

After Class!

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

#1 - 2010

PLO

A thought came to mind as the 2010 Winter Olympics began: how many communities can claim to have had two participants spend their teenage years in their local high school? King is fortunate to have seen **Mike Douglas** [1989] and **Kerri Rumble** [2000] graduate to the outside world. Mike's mom recently told us, "I think that Michael was never happier than when playing football and participating on the track team ... at King City". He was selected to the KCSS Football Hall of Fame as a defensive back. Mike joined the Canadian national skeleton program in 2004, finished 5th in the Europa Cup competition in 2005 and finished 15th in the World Championships in 2008. Chosen for Canada's Olympic skeleton team this year, he was a whisker off the podium after two superb runs only to have his hopes dashed by a disqualification Kerri played, among other things, basketball, ultimate, badminton and hockey while at King. Prior to Vancouver she established herself in the PWHL/CWHL (Provincial Women's Hockey League/Canadian Women's Hockey League) as one of the "Elite" level officials. This earned her a spot at lining at various National Level events such as the, U18 Women's National Championships, Esso Women's National Championships, and the National CIS University games. At the Olympics she was chosen to officiate women's hockey. Everyone who knows these two individuals is very proud of their accomplishments and wishes them continued success.

The 50th reunion committee has its next meeting on April 6th at the school. Any former students who still live in the area are welcome to come out. We are always in need of volunteers to help plan the event.

Where Are They Now?

Doug Flucker [1969] and a former staff member at the school, signed in a few months ago with the news that, "I have been all over the place working as a building inspector in one capacity or another since 1979. I have just completed my 20th year with the City of Barrie. Now on the down stroke to retirement in another five years. Then who knows for sure..."

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Michelle Basic [1988] did us a favour by e-mailing the association to update her e-mail address. She is a very accomplished artist in Muskoka, as is shown by her website, www.artscapes.ca. Here is her description of what she has been up to lately. "I have been meeting with families of old homesteads up here and chatting with the eldest of them, some in their 90's. I have been collecting great stories, including the discovery of gold in Muskoka and then painting the houses and churches as they are today - some are derelict".....**Ted Willis** [1978] only spent 2 years at KCSS [10 and 11] but has decided to make the trip from Alberta to be at the 50th reunion in a little over a year from now. Ted is a combustion engineer with a provincial company, Alberta Thermal Inc. and lives north west of Red Deer... **Bill DeGeer** [1986] is presently living in Georgetown, ON **Mr Frank Sartor** [Science] is retired and enjoying the King City Lions club as well as his pottery and reading. His daughters, **Kim Sartor** [2002] and **Jennifer Sartor** [2005] are currently living in Toronto. Jennifer is in the theatre while Kim is in the music business... He was only at KCCS for a short while, but **Harry Cartner** [1961] sent us an e-mail a short while ago. "After I left King I started working for a stock brokerage firm. I was there 14 years. I then went to Trans Canada Options Inc. for 18 years. When I left I was Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer. I then started my own company, Cartner Consulting Inc., doing back-office operations consulting for international stock exchanges and brokerage firms. I've worked and lived all over the world." Harry says "hello" to anyone from Oak Ridges who might remember him... **Brenda McLaughlin** [1982] is a vice principal at an elementary school in Keswick and has volunteered to assist with the upcoming reunion... From **Alan Laing** [1980], "I went to Seneca for a couple yrs, went to work for Tridel for 10 yrs was recruited by Pulte Homes, the largest public home builder in the states, lived in MI for 11 yrs and Phoenix for 7, retired last year (mostly) doing some board of director work and consulting, but mostly riding horses and team roping. Two Boys 21-22 going to college in Michigan, Divorced for four yrs, engaged to the love of my life and just living the dream. Lots of fishing, hunting and other outdoor adventures. Talk weekly to my childhood buddies, Ken Blyth, Steve Wallace and Zanis Iordanou, all KCSS alum. Healthy, happy and having fun."

