

After Class!

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

#1 - 2009

PLO

We received a phone call several days ago from a gentleman who has come into possession of a 1990 KCSS graduation ring with the initials **KJD** engraved in it. This person would like to find the owner and return the ring, and has enlisted our support in doing this. The first order of business is to determine if the rings that were purchased around that time displayed the first half of a student's year or the second half, graduating year; ie. does 1990 represent 1990-1991, or does it stand for 1989-1990. If anyone from that year, who still possesses a King City grad ring, can help we would appreciate it. Assuming that this is a graduation ring that we are dealing with, and not merely a memento ring, then we can narrow our list to grads with the initials K?D [Commencement programs don't often list middle initials]. There are no names with the initials K?D in the Commencement program for November 2nd, 1990 [school year 1989-90]; however, there are two students who qualify the following year. Both **Ken Duck** and **Kristin Dunlop** walked across the stage on November 1st, 1991 to receive their diploma. We have contacted **Tom Duck** who informed us that brother Ken's middle initial is not a "J", so we are now left with the possibility that Kristin Dunlop may have purchased a grad ring and has subsequently lost it. Should any of our readers know where Kristin is, perhaps they could either let us know or call Kristin and ask her if she is our mystery individual. Stay tuned...

Where Are They Now

Michele [Jeppesen] Curtis [1987] and **Craig Curtis** [1982] work out of their home in Holland Landing and have fond memories of the last reunion. Looking forward to the 50th, no doubt. Michele was an Early Childhood Educator for 10 years and now helps with Craig's heavy equipment business..... Her sister, **Nicole Jeppesen** [1988], is also married and living in Ajax. According to her, "It is hard to believe that it has been 20 years!! I have been happily married ... for over 12 years and live in Ajax ...I have been working at a small print shop for almost 15 years (Ryswin Graphix)". **Frank Bruno** [1983] has had a rather interesting time of it since leaving King; as he writes, "Suffice to say that my life has come full circle and with a house full of children, who has time to get into trouble?" He remains good friends with **Tom Flatt** [1975],... **Deanna Farley** [1982] lives locally and has two daughters, both whom attend, or did attend, KCSS.....**Andre Flys** [1992] owns Pioneer Brand Honey and Nuts and lives in Schomberg.... **Marco Marcuzzi** [1987], perhaps the first pole vaulting star developed by **Bob McAlpine** when King had probably the premier vaulting program in the province, is living in Bradford and is an accomplished millwright.... **Barb Shillington** [1982] is a local registered insurance broker and checked in on our web site to say that she is going to be helping the reunion committee to find former class mates. Let's hope that many others offer to do the same..... **Amy [Fabrizi] Tomlinson** [1994] and husband **Mark Tomlinson** [1992] live just outside Beeton, Ontario. Mark is a mechanic, Amy a stay-at-home-mom and they have two children.... **Joanne Curtis** [1987] is married and living in Newmarket.

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Lost Sheep

If our readers are able to help with the whereabouts of any of the following lost grads, please contact us: **Kirstie Acton** [1984], **Dennis Gariepy** [1970], **Lygia Byrch** [1987], **Norma Wauchope** [1971], **Thomas Friis** [1997], **Gloria Bell** [1968], **Ewan Exall** [1992], **Sheryl Flanagan** [1990], **John Michez** [1989], **Liz Eif** [1970], **Kristy Cork** [2000] **Frank-John Schilder** [1972] and **Kelly Sutton** [1989].

Do You Remember the King Marketing Group? This Grade 11 and 12 club from the 1980s, which sprang from the Business and Commerce Department, was an ancestor of the later MECCA [Management and Entrepreneurship Club of Canada Associated and started in 1991-92 by teacher **Rick Perkins**] and DECA Clubs. These clubs ran the SAC Shack, raised funds for various causes, organized advertising for school events, ran events such as the Gladiator Games and provided literally hundreds of students with an indispensable experience in basic economics and business. MECCA had morphed into DECA by 1993-94 and the club continued under Mr. Perkins until he left KCSS in 1997. DECA continues to this day, led by staff member **Bill Schoenhardt**, and still turns out potential business leaders.

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The alumni association has for some time now, through appeals both in this publication, on our web site and by word of mouth, been seeking the assistance of any former students who would be willing to assist us in the task of finding as many people as possible for the 50th. Bit by bit, one person at a time, people have stepped forward, either to volunteer out of the goodness of their hearts or because our cries for help were too much for them and the only way to silence us was to do so. Whatever..... we still need more such people. By 2011 there will be a total of 50 classes of graduates; however, realistically, more like 42-45 of them will be energized by the thought of a reunion as it may be tough to sell a reunion to students who have just so recently left the school. For the rest of us, we may need to either be located, or at the very least reminded of the events in May of 2011 and for that we have a committee of hard working souls.

Perhaps the efforts of **Catherine (Phillips) Kerr** [1980] will serve as an example. Catherine signed on for this task about a year ago and to date she has, through phone calls, distribution of e-mails and the power of Facebook, managed to locate close to sixty friends and former classmates. If we could manage two volunteers for each graduating year, it would greatly enhance our ability to reach people. We are particularly interested in assistance with the following years from the 1960s....1962, 1963, 1964, and 1967. If you are in a position to help, please contact the committee chairs, either Wendy (Robinson) Roberts [1970] at wendy.roberts@rogers.com or Pat Cullmann [1980] at pcullmann@sympatico.ca

Where Are They Now?

Two issues ago we made mention of the time capsule in front of the school. Quite by chance, one of the key figures in its creation, **Gary Ostrum** [1969], contacted us at our Hotmail address. To quote Gary, "Your time capsule story got it mostly right, I didn't design it, only came up with the idea. I believe the design came out of the tech group. The contest for a centennial project generated some great suggestions. However, I think there was general disappointment that something so conventional was chosen. Consequently there was little interest in developing the contents (of which there are a few surprises that I won't spoil). As for the past 42 years, I've painted and exhibited, illustrated, and cartooned, and spent many years as an administrator for services for people with intellectual disabilities. It has been a gratifying and wild ride". **Chris Hanes** [2004], who is an accounts manager for Acklands-Grainger in Markham, is the latest person to sign on with our 50th reunion committee. Hopefully, he will bring the same intensity that he displayed with the school varsity baseball team a few years ago...

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Michael Black who, for 16 years, provided the Moderns Dep't with a sense of class and dedication, left King in 2005 and is currently teaching at Port Perry H.S. in Durham. Mike is also an accomplished abstract artist, as a visit to his web site, www.michaeljbblack.com, will show. When we contacted Mike, his reply was, "although I enjoy my fifteen-minute drive on days like this, I miss the place very much.".....**Sheryl Flanagan** [1990] graduated from the University of Guelph with a Ph. D. in biological science and moved to the University of Michigan where she is currently a graduate researcher and substitute lecturer in the field of chemotherapeutic drugs used to treat many different cancers; specifically, how they target cells, get into those cells, and what they do once they are there..... **Ronald Kaake** [1964] is presently living in Florida.....

We regret to announce the passing of former staff member **Linda Zopf** [1976-1982].

Lost Sheep

As we move closer to the 50th year reunion, we will be increasing our attempts to locate as many former students as possible. This list, from time to time, may be longer than usual: **Dominic Rinaldi** [1980], **Paivi Pesonen** [1979], **John Guppy** [1979], **Eric Puldre** [1979], **Carolyn Dedert** [1985], **Doug Flucker** [1969], **Doug Bolton** [1970], **Judy Houston** [1962], **Susan Duller** [1976], **Wayne Forhan** [1974], **Shauneen Baker** [1988], **Geoff Whyte** [1997], **Cheryl Oram** [1993], **Bob Cairns** [1964], **Lyall Johnson** [1963]. If anyone can be of assistance in locating any of the people mentioned here, please don't hesitate to contact us at kcssalumni@hotmail.com.

Do You Remember Iggy, the science iguana, who was a frequent visitor to Mike Harris' classes during the late 90's?

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Encouraged by the dedication and expertise of the English and Moderns Departments, KCSS students have never been shy about expressing themselves both in verse and prose, rant or eulogy. From the opening year of the school in 1961 to the present, we wrote and revealed ourselves outside of class. In the early years the Archon was the only means of accomplishing this. From the beginning when **Leanna Wilson** [1963] turned out her work "The Unexpected" in Grade 12, and established a long tradition of student writing, to the early 90s we could count on student pieces in the yearbook. **Cathy Long** [1979] gave us "A Poem" in 1976, in 1987 **Neil Cruickshank** [1988] wrote his poem, "Standing on the Shore" to a young girl in a boat and in 1993 **Paola Oriente** [1994] wrote "Voices I My Head"... Things were changing, however. By 1978 **Mr. Ellison** and a group of students had founded a school newspaper, *Newspeak*, which, according to the Archon of that year was "... making us ... aware of our school, our students and our students' concerns". The energy behind this enterprise was provided by Junior Editor **Gwen Borins** [1983], **Karen Theil** [1979], who was in charge of advertising, **Lynne Taylor** [1982, Sports Editor], **Doug Smith** [otherwise known as "Dr D", 1979], **Bill Shipley** [1979] **Susanne Williams** [1979] and **Steve Hollingshead** [1979] and **Yvonne Schleeahn** [1979] the two senior editors. By 1986 **Mr. DiGravio's** English students were in charge of the newspaper which was now known as *The Lion's Roar*. Staffer **Dave Wilson** was still running that paper in 1995... By the middle of this decade in the new millennium, however, KCSS was making use of its internet web page designed, and operated initially, by **teacher Mike Harris**. The day of the printed word, and the accompanying tasks of collating, stapling and delivering, was over. *The Lion's Roar* has become a year-end newsletter which includes a Principal's Message and department summaries penned by various teachers. Even the 2008-2009 Archon contained not one insightful observation or angry poetic tirade written by a student.

Where Are They Now?

Mrs. Esther Mackenzie, formerly the head of the school's cafeteria staff from 1961-1974 is currently in the Southlake Retirement Home in Newmarket and would love to hear from former students... **Brenda [Cooper] Schori** [1977] is presently living in Indiana while sister **Nancy [Cooper] Walker** [1968] is in Toronto... **Robert Baldesarra** [1999] is in Richmond Hill and a foreman for Con-Drain Construction.... **Natalie Hunt** [2002] attended York University and now works at South Lake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket; parents **Bob** and **Lynn [Skerrat] Hunt** [1979] still reside in Schomberg... **Jennifer Groombridge** [1992] is an elementary teacher in Newmarket... **Marco Bortolussi** [1988] writes, "Upon graduating from high school, I went to Ryerson to study Mechanical engineering for one year, and then moved on to York where I graduated with my economics degree. I run my own company ...that manufactures and assembles precision aircraft components such as landing gear servicing the aerospace industry."....

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Shauneen Baker [1988] and husband **Gord Tomlinson** [1988] are living in Norwood, ON... "We got married ten years ago after dating forever and bought our first farm in Palgrave. We moved to Norwood five years ago. Gord has his own construction company and I've worked for Bell Mobility for 18 years now..."... **Anna Marie Beeton** [1970] WAS a Lost Sheep, but no more. She contacted us to say that, "I live in Brampton and teach grade 2 in Mississauga. I've gradually been renewing contact with several of my classmates and look forward to the reunion in 2011". **Laurie Suraski** [2000] has offered her services as a contact person for her graduating year...After graduating from Dentistry at UWO, she has found employment, an increasingly scarce human condition which another grad, **Al Sutherland** [1983] refers to in his e-mail. "I am now at the Human Resources and Skills Development department working on labour market issues -- a subject which unfortunately is getting more and more important as the recession deepens particularly in Southern Ontario." Allen was previously with the Prime Minister's Office in Ottawa.

Lost Sheep.... **Richard Souray** [1966], **Margaret Durtnall** [1965], **Carol Dorey** [1964], **Dave Coon** [1967], **Nena Fogg** [1967], **Louis Latour** [1966], **Edna Burka** [1966], **Art Fink** [1966], **Roger Iddison** [1964], **Fred Farwell** [1963], **George Oldfield** [1963], **Marilyn Dent** [1980]. If any former students are able to offer some help on the whereabouts of these people it would be greatly appreciated. What about **Billy Garbutt** [1998], **Mark Taylor** [1996] or **Jack Boem** [1989]?

Do You RememberTrack and Field Day? Not only did King have a track program that could boast of star competitors such as **Sheila Dennett** [1967], **Gunter Schlag** [1968], **Maria Castel** [1979], **John Peddle** [1970], **Vicky Paul** [1977], **Fred Robbins** [1975], **Jack Foran** [1965], **Janie Edwards** [1979], **Marco Marcuzzi** [1987] and hundreds more, but anyone could sign up to compete. Students would run an event and then actually go back to class until it was time to compete again. Students could always volunteer to assist with an event, replace the high jump bar or run results to the track-side announcer so as not to have to go back to **Miss Ashley's** Home Economics class, or Music with **Mr. Mulcahey**

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The 7th annual Case of Distinction ceremony went off without a hitch on Saturday, October 3rd. Joining thirty two previous inductees in the school's lobby cases were: **Doug Smith** [1963], **Dr. Chris Castel** [1972], **Dr. Kelly Underhill** [1977] and **Jon Brooks** [1987]. This year the committee tried a slightly different approach to the ceremony; instead of a committee member speaking on behalf of the inductees and introducing them prior to their acceptance speech, it was decided to invite an acquaintance or former staff member to do the honours. As a result, former Theatre Arts teacher, and radio and television personality, **Neil Crone**, introduced **Jon Brooks**. Jon has become, in the last few years, one of this country's rising stars in the field of song writing and performing, and Neil's speech was one of the more touching that anyone could remember hearing. **Keith Carson**, who was **Chris Castel's** science teacher in the early 70's, spoke glowingly about his former prodigy who left King after Grade 12 to enter university and has gone on to a remarkable career as an inventor and lecturer in the fields of Physics and medicine. Like the others, **Doug Smith** had not set foot in his old school since his graduation in 1963. He is currently at the University of St. Louis where he has developed an international reputation as a business analyst and professor of Management Science. He was introduced by John Peddle. The final inductee, **Dr. Kelly Underhill**, almost did not make it due to flight problems out of Minneapolis; however, this expert in radiation oncology and medical director of the Sletten Cancer Institute in Great Falls, Montana, would not let a minor problem such as weather prevent her from coming back to her old school. Her induction speech was given by former Math teacher, **John Campbell**. **Dr. Castel**, **Doug Smith** and **Jon Brooks** were also able to visit students in their classes on the day prior to their induction and speak to them about career paths and what it takes to be successful in today's world. From all reports, their presentations were well received by the students.

Where Are They Now?

Elaine Osin [1968] was in town recently to attend a dedication ceremony at the Schomberg Public Library in honour of her late father.... **Kristin [Dunlop] Gillies** [1990] is married to **Wayne Gillies** [1984], another former KCSS student. They are living in Aurora. Kristin writes, "I have been working for a travel distribution company, Travelport International for 13 years as a Regional Sales Manager and loving it! I travel on business quite a bit, both within North America and internationally, which can be challenging with a young family.".... Our Hotmail address received an e-mail from **Ken Carruthers** [class of 1981]. He wanted to update us on himself and sister Daloris [1980]. Daloris is semi retired and living in Huntsville, where she still does part time work for Powerstream Corp. Ken sums up the past 29 years this way, "After KCSS, 1 year of Centennial College, 1 year at Seneca, then continuing education at York U, and a current student of Athabasca U. Still in school after all this time. I am now an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer, Electronics Technician, Math, and Computer Science major."

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He also passed along the sad news that his brother **Eric Carruthers** [1983] passed away in 1997. Eric became a Professional Engineer and worked at Ontario Hydro in Chalk River, and at Atomic Energy Canada before his passing We also touched base with **Marilyn Bolsonello** [1964]. She sent us her current address in Alliston, ON.... We recently learned of the passing of **Mary Agar** [1964]. Mary was living in Calgary at the time with her family. Mary's sister, **Ruth [Agar] Smith** [1963], was at the Case of Distinction ceremony this month with husband **Doug Smith** [1963].... Finally, **Melissa Manson** [1977] wonders what ever became of **Pete Chenette** [1976]. Can anyone help?

Lost Sheep

The following people have disappeared from the radar screen, so to speak. If you have any information leading to their whereabouts, and you think they may wish to be located by the alumni association, kindly let us know: **Anthony Bazzo** [1975], **Erica Tromanhauser** [1983], **Austin Rieger** [1996], Home Economics teacher Mrs. **Joan Broadfoot [Wenzel]**, **Ihor Chornabaj** [1982], **Andrea Bennet** [1985], **Anders Neilsen** [1971], **Alex Furgiuele** [1982], **Amerigo DeAngelis** [1999], **Barry Wilkins** [1967], **Andrea Clarke** [1990], **Adrian Schincariol** [1991], **Arend Mynten** [1977] and **Biljana Grguric** [1977].

Do You Remember the Dungeon and Dragons Club and its staff advisor, **Dan DiGravio**? Society seemed genuinely concerned for the welfare of anyone who dabbled in this pastime. Somehow though, everyone appeared to survive.... at least long enough to get hooked on Twisted Sister and Guns and Roses.

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If you have ever had the opportunity to compare Archons from the last couple of decades to those of, say, the 1960s, you are able to see that the later editions are in colour, larger and deal to some extent with the placing students of the time in the larger context of the world at large. The more recent yearbook is likely to at least summarize the major events of the past year. In more ways than one, latter day Archons are more sophisticated, have clearer photos, better spelling and the binding looks as if it might survive a **John Turchin** lecture. A closer look at today's book, however, reveals one major difference from the past; where are the captions, whether sappy, snappy or sarcastic, that identified each and every student? The yearbook editors and the hard working form reps of forty years ago actually took the time to think of some cute or caustic tag line to separate us from the girl in the next row. THAT took a lot of work.

Of course a lot of them are forgettable, as are most of us. Many girls were described as "Little Miss Brown Eyes", "She's Way Out!", "Little Girl With Plenty to Say" or the ever popular "Who is the boy in her life?". The boys could be, "The Mad Scientist", "Tall, Dark... oh well, two out of three isn't (sic) bad" or "Hot Rod Devil". And who could forget, "Good things come in small packages", "Doesn't speak until spoken to" or "My homework was here a minute ago" as generic, unisex badges that we would be proud to wear for the rest of our lives, or at least until next year's book came out and we found ourselves classified as a current song such as "If I Had a Hammer" or "Little Town Flirt"? Some were downright cruel..."Chews gum like an Irish cow... only it has an intelligent look on its face". "The impulse flickered out in the brute's dull veins", "That lump of flesh sitting in the desk quiet as can be" stand out. Once in a while though, an absolute gem leaps out from the dog eared pages such as "In French his mind is like cement, mixed up and firmly set".

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One cannot be sure if the editor was speaking about the student or those the latter had to put up with when this was penned "There is a certain sameness about life among the lower creatures". There was no doubt about this person's heritage or where he lived when he was described as "Tulip tramper from the Marsh"; but the winner is...."His reasonings were slow and labourious, his mind creaked, as it were, with effort like an unused muscle that responds with difficulty". It's a wonder that student even graduated; a bigger wonder that the class rep survived after writing that particular description. The writer would have been better off to have written the traditional lament of all weak students, "Time passes, why can't I?"

Where Are They Now?

Sandra [Ingrassia] Muscat [1981], "I have been a f/t artist for the last 8 or so years, having spent a good number of years in sales/marketing/product development etc. Most recently before returning f/t to art I was Director of Retail Operations for the Royal Ontario Museum from about 1996-2001. I then co-authored a Financial Times business book "Return on Imagination" with my (now) husband. (We were not married at the time.) I also studied and taught improv; coached a high school team in the Canadian Improv Games for 4 years (which led me to the as yet unanswered question: how could anyone be a full-time teacher?....) I have a 20 year old step daughter, an 18 year old son, a 7 year old dog and a 3 year old garden. That's more than enough for me".... The Papandreou family left its mark on the school many years ago, and **recently Nick Papandreou** [1975] was in Toronto to promote his latest book. Nick, an acclaimed author who has written several works, lives in Greece where, of course, his brother **George Papandreou** [1970] is now Prime Minister.... **Sandra Pirpamer** [1985] graduated from the University of Toronto and met her husband on a study abroad program in Spain. After working several years in Toronto in accounting they decided to move back to Spain. Sandra currently lives there and is raising four children (3 boys and a girl, ages 2, 5, 7 and 10). She would love to assist with the 2011 reunion but with kids in school, and living in Spain, problems exist.

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She would like to locate **Elena Cosentino** [1985]. If anyone knows of Elena's whereabouts, please contact the alumni assoc. @ kcssalumni@hotmail.com ... From **Nick Legge** [1974], " ... I work as a project manager at a Land Surveying company in Toronto and I still have my gallery in Yorkville to keep me off the streets (unsuccessfully I must add)".

Lost Sheep

Katrina Schmitz [1980], **Piero Alagia** [1980], **Bill Ball** [1970], **Joy Hisey** [1973], **Mark Gilham** [1974], **Denise Wallace** [1969], **Katherine Whalley** [1966], **Joan Wall** [1964], **Barbara Kitley** [1970], **Tom MacBain** [1963], **Bill Pitoschia** [1998] and **Randy Munich** [1978]. We would appreciate hearing from anyone who might know something of their whereabouts.

Do You Remember that in the last issue we mentioned a popular club from the 1990s which gave many students something to do during lunch, after school and any other time they could squeeze in, so as not to have to think about homework? Here are a few more such clubs, and the staff members who were responsible for overseeing them: the 1964 Archon [**Dr. Smereka and Mr. Engelbert**], the 1995 Camera Club [**Ms. Greupner**], the 1984 K Team [**Mr. McRoberts**], the 2000 Archery [**Mr. Valeda**], the 1972 Archon [**Mrs. MacDonald**] and the Rifle club of the same year [**Mr. Garry Gould**], the 1987 Lion's Roar newspaper [**Mr. DiGravio and Mr. Harrison**], the 1986 Stage Crew [**Mr. Crone**] and the 1995 S.T.A.N.D. club [**Mrs. Santos**] which celebrated the school's increasing cultural diversity and helped make students aware of similar global issues.