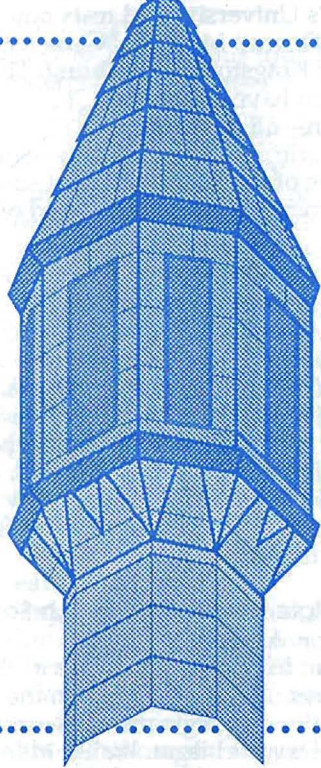


ALERE FLAMMAM

NEWSLETTER OF THE LISGAR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VOLUME VIII NUMBER 1 SPRING 1991



Lisgar retrospective to be first 150th anniversary project

The Lisgar Alumni Association is pleased to announce the launch of our first 150th Anniversary Project - The History of Lisgar - 1843-1993. We are equally pleased that Lisgar Alumnus, Vox Editor and noted local author Joan Finnigan '44 has agreed to be the editor of this historic volume.

The Lisgar Alumni Association Executive decided at the first meeting of the year to provide \$5,000 as seed money to allow Joan Finnigan to get started on the research for the History of Lisgar book. The executive anticipates that the cost of producing this book will be in the order of \$100,000.

While a portion of these costs will be covered by pre-sales, we will be actively soliciting donations from Lisgar Alumni and selected corporations and grants from various government heritage and cultural programs. The final selection of a publisher is

underway and will be followed by a major fund raising drive.

A number of Lisgar Alumni and Staff have expressed interest in assisting Joan with the research and writing of the History. Pat Hood (Pearce) '59 has agreed to contribute her professional editing skills. Teachers including Janet Morchain, Janet Fadden, Heinz Paryas and Bill Fraser have expressed interest in allowing students to do their research papers on various topics relating to the History Project. Librarian David MacGougan and retired teacher Robin Wedderspoon have agreed to assist with the research for this Project.

Joan Finnigan would like to encourage any Alumni with anecdotes and tales of Lisgar to write to her c/o The Lisgar Alumni Association. She is also looking for archival material, especially old photographs. We have been

receiving many generous donations from Alumni and we encourage you to look through the cupboards, attics and basements for any Lisgar artifacts and/or memorabilia that may be gathering dust.

We must receive all materials, photographs and anecdotes by the spring of 1992 in order to meet the publishing deadlines. So please be sure to make your contributions early and help make this the best history book possible. Should you wish just to loan us these goods, arrangements can be made so that they will be returned but this must be specified in advance.

Anyone who wants to join the team is most welcome. For further information about helping or making contributions, please write to the Lisgar Alumni Association, 29 Lisgar Street, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0B9 or contact Doug Arrand at Lisgar (239-2696).

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Lisgar's Forsey passes into history

"You remind me so much of my grandfather!" exclaimed the young, female reporter from *Lisgarwrite*. Her spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm for Lisgar's gnomish, favorite son was shared by the entire auditorium audience that cold, brumal day.

Eugene Forsey had made his last pilgrimage to his old Alma Mater. Once again he had responded to Lisgar's call; his beloved Canada was presently teetering on the brink of one more constitutional crisis and despite an increasingly debilitating

heart condition, he had again made it "home" to answer the questions of yet another generation of Lisgarites.

The performance was vintage Forsey: the speaking style ranged from

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Not to be forgotten

It was gratifying to receive the latest *Alere Flammam* and see my old English teacher, Mr. Walter Mann is still alive and kicking. Having been away from Ottawa for 25 years, I often wonder what has become of the teachers and students. Although there are many names I do not remember, there are one or two such as Mr. Mann's that I remember with a great deal of fondness.

I noticed that I missed a gathering of former football players from the early sixties—I certainly hope they didn't forget to commiserate on the most memorable season in the history of Lisgar football—when the mighty Lisgar blue and grey went 0 and 7. Not only did we lose all the games but we didn't score a point the whole season! I think the year was 1963. Check with Mr. Green. Or was it Mr. Leggett? Was it the coaching or the players?

Keep up the good work and get those alums to open their wallets. I'm looking forward to the next issue already.

GREG MCPHERSON
Wenatchee, Washington, USA

Fond memories of Lisgarites

I have been reading the Fall '90 edition of your Newsletter with great interest...

It was a great kick to sit in on the June graduation exercises and to speak to Walter Mann after so many years when he tried to impart Ancient History to me.

In your column, "On His Majesty's Service", I read with much interest and fond memory of "Merv" Fleming who lived across the street on Cooper in the '20s, "Hal" Bolus who was a much admired friend and respected professional naval engineer, "Jake" McDowall became a gunnery specialist and after his service time was a fund raiser in Montreal before he died, "Starchy" Browne was in the Ottawa Division RCNVR in 1938 when I joined as the Midshipman (incidentally, he lived next door on Delaware Avenue and retired to Sidney) and our Captain, Commander Edson Sherwood, lived across the

Street.

I wonder if Miss Dorothy Bishop is still with us. A large chunk of her students (male) had her on their special list.

Among the Contributors I enjoyed seeing the names of friends Nigel Stephens, Huntley Keillor, Fred Davies and Tom Anderson (who lived in the 3rd house down from the corner of Lisgar and Cartier - facing the old Model School playing field). I'm happy to be included with my illustrious brothers.

Regarding the pins and rings, I can only recall them in 1935. When they went out of fashion, I can only guess it would be either during or shortly after the end of the war in '45. Good luck with the Newsletter in '91

PETER CHANCE '39
Sidney, British Columbia

Greetings to new and old

Greetings to all —New and Old!

Got your latest epistle covering the doings at the residence of that Grand Old Lady on Lisgar St.

Noted material there in taken from the 40/41 Vox and mentioned my older brother Jack. The guys way back then misspelled his name - it's McDowall, not McDowell! No matter - nice to see him remembered. Speaking of that, could the Wally Mann mentioned as a contributor be my old and favourite teacher from those good old days? If so—please say hello and give him my very best! I saw Jimmy Seed's name too - along with the Chance boys—say hello there too! Wonder if Jimmy remembers our days as choir boys at St. Alban's?

Is there still the somewhat modest scholarship in memory of my great great grandfather in existence? This

gentleman - whose name and initials I bear as number 5 in line (my son in Switzerland is number 6) is reported to have been the first Presbyterian Minister in Upper Canada. He set up Schools in his day along the shores of Lake Ontario - was a founder of Queen's University and rests now in the McDowall Memorial Cemetery just west of Kingston at Sandhurst. There - now you have all the dirt!

Again—all the best.

Marjorie sends her best too—she was one of the Speer girls you surely will remember from those good old days.

BOB MCDOWALL '40
Guelph, Ontario

We are more than willing to correct misspelled names, especially when the original mistake was made before some of us were born. Indeed there can only be one Wally Mann who is held in such high regard by his former students. We're checking out the scholarship and thank you for the history. Ed.

Nostalgic memories of High School To Lisgar Alumni:

One of life's great pleasures as the birthdays pass is reflecting on the happy tho' nostalgic memories of High school Days at Lisgar. Walter Mann was unquestionably my favourite teacher and friend...

My sister, Myra Fineman, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia plans to attend the next reunion in 1993 - Do keep us informed.

With all fond wishes for nothing but good things in the New Year,

I am cordially,

SARETTA RILL LEVITAN '42
Montreal, Quebec



ALERE FLAMMAM

S T A F F

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Ken Medland

Alere Flammam is the semi-annual newsletter of the Lisgar Alumni Association. For more information, write

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ALUMNI UPDATE

Saye Kawasaki '87 and Chris Clement '87 were married in Ottawa on December 29, 1990.

Dear Lisgarites:

Nigel '87 is taking his fourth-year undergraduate courses at Univ. of Essex before returning to Braneis Univ. for summer work, and maybe even a M.A. one of these years. He is trying to break the cycle of intellectual impoverishment by applying to law and graduate schools (in economics) for Fall 1991.

His brother Sander '83, will be completing his Georgetown Law Centre degree by spending his last semester at the University of Montreal, as a visiting student, in the spring.

NIGEL COHEN '87
Colchester, England

Dear Lisgar:

Many thanks for the latest issue of *Alere Flammam*. Since moving to the Altered States of America, any news of Canada is wonderful, and this newsletter especially anticipated. Although most of the names mentioned are not familiar (this is a particularly busy decade for my class - '78), the sense of a solid past and a promising future is felt throughout.

To fill anyone interested in on my activities since leaving Ottawa, I spent two years hoping U. of T. would suggest what I could do with my life - no go. In '80, I entered "the world," to become, eventually, a hands-on accountant (i.e. - not much actual training but doing the work and holding the title). Except for a stint in Montreal as a "femme de maison," I worked up until Aug. '89 when we moved to Chicago. Here, I am finally finishing my degree at Loyola Univ. of Chicago, currently in either theology or history, to be followed by an MBA (I hope).

The "we" mentioned earlier are myself and my family. Hugh Miller and I will be celebrating our tenth anniversary next summer, which I know many of my friends from Lisgar may find hard to believe. Also, we have three kids - Jeremiah (6), Sammy (3 1/2 - just like me in miniature) and Rebecca (1 1/2). They'll all be at the 150th with me. Hugh is teaching at Loyola, in the Philosophy Department.

One of my nieces is now attending Lisgar and seems to be enjoying and appreciating it as I did.

I'm afraid I can't contribute to many projects current at Lisgar, but I will try to do so before the 150th. In the meantime, keep up the flaming work!

ANN MILLER (MCCLURE) '78
Chicago, Illinois, USA



FORTY YEARS AGO N T H E V O X

We will remember this as the year when Mr. (John J.) Dunlop (Principal) died, when our new gym was erected, when a Canadian was appointed Governor-General, when a great king died and a young woman ascended to the throne of England. Perhaps a hundred years from now a student of Lisgar will open this magazine and glance through the dry, yellowed pages. To him all these matters will be mere historical facts, but to us they are living and important.

Junior Football

Not since 1928 has Lisgar enjoyed the honour of winning a football championship, but this year the Lisgar Juniors, having suffered only one defeat in their regular schedule, were able to capture the Junior B championship and win the coveted Houghton Cup for their school. Starting slowly with only a small number of players eligible from the 1950 squad, new recruits were put to the test and a team selected. Under the capable management of Mr. Rothwell and the competent coaching of Don Loney, Lisgar welded together a team for competition in the 1951 series...

It is expected that T. Reid, T. Loney, C. Howard, A. Smith, M. Mosion, F. Schultz, D. Charron, B. Jones, G. Logan, R. Green, J. Logie, B. Allow, and P. Barnabe will form a nucleus for the 1952 Junior Team, whereas M. Low, N. Daneliak, J. Justinich, D. MacNabb, B. Hill, D. Wong, F. Oliver, B. Strange, E. Long, J. Redfern, and J. Moffat will move up to the Senior Squad. Now that we have found our place in the Rugby circle, let us keep it.

To complete activities for the year 1950-51, the "Apple Blossom Ball" was held on May 11th. For many, this was a last fling before final examinations. The hard weeks ahead were forgotten as the students danced to the music of Clifford Tripp and his Orchestra. The walls of the gym were brightly decorated with apple blossoms, and a wishing well in the centre of the floor completed the picture. It was a pleasant evening, and the happy ending of another year at Lisgar.

—Excerpts from *Vox Lycei*, 1951-1952



1950-51 North Orchestra visits Lisgar.

LISGAR NOTES

Boys' Basketball

The senior boys' basketball team had a successful and active season, finishing tied for first place in their division, but being eliminated by a powerful Nepean squad in the city semi-finals. Having played in eight tournaments and a total of 47 games, the team did produce a number of individual honours for its members. Two players, Marc Engfield and Greg Fraser, were "athletes of the week" on a local television station. K.C. Parker was selected as the Ottawa *Citizen's* "up and coming" athlete in basketball, as well as being selected to the all-tournament team in the Algonquin Tournament. Matthew Payne garnered similar honours at the Queens' University Tournament. Greg Fraser also was selected as an all star at the Kingston Collegiate Blue Ball Tournament. The junior boys' basketball team did well in their regular season with nine wins and one loss. They qualified for the City of Ottawa Championship, but lost by one point.

Junior Volleyball

The junior girls' volleyball team reached the City of Ottawa finals and lost to Glebe Collegiate 12-15, 15-2, 15-17, 15-11, 9-15. The team finished a successful season by losing only to Glebe.

Junior Boys' Soccer

The Lisgar Lions, our junior boys' soccer team, competing with 14 teams from four school boards, reached the City Finals on Nov. 5th, 1990. Unfortunately, the team lost to newcomer Brookfield by a score of 2:0 at Terry Fox Stadium. However, Lisgar's soccer fans rejoiced in the first City final since 1983 and came out by the hundreds to cheer for their team. The team is still coached by Mr. Paryas who started coaching soccer for Lisgar in 1979.

Dance Show

The annual talent showcase for dance will have been held on April 17th and 18th. Preparations are currently under way.

Sponsors needed for new space habitat

Lisgar's participation in the International Student Space Simulation (ISSS) is now in its third year. Our new Partner in Education, SHL Systemhouse, joined repeat sponsors Spar Aerospace, Telesat Canada, Carleton University and radio stations CFRA/CFMO to underwrite the transportation costs of the program. Eleven Lisgar students formed two mission teams. One team spent three weeks in Houston at McCullough High School and the other team enjoyed ten days at a private school, Externat Sacre Coeur in Montreal.

The Houston students were also joined by students from Japan and the Soviet Union while the Montreal mission included groups from Missouri, Houston, Chicago and Saskatoon. In three years the ISSS program has grown from its beginnings with McCullough High School, Lisgar and the Japanese students to more than 50 schools across North America and beyond.

Once again, Lisgar contributed science experiments and technology to the mission. A robotic arm, with five types of movement and driven by electric motors and a joy stick, was the product of more than 1000 hours of one student's work over two years. The student and two colleagues plan to link the arm to a computer and have it operate by computer commands this year. A number of students created "space art" for Mrs. Grant, projects that also made the trip to Houston where they were

displayed as valued and creative contributions to the mission.

During the mission, students at Lisgar participated in continent wide telephone conferences, on topics ranging from global environmental issues to Canadian efforts in space. Our students were able to hear and talk with students from Mexico, the USA, Canada, Japan and the USSR while hearing addresses from and actually speaking to the likes of: Dr. Kathleen Sullivan, US astronaut and scientist; Dr. Ron McCullough from Spar and Mr. Brian Olsen from Telesat. They were the featured experts during the teleconference on Canada's role in space. Dr. McCullough actually spoke from Newfoundland during a raging blizzard. It was fitting that the conference was dependent upon Telesat's satellites.

Lisgar students have long been pushing for a simulation habitat in Ottawa. They are now working on a proposal that would have one in place in time for next February's mission. This habitat would be available for other Ottawa Board schools, both secondary and elementary, to conduct missions. If any alumnus is aware of a company that might be interested in becoming one of the sponsors of this expanded program or that might be able to loan or donate computers, communication video equipment, electrical equipment or lumber, plastics, etc., please contact Terry Prichett at Lisgar (239-2696).

IN MEMORIAM

Anne Donald (Hunter) Virr passed away in 1990 at the age of 69 after a long illness. She will be sadly missed by her husband Garnett Virr (who is also a Lisgar graduate) and by her two children and many friends.

□

Robert V. Virr died suddenly in December 1990 at the age of 70. He leaves behind his wife Christina and two children. He was pre-deceased by his former wife Colleen and one son. Bob served in the RCAF during the Second World War and saw service in Canada and the Far East. He will be sadly missed by his family and many friends.

□

Mrs. Robena A. Hyland (nee Egleson), resident of Ottawa, passed away on December 14, 1990. She was one of our most senior Alumni, having graduated in 1905.

CONTRIBUTORS' LIST

The directors of the Lisgar Fund would like to thank all those on the contributor's list who have made donations since the last newsletter was published. Your continuing support is very much appreciated.

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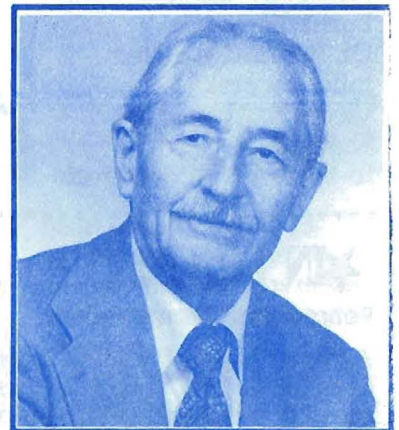
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Forsey • continued from page 1

straight lecture to the Socratic method to scintillating repartee and imitations, à la Rich Little. The audience was spellbound as at one moment he had Arthur Meighen intoning warnings and the next MacKenzie King cackling derision; no one had imagined that a discussion of the fine points of the Canadian Constitution could be so lively, even to the point of hilarity.

That noon hour, November 29, 1990, now belongs to the Ages, as does our own Eugene Forsey. However, given his genuine sense of humility coupled with a marvellous, down-east sense of humour, it becomes obvious that he would have preferred to leave us on an up-beat note. When this writer asked him to sign the Forsey autobiography, *Life on the Fringe*, with the dedication, "to a gentleman and scholar," there was a moment's slight hesitation. His discomfiture was palpable, and in reaction I blurted out that he really wasn't expected to lie: "Well," with a wry grin and a twinkle in his eye, he replied, "I'm sure the gentleman part is accurate."

—John Boehmer '64



Eugene Forsey '22
(1904-1991)

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★ IN BRIEF...

Retired Staff Memorium

A former Head of Modern Languages at Lisgar for many years, Erica Sutherland Thompson passed away on July 29, 1990, at the age of 87. She taught at Lisgar from 1941 to 1970 and will be remembered by many Alumni.

NOTES FROM AFRICA

BRIAN MITCHELL IN SIERRA LEONE

The difference between life here and in Canada no longer seem to be so striking to me. But that certainly was not my first impression. During that first drive into Freetown from the airport, the differences seemed overwhelming: the humidity; so many people walking - mostly with huge loads on their heads; the washed out roads that are nearly impassible; and the kerosene lamps that light the stalls of dozens of roadside vendors. There is water throughout the city, but electricity and fuel of any sort are in scarce supply....

Despite the workload I am enjoying the teaching, the "self-employed" nature of the job...(and) the people contact that teaching provides. One funny outcome of my teaching is that I have been invited to attend the Christmas party of one of the major employers of the students in my advanced course (most of the students here are part-time). Who is it but Peat Marwick, the same firm with whom I worked for years in Ottawa! Will I ever stop going to their Christmas Parties....

I have been asked how Christmas is different here. Well, in a word it isn't. Oh there's no Christmas trees or snow (although most carollers sang Jingle Bells), but otherwise it is pretty similar. The music began in November (including a popular Anne Murray tape played again at Dilly's, the restaurant downstairs). Those familiar cheap decorations appeared in all the stores by December.... And turkey dinners were quite popular on Christmas night.

New Year's is a big family holiday too. As on Christmas and Boxing Day, many Sierra Leoneans go to the beach. We were up at Kabala for New Year's Day, but there too it seemed as though we were at the beach. In Kabala the custom on New Year's is to climb the nearby mountain (not particularly high, but ésteepü). Up top, on the open bedrock, families with picnics swarmed....

Well it's hard to believe that you are freezing your—off right now because it is as hot as hades here. We are now in the midst of the dry season and I haven't seen rain in nearly two months. It's the tail end of the éHarmattanü also, when cool winds blow dust in from the Sahara. It certainly has been hazy, and everything here is coated with dirt in less than a day (I hate cleaning), but cool - no!! Actually the evenings are quite comfortable, and in the North, in Kabala, many Sierra Leoneans sported ski jackets (seriously) after dark. Personally, I have yet to have to cover my arms - it is hot!! Enjoy the snow!

Brian Mitchell is a former Chair of the Lisgar Alumni Association