on the night before the reunion began, or the gentleman who arrived, unannounced, on Friday morning and manned the registration computers for two days almost nonstop. But special thanks must go from the alumni to Principal Pat Irving and faculty leaders Trudy Bradley and Robert Tang, without whom nothing would have happened; to the students who were so welcoming and helpful; to both Glendon College and York University who host the Web site on which our gurus Daniel Kekez and Avi Caplan (Avi would say especially Daniel) orchestrated state-of-the-art on-line registration with a shoestring budget; to Lo-Mor Printing which produced all printed material under ridiculous deadlines; to Candice Presley, who provided sign language translation for the assemblies and the Blue and Grey night; and to the Rideau Hall staff who bent over backwards to make the reception possible. Within alumni ranks, the names are too many but we can perhaps name the "first and the last": Paul Bennett, who put together the original team and served as chair for the first six months, and Margaret Pippy, who toiled for two months beyond the end of her term as Alumni Secretary (and three months beyond the reunion) dealing with the immense amount of paperwork for the Friends of Lisgar Campaign for campaign chair George Toller.

My personal gratitude to all who came, to all who gave time, money and effort, and to those who have made Lisgar the special place it is.

Alere Flammam!

Rod Hagglund, Chair,
Lisgar 160th and Lisgar Alumni Executive ■

Features

Remembrance Day 2003

Editors' note: George Toller was asked to speak to Lisgar students last November 11th. Because of the run up to the 160th Reunion, we did not publish his remarks at the time. We believe it is still a timely reminder of Lisgar's past.

I felt honoured to be asked to speak to the Lisgar Assembly on this special day. Not being a Veteran, I was quite sensitive of my status — but I was asked to speak on “Lisgar during Wartime” to help today's students understand it better.

Looking back over 65 years to 1939 when I had just entered our great grey walls, brought back a flood of wonderful memories — so common to many of us today. The Lisgar 94th Cadet Corps in our uniforms, the Bugle Band, aircraft recognition, Red Cross Instruction, rifle drill, wartime volunteers posted overseas, veterans wounded and on leave passed through our portals regularly.

Morning Assembly was serious and dedicated — with Bible readings, the latest announcements affecting “Our Boys,” current wartime songs: “There'll Always Be an England,” “We'll meet Again” were the two favourites. A definite sense of urgency prevailed throughout those years as we all felt the importance of not letting the boys down. Many of us had relatives serving and each graduating class increased Lisgar's contribution to the war effort. Their letters home were often directed to John Dunlap and Mike Strader, our Principal and Vice Principal, who read them to us and printed them in the *Vox Lycei* along with pictures.

War Savings Stamps of 25 cents each week were mounted in booklets and then exchanged for \$10 certificates — representing our first career investments. War Savings Bonds of \$100 also became available. Food rationing entered our lives — with monthly coupons for sugar, butter, meat, gas. Most family cars were up on blocks for the winter — and class sleigh drives started from Lisgar's own front door along the Rideau Canal to Teskeys Restaurant at Hogs Back. There we danced to “I don't Want to set the World on Fire” from the Nickleodeon before the long road back again singing those oldtime songs by the light of the moon: “Here's to Dear Old Lisgar School,” “We're Loyal to you, Blue and Grey” and “There's Something about a Soldier.”

Finally V-Day arrived June 6, 1945. Many of us hiked up to Parliament Hill to join the increasing throng assembled there, amid the Carillon bells and loudspeakers acclaiming Victory and Peace. Each of us will remember those glorious years of yore in our own special way.

“Backward, turn backward
Oh Time in thy flight
Make us all Lisgarites
Just for tonight. ■

Remembrance Day 2004

Yet again, Lisgar Alumni have answered the call. John Dunfield, former member of the Executive Committee, spoke to Lisgar students on November 11, 2004. He recounted his early impressions of the August 1938 unveiling of the War Memorial for the 1914-1918 Great War by King George VI and Queen Mary in the midst of rising conflict in Europe. After joining the Army as a sapper at \$1.20 per day (including board and uniform) he trained four months in Ottawa at Cartier Square, mainly drilling!

In January of 1940, he sailed for Britain with the First Canadian Division. His memories of wartime Britain included blackouts, air raid sirens, warm beer, rations, left-hand driving, roundabouts, dances and anti-aircraft guns.

They heard Churchill speak, lived through the Battle of Britain which involved many Canadian airmen, watched with horror as France, Belgium and Holland fell, and manned the beaches of southern England. He spoke of Pearl Harbour in December of 1941 and the Americans coming, of Dieppe and the lessons learned, of the 1943 Italian Campaign and the Allied bombing of Germany. After D-Day, June 6, 1944 on the coast of France, the Canadians fought for the first time under one Commander — five Divisions with 150,000 to 200,000 men plus the RCAF and the Royal Canadian Navy. With mounting casualties on all fronts, he joined an Infantry Battalion in 1945 and faced the difficult task of writing to next of kin for soldiers killed during and after the war.

The end of the conflict, May 8, 1945 came five years and eight months after it began. Back in civilian life he faced “rehabilitation,” got married and had children, worked, continued his education under the Veterans Act, joined the Lisgar Alumni Association and took on the task of updating the names of those who served their country on the plaques in Memorial Hall. He ended with John McCrae's poem “In Flanders Fields” and the involvement of Lisgar's Alexis Helmer. ■



Your Alumni Association reminds you again that we are always looking for speakers for Remembrance Day ceremonies at Lisgar. If you are willing to talk to the students, or if you know someone who could do this, please let us know. As well as our Wartime Veterans, we know there are also Veterans of the Korean Conflict and Peacekeepers among our Alumni who could fill this role. Write to the Alumni Association at 29 Lisgar Street, Ottawa, K2P 0B9 or e-mail us at alumnioffice@lisgar.net. ■



Doug Arrand received a plaque of appreciation from Chairman Rod Hagglund. He resigned his position on the Lisgar Fund after his move to Kinston, Ontario, but remains on the Executive Committee as co-editor of the Newsletter.

New Life Members

Elda (Bortolotti) Allen 1957
Michael C. St Amour 1972
Andrew B. Anderson 1992
Philippe Bernier 1998
Abraham Bookman 1938
Dorothy Conway 2002
Doreen (Davis) Darroch 1944
Roman Dzioba 2001
Judy (Sleeman) Eardley 1956
Mary (Learoyd) Fraser 1941
Elizabeth (Thompson) Fripp 1945
Mary Rose (Robert) Gagné 1955
David R. Graham 1953
Charles Graham 1962
Anthony F. Graham 1960
Kelly (Burton) Grubb 1986
Derek Hartl 1988
Leslie Horwitz-Bearé 1976
Constance Hudak 1966
Jeffrey Hum 1998
David Ivison 1956
Janet Jones 1964
Iona (Ade) Joy 1958
Katherine Lafferty 1989
Christina Lascelles 1998
Elizabeth (Pritchard) MacEachern 1952
Barbara (Maddeaux) Mathison 1960
Judy Mellen 1969
Robert Milks 1944
Frances (Massé) Nikkel 1953
Violet (McAteer) Patterson 1950
Allan Reddoch 1949
Judy (Johannsen) Robinson 1960
Peter Schonenbach 1955
Evelina Shin 1991
Maureen Stapley 1967
Inez (Smith) Sunderland 1938
Kathy (Early) Ullrich 1963
John Walker 1937
Andrew Watson 1948
George Webb 1960
John Wherrett 1949
Brian Wherrett 1952
Gale (Irwin) Wight 1957
Martha (Rodger) Wurtele 1959
J. Angus Wyatt 1936
David Yates 1960 ■

60S GRADS HUG A LOT



1



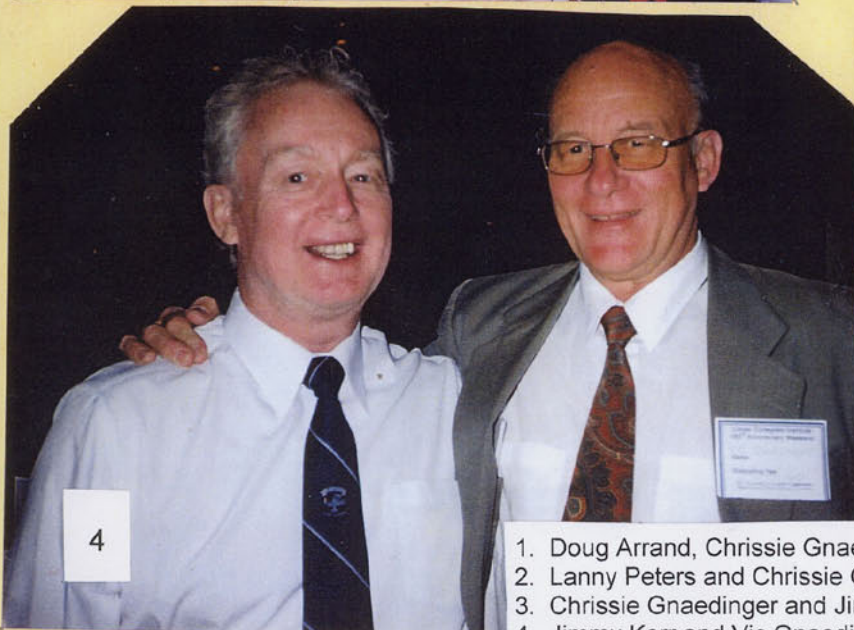
5



2



3



4

1. Doug Arrand, Chrissie Gnaedinger, Sandy Mackay-Smith, Nancy Gnaedinger
2. Lanny Peters and Chrissie Gnaedinger
3. Chrissie Gnaedinger and Jimmy Kerr
4. Jimmy Kerr and Vic Gnaedinger
5. Chrissie Gnaedinger, Leezah Cohen, Nancy Gnaedinger