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Lost Sheep:

We are attempting to locate the following people: **Wanda Ball** [1977], **Mika Ono** [1981], **Cheryl Saunders** [1975], **Kevin Pegler** [1980], **Kate Love** [1999], **Jordan Greenstein** [1998], **Laura Frans** [1997], **Peter Ten Hove** [2001], **Laura Collacutt** [1988], **Merv Dunlop** [1963], **Debby Cymbalisti** [1975], **Sharon Herman** [1965], **Anita Pizziol** [1984], **Peter Pynenburg** [1975], **Mary Pynenburg** [1977], **Paul Armstrong** [1977], **Mark Baker** [1999] and **Jewel Carlisle** [1970].

Do You Remember the aroma of dittos that had just been run off by the teacher? Who doesn't remember those students pretending to get a buzz and sniffing them instead of committing the priceless written contents to memory. We will never know how many brain cells we destroyed by doing that. Of course, students and teachers after 1990 would not even know what a ditto WAS.

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The Alumni Association is going all out to make the coming reunion next May the very best possible. One new wrinkle is a survey which is currently posted on our new site dedicated solely to May, 2011. If you want to have some input as to what is offered on that weekend you are asked to go to...www.kcss50th.com and download the survey. It can then be filled out and returned to the association. We would appreciate your opinions. We are also putting on a full court press with the current staff and students of KCSS in an attempt to have them take more of a role in the reunion. This celebration is not just a gathering of former students and staff but is a significant anniversary of the best school in all of York Region. The school acknowledges that and is keen to get involved...

Where Are They Now?

Bill Davison [1976] and **Bella Davey** [1976] are currently living in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia... **Bert Graham** [1967] is currently in Ecuador and he informed After Class that..."I'm a bum. I retired in 2000 and have not had a paying job since then. So I'm a bum, but I have managed to visit 40 different countries and Ecuador makes 41". We had asked Bert if he knew where his former classmate, **Chris Wilson** [1967] is, but he had no idea ... **Paul Armstrong** [1976] is, "trying to stay out of trouble....gave up playing baseball about 15 years ago (shoulder) and hockey about 6 years ago (knee's). I have been working with Superior Propane since Oct '87 to now in different locations (Concord, Huntsville, Barrie & Bala). I'm married with 3 boys who you could have used on the football team (at least 2 of them)...I call them the bookends.... At this time I don't see any issues about not making the 50th reunion next year." For anyone who had lost track of **Linda Jenkins** [1968] we have this report, "I haven't retired...no. What is that [saying]...I'm still moving forward. One things leads to another, and doors open, and I discover more all the time. Right now I'm up to my eyeballs...so I will fill in some of the blanks in my history at a later date, cheers and enjoy the day"... Linda works for Coldwell Banker Alliance Realty in Vernon, B.C... **Richard Kennedy** [1976]

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passed along his new e-mail address to the alumni association. We will definitely use it to invite him to next May's celebration... **Brian Laing** [1972] writes, "I have been working for the same company for 28 years!!! No one else would hire me. I have been in Houston for all those years except the first six months in Edmonton. We sell and rent special equipment for pipeline construction. I am President and COO of the company. We serve an international customer base and I travel a lot"... **Dale Smith** [1973] filled out one of our reunion surveys and eventually signed on board to help find former classmates and friends for the reunion. Dale says that she regularly sees former classmates **Sandy Thompson, Joyce ten Hove** and **Sue Deadman** [all from 1973]... Still with the class of 1973, **Anne Stevens** [1973] passed along word of the passing of **Francoise Venchiarutti** [1973] from that class of graduates...

Lost Sheep:

We are attempting to locate the following people: **Chris Bancroft-Wilson** [1967], **Larry Bottos** [1973], **Kelly Barnes** [1973], **Donna Perkin** [1981], **Nick Duley** [1989], **Jan Murray** [1986], **Tania Raponi** [1992], **Meredith Blackmore** [1995], **George Oldfield** [1963], **Lee** and **Lynn Scott** [1964], **Sandy Gerna** [1975], **Stephen Fors** [1979], **Foad Ardestani** [1979]. Any information, on any former student, can be left at our e-mail address, kcssalumni@hotmail.com

Do You Remember detentions? Even if you never received one, you likely heard plenty about them from your friends who were selected to accompany some hard luck teacher to the detention room. This staff member, whose turn it was to supervise these seemingly useless exercises in discipline, would have rather been doing almost anything else and the students, many of whom would have extra detentions tacked on to their totals for either missing detention or else "acting up" when they did attend, treated these after class sessions with a mixture of contempt and hatred....aaaah, the good old days!

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PLO

48 years ago, when **Mrs. Gondor** and **Mr. van Brummelen** first entered the doors on the west side of the school to begin their teaching careers at King, the internet was still in the distant future. However, these many years later it was the tool which enabled the alumni association to track their whereabouts. Sadly, we learned that the grand lady of the business department, **Ilona Gondor**, passed away in 2009. It is difficult to imagine that the last 29 years of typing students never knew what it was like to produce their pages of work under her stern and watchful eye. Yet few of us could deny that we left her classes as better people, even though we may have been reluctant to admit it back then.... **Harro van Brummelen** just retired a couple of weeks ago after many years as a professor of education at Trinity Western University in Langley B.C. He taught for only 2 years at King [1962-1964] but is hoping to be able to attend the 50th reunion next year. Among other people, he fondly remembers his Math Department head, **Bob Sanderson**.... We are now less than nine months away from the 50th year reunion of the school. Invariably, people come up to us at reunions and announce that they didn't know about it until the last minute. Or worse still, we find out two weeks later about someone who didn't hear about the reunion at all! Please tell everyone you meet about May 13, 2011, even siblings whom you think might already know just may not have seen notice of it.

Where Are They Now?

Terry Simmonds [1976] is currently living in Alberta where he is a surveyor. His sister **Sandy Simmonds** [1977] is in nursing... **Alex Rocca** [1998] writes, "...I am currently a Financial Advisor and own an entertainment business."... **Roger Dillon** [1987] was at King for only one year, 1982-83, but posted an entry on the alumni website Guest Book. He also responded to an e-mail that we sent him. Roger, after stops in Vancouver and California, currently lives in Texas with his wife and little girl, works for Toys R Us and says that his biggest regret is that he never played football again [for various reasons] after he played for the "Green Machine"... **Diane Zorn** [1983] is currently the program director for the Humanities Dep't, course coordinator for the

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Schulich School of Business and also a University Tribunal member, at York University ... **Chris Mellin** [1996], "...I'm married and have one son (Gavin) ...I graduated from Laurentian University with an Honours degree in English and followed that up with a Journalism Post Grad Diploma from Centennial College. After working at a few tennis and golf clubs in various roles, I started a design and marketing consulting company with my brother **Damian Mellin** [1998], and we specialize in the club industry. We do everything from websites to programming guides to monthly member newsletters. Life is busy, but good."... **Stephanie Berger** [1997] is currently employed by Nobleton Farm Service after years of being in the film industry.... Finally, from **Corie Collard** [1987], "I went off to Queens after KCSS, met my husband, helped him start a software company and still work there now. We have a small company in Concord, selling software to drive large display boards, LCDs, etc. Our software drives the boards at the airport (arrivals/departures/baggage, etc), many of the boards around the Air Canada Centre (except the score boards), screens in Loblaws, and most of the banks and brokerages downtown. Most of our business is in the US and Europe..."

Lost Sheep:

We are currently running at a success rate of about 10% rate, which is sufficient reason to keep trying to locate people who have dropped out of sight; at least our sight. On the assumption that the following former students and staff wish to be discovered, we ask our readers to kindly contact us at kcssalumni@hotmail.com if they know the whereabouts of: **Jim Horan** [1985], **Sally Aspinall** [1994], **Agah Imam** [1977], **Karen Staudinger** [1982], **Koji Kondo** [1985], **Krista Look** [1990], **Archie Chamberlain** [1964], **Scott Molnar** [1981], **Bob Barber** [1969], **Coralie Cook** [1977], **Jamie Austin** [1997], **Kathy Wenzel** [1977], **Gail McPