

# After Class!

The Voice Of The  
K.C.S.S. Alumni association

#1 - 2008

## **PLO:**

In preparation for the 50 year reunion, still three years away, the alumni association has identified as its number one priority the need to contact as many former students as possible. The chair of the publicity committee will supervise sub committees which will attempt to spread word of the reunion by means of the following; advertisements in local and national newspapers, a general mailing through the post office, the handing out of information cards, ads in the OSSTF [teachers] magazine, mass e-mails, posters and brochures in local businesses, messages on Classmates.com and Facebook, articles the alumni web site, the creation of alumni chapters in various cities and, finally, a system of class reps.

This idea has been used successfully in the past; however, except for 1986, our list of reps has been incomplete and it is our intention this time to put together as complete a list of reps [1962 - 2011] as possible. We would certainly appreciate the assistance of any readers willing to devote some time to phoning or e-mailing people from their graduating year. The idea is to place one individual in charge of each decade and then enlist the help of 4-5 former students from every year of that decade to locate classmates and report to the decade leader. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work" [see "Do You Remember?" below]. Ideally we will try to assemble some 200 people to get the word out to as many people as possible. Our goal is to completely eliminate the cry, "I didn't hear about the reunion!!" All volunteers are asked to contact the association at [kcassalumni@hotmail.com](mailto:kcassalumni@hotmail.com).

## **Where Are They Now?**

**Tejpal Rao** [1999] is now teaching at Markville S.S. in York Region. He recently brought his junior basketball team back to his alma mater for an exhibition game.....**Wolfram Lunscher** [1970] finished his Master of Applied Science degree in electrical engineering from UBC in 1983. After a brief stint doing data communications software design for a Saskatoon company, he has been pursuing his longtime ambition of spacecraft electrical systems engineering since 1987. As he says, "...when I wasn't busy being a rocket scientist, I was a leader with Scouts Canada (19th Nepean), now retired. He has been a resident of the Ottawa area since '89.... **Cameron Norman** [2003] is currently back at King City doing a five week stint as a practice teacher....**Jeff Ovens** [2001] writes "... I am currently in my last year of University at Queen's in the Faculty of Education. As we speak I am completing my teaching degree, partly because I am interested in coaching basketball and hockey, but to be honest I can't see myself in a classroom. I taught a Grade 9 Applied Science class for my first placement and I dreaded each and every day.".... **Paul Ingham** [2003] is a project manager for a boiler manufacturing company in Aurora.....

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## Lost Sheep

The alumni association is seeking the whereabouts of the following former students: **Diane** and **Marilyn Funnell** [1973], **Eldon Thompson** [1976], **Cathy Ivany** [1982], **Peter Teti** [1986], **Donna Gauslin** [1992], **Jess Phillips** [1995], Paul Howell [1964], **Ute Zimmer** [1982] and **Andy Petersons** [1963].

**Do You Remember...** odd Science experiments in class? Some memories will be of images of foaming test tubes, exploding Sodium, particle dances and gas taps left open in the hopes that the classroom would be evacuated. One particular experiment in Les Smith's class involved a light bulb? After assembling his wires and the bulb, he apparently asked the entire class to raise their hands. When one puzzled student asked what he hoped to accomplish with this, Mr Smith replied, with his usual grin, "Many hands make light work". Physics is everywhere ... Long live the pun.

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#2 - 2007

## PLO

The alumni Case of Distinction committee has scheduled its annual induction ceremony for Saturday, October 4 at 10:00 AM. Four distinguished candidates have been selected for admission to the Case[s], located in the front foyer of the school; they are: **Wolfram Lunscher** [1970] who has been working in the domestic aerospace industry for the past 30 years, **Kelly Underhill** [1977] who has had a distinguished medical career in the US, **Dr. Tom Duck** [1990] a professor of Physics and Atmospheric Science from Dalhousie University who is involved in the NASA Phoenix Lander which just touched down on the Red Planet's surface last weekend and **Rasmus Lerdorf** [1988] a software engineer who is the original author of the PHP scripting language for computers. The alumni association is hoping to have all four inductees and their families present for the ceremony. There will be a reception in the cafeteria following and the public is invited to attend both the ceremony and the reception....This is a final notice of the 50th reunion planning meeting which is being held in the school's Multi Purpose Room at the east end of the school on Tuesday, June 10th. The meeting begins at 7:00 PM and anyone who lives locally and would like to play a role, however small, in organizing the school's half century festivities in 12011 is welcome to attend.

## Where Are They Now?

**Jon Brooks** [1987] can be found at his web site, <http://www.jonbrooks.ca>. He has become one of Canada's most important new folk singers and writer....**Kate Belcher** [1996] graduated from Ottawa with a Masters degree and is now at UBC in Vancouver completing her Phd. in social work....**Mike Keizerwaard** [1982] lives in Mississauga and has worked for the York Regional Police for the past 21 years....**Murray Earl** [1966] lives in Utterson, ON.... From **Joanne Siderius** [1973], "I see that I am listed as a lost sheep in your King City Secondary School newsletter. Hmmmm....I don't feel lost! High school does seem a world away. I am living in Nelson B.C. and am working as a wildlife biologist, still playing hockey and otherwise keeping very occupied. Cheers, Joanne".... **Catherine Phillips** [1980] now lives in Nepean; "...never did win the lottery and haven't seen much of the world yet but I'm having a great time. I ended up in the IM/IT field, spent some time programming, moved into systems engineering (sounds exciting but really I was just one of the poor slobbs that slept with a pager and spend many a night in my jammies trying to fix system problems from home). Those days are long gone and I am now one of the management types working for the Federal Government still in the IM/IT field. I know, I know, a civil servant living in Ottawa; hard to believe but true. It's been great fun though, and as I get closer to the magical age of 55 and start to think about life post retirement, the Feds probably have one of the best pensions you can get, next to the teachers of course"....

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**Dave Hughes** [1972 when he left for St, Mike's] is living in London, ON and has worked for the CPR for many years. He also was able to put us in contact with **Dave Surgenor** [1985] who is also employed by the CPR. Says Dave H., "...hope to make the 2011 reunion and see some old familiar faces".

**Lost Sheep... John Bootle** [1965], **Brian Masters** [1972], **Nancy Tomas** [1996], **Navena Tiwari** [1998], **Julia Millar** [1988], **Baljit Sierra** [1985], **Sonja Kamper** [1979], **Tom Flatt** [1975], **Bronwen Richards** [1965], **Christine Jenns** [1976] and **Don Smith** [1964]. Can any of our readers help with locating any of these individuals?

**Do You Remember...** the many political debates involving local politicians that were staged by the History Department over the years? The Head of Department at the time would assign the task of contacting the local candidates to one of the other teachers, possibly **Mrs. Stuckey, Mr. Crowe** or **Ms. Mottola**. A senior History student then usually took over the job of moderating a panel discussion in the gym; either directing predetermined questions at the invited guests or taking questions from the student body; and finally summoning up the courage to cut short the speeches and answers when they became too long and repetitive. Unfortunately, few of us were eligible to vote, but we benefited from exposure to the town hall meeting format.

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#3 - 2008

## PLO

A few years ago there was a very real fear that the York Region District School Board was considering the closure of King City S.S. Since then, in fact, the Board has poured a great deal of money into refurbishing certain parts of the school. The first major project was an entirely new Science wing, built during the summer of 2006. Not only were some of the rooms on the first floor re-done, but new rooms were added to a short wing which now extends east into the area where between the school and the east football field. Next, the brick wall at the main entrance that served as seating for countless people waiting for their bus was removed and the lawn landscaped. The old school sign, built back in the 80's with the efforts of many students and even former students, fell victim to progress this past year. It was replaced by a newer generic version. Now, the latest landmark to go is the planter in the front foyer. Some years ago, the Board installed an electric lift in the foyer to accommodate students with disabilities; however, it was hardly ever used and was more of a hindrance to traffic flow than a benefit to those who needed it. That lift was removed last year and this summer the planter and the enormous indoor plant which had stood in it since the school opened were removed to make way for a new ramp system for wheel-chairs.....Ironically, many of these changes have involved the efforts of King grads. **Glenn Love** [1973], for example did the wiring on the original school sign; **Doug Fiorini** [1979] and his construction company were responsible for the installation of the system of fire doors which the school had installed back in the 90's; and now this latest project to replace the planter with an access ramp was under the supervision of **Dan Steenhoek** [1981] and his company. The old building, which once provided an education for these former students, is now giving again; this time in the form of employment. Incidentally, the railing around the planter was built in 1982 by **Wayne Lowdon, Peter Leonard, Karl Wolfer** and **Scott Colwell** [all from 1983]...The list of inductees for the October 4th Case of Distinction ceremony is now complete. **Wolf Lunscher** [1970], **Christine Jenns** [1976], **Kelly Underhill** [1977], **Rasmus Lerdorf** [1988] and **Tom Duck** [1990] will be honoured for their outstanding careers on that date. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Where Are They Now?

Former staff member **Dave Jeanneret** has been gone from KCSS since 1990 but he remains active in the community, still doing work with the police and enjoying his granddaughters....**Dave Banwell** [1994] sent us an e-mail recently in which he said, "After graduating KCSS, I moved back to Windsor for university and started a career as an assistant corporate trainer with Green Shield Canada. I've progressed some since then and am working as a development coach for the staff at Green Shield [Toronto] and I love it....and most recently I've been a licensed subway musician for the TTC. It is truly breathtaking to be able to share my passion with the people of Toronto and to see their reactions. I am the only opera singer ever to be licensed by the TTC and most of the people aren't expecting to hear it as they disembark from the train.".....

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**Colleen McCormick** [1997] is employed as a chef, sister **Karen McCormick** [1994] is in Richmond Hill ...**Erin Agar** [2001] now lives in Innisfil, ON..... **Mark Somerville** [1991] writes, "am married with a daughter, 18 months. I am working for the Town of Richmond Hill as a firefighter, been there 8 years now ...I am still with the Civil War reenacting and I will be starting some 1812 reenacting in the next year or two to get geared up for the bi-centennial of the War of 1812.".... **Ken Hughson** [1972] is now living in Huntington Beach, California and, like many other, is looking forward to the 50th reunion.....**Julie Cruickshank** [1974], for the last 8 years, has been working for Maple Leaf Foods in the capacity of Program Manager/PMO. She lives in Aurora.

## Lost Sheep

If you are in a position to help us locate any of the following former students, please contact us at [kcssalumni@hotmail.com](mailto:kcssalumni@hotmail.com): **Michelle Thedorff** [1982], **Joanna Befanis** [1994], **Farid Nouisser** [1979], **Norman Starr** [1963], **Lyndsey** and **Stephanie Anderson** [2003], **Kathie Kerr** [1967], **Bill DeGeer** [1986], **Paul Gingl** [1991], **Lee Vernon** [1999] and **Dan Gasparini** [1974]

**Do You Remember** .... Decorating your home room door for whatever reason? It may have been Hallowe'en, Christmas time or just someone's birthday [although usually in that case, their locker got hit], but whatever the occasion, some students always seemed to be willing to go the extra mile and brighten up what was normally a very plain door through which they passed every class. The prizes varied from extra pizza slices from the cafeteria to just getting one's name mentioned on the announcements. Never mind, it was always fun.

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## PLO

Congratulations go out to former KCSS students **Wolf Lunscher** [1970], **Christine Jenns** [1976], **Rasmus Lerdorf** [1988] and **Tom Duck** [1990] on their induction to the Case of Distinction on October 4. See the HOME page of the alumni website for specific details of their careers to date; suffice it to say that they are very worthy recipients of this alumni award.... Congratulations also to **Mrs. [Harvey] Specht**, head school secretary from 1961 to 1983 who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Marion was very instrumental, when King first opened, in ensuring that everything ran smoothly. **Mr. O'Beirn** would not make a move without consulting her, and of course neither would any of the students make a move, period, through fear of incurring her wrath. The year she retired was also the same year that the staff lost **Mr. Dewell, Miss Zopf, Mr. Bonham, Mrs. Horak, Mr. Legault, Ms. Kofler, Mr. Marshall** and **Mr. Quinn** through transfers to other schools and **Mrs. Hogg** to retirement....For any basketball players living in the King area, you might be interested to learn that the Court of Kings boys' tournament, which made its debut at KCSS in 1976, will be returning this month, on Thursday the 13th and Friday the 14th. Whereas in the past the tournament showcased senior teams from across Ontario, the new version of "The Court" will involve only the junior and senior teams from the three King City high schools, St. Thomas of Villanova, The Country Day School and King City S.S. The tournament will now be a friendly pre-season tilt for the schools to assess talent and earn bragging rights for the year. Game times on both dates are 3:00 PM, 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM. There is no admission fee and the public is welcome. KCSS hosts the new first edition and the tournament rotates each year amongst all three schools.

## Where Are They Now?

**Wayne Lowdon** [1983] still lives in the King area and operates his own electrical company.....**Bill Shipley** [1979] is a full professor of Biology at the University of Sherbrooke. His website URL is <http://pages.usherbrooke.ca/jshipley/recherche/English%20directions.htm>; check it out.... This note came in from **Lisa Kantor** [1990], "I am married (13 years) and have 3 beautiful children ages 2, 4, 9; two girls and a boy. I have been working at Xerox Canada for the last 14 years and my current position is as a Senior Analyst. I develop one of the programs we sell. I still keep in contact with a few from KCSS but would love to get info on the 50th reunion".... **Mark Beatty** [1980] is a national leasing manager for Budget and Avis car rental agencies, he and brother **Ken Beatty** [1985] still live in Barrie. Their mom, **Marilyn Beatty**, long time office secretary from 1976-1997, is living in Gravenhurst; she and her husband spend a great deal of time travelling....Former Math teacher **George Fligg** is recovering from some health issues in a retirement home in Mississauga and we wish him well... **Marion Iliohan** [1972] is currently living in Woodbridge, while **Dawn Wilkinson** [1978] is in Holland Landing.

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## Lost Sheep

**Susie Roncali** [1973] would like to know the whereabouts of **Jeni Pierpoint** [1973]; so would we. If you can help, please let us know. Others whom we are trying to locate are: **Rich Artandi** [1987], **Chris Cassano** [1995], **Barb Shillington** [1983], **Jane Darrach** [1966], **Carolyn, Susan** and **Sylvia Scott** [1969], **Mark Harpur** [1993], **Brenda Cooper** [1977], **Paul McKim** [1981], **Tina Janes** [1978] and former Phys. Ed. teacher **JoAnn Palanica**.

**Do You Remember ....** The 1976-77 children's Christmas party put on by the Grade 11 Drama class? It was held in the cafeteria and the theme was "Christmas on Sesame Street". Among the stars, **Laurie Agostini** was Oscar while Snuffleupagus was played by **Joan Keene** and **Melody Ross**, Santa's elves were **Sandy Phillips, Joanne Magee, Cindy Aziz, Trish Mitchell** and **Sarah Webb** [all from the class of 1979]. Jolly Old St. Nick., of course, was there in person.

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#5 - 2008

## PLO

The school's time capsule was sealed on Wednesday, May 31, 1967, and probably nothing in King's history has caused more questions than the contents of this stone planter, which students of the day dubbed "the barbeque". Unless you are in possession of a copy of the Aurora Banner dated June 7, 1967, or are one of the students who worked on the project in class, you are not likely to be of any help in this regard [see below for further details]. The planter itself was designed by 11A's **Gary Ostrom** [1969], the aluminum plaque created by **Frank Marsh's** building class and the stone work done by **Ed Tanquiy's** occupational classes. This time capsule/school planter was one of many school centennial projects under the supervision of **Paul Gilmore**, who was in charge of the school's national birthday celebrations. Staff member **Frank Bernhardt** [the architectural course] was also very much involved in the project as well as students **Gary Kydd** [1971], **Stephen Abercrombie** [1971], **Ted Nesbitt** [1971], **John [Jack] Sutton** [1971] and **Chris Moffitt** [1971, who later landed at KCSS on the caretaking staff]. By the way, for those planning on attending, the time capsule is scheduled to be opened in June of 2067.....The K.C.S.S. family lost a long time member recently with the passing of **Mrs. Nora Jackson**. Mrs. Jackson was a member of the school's original cafeteria staff in 1961 and she served us [literally and faithfully] until at least 1975 when Archon records ceased to show the ladies of the cafeteria.

**Where Are They Now ... Curtis Bentley** [2000] has moved back into the area and hopes to become a brewmaster.....**Valerie Evans** [1997] writes..."I graduated from Seneca College- Laboratory-BioChemistry, 2002 and then pursued a 7 year career in Employment Counselling and working with troubled Youth and facilitated a life skill program for individuals with disabilities. I have now branched off and am back at school once again for Human Resource Management-correspondence with University of Calgary, should be done by Christmas. I am working for IBM in Markham now and in Software Sales and really enjoying it...looking for a company to grow with and to get into HR".....**John Lindo** [1995] is back living in Richmond Hill and has started his own public relations company. John, who quarterbacked the Senior Invaders football team in his last season has offered his services to his old program for next season .... **John Mathewson** [1993] runs a successful business in Newmarket... **Joanna Befanis** [1993] is married, living in Brooklyn ON and working for American Express..... **Andrew Sellar** [2002] has finished his five years at U. of Windsor and is looking forward to attending teachers college in the fall.

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## Lost Sheep

Focusing on the year 1967, we put out an APB for some members of the boys' OFSAA Rugger [Rugby to purists] champions: **Don Orr [1969]**, **Al Kaake [1969]**, **Grant Peter [1969]** all live locally; and coach **Paul Gilmore** currently resides in Amhurstview, ON; however, the rest of the team's whereabouts are unknown. If any of our readers able to help with the whereabouts of the following members, we would appreciate the help: **Mike Eschli [1969]**, **Jim Hunter [1969]**, **Gary Adair [1969]**, **John Agar [1969]** and **Don Philp [1970]** and coach **Jim Plaunt?**

What about the all girl French Club: **Dawn Wilson [1968]**, **Suzi Barron [1969]**, **Connie Kitras [1968]**, **Jane Owens [1968]**, **Mary O'Neil [1970]**, **Karen Peel [1968]**, **Roberta McAllister [1970]**, **Rita McGoldrick [1970]**, **Anna Marie Beeton [1970]**, **Helen Defago [1971]**, **Gerta Scherpenzeel [1971]** and the Staff Advisor, **Miss Siiskonen?**

**Do You Remember ....** Placing the following items in the time capsule? An unidentified Physics text book, an album by the Monkees, a copy of the Banner, a photo of King's 1967 OFSAA Jr. Rugger champions, a science fiction paperback, a catalogue [Eatons or Simpsons, we do not know] and copies of some Toronto and local newspapers were all interred and will not likely be recovered until 2067. What are the chances that the Board of Ed. will remember and move the time capsule if the school is ever torn down and moved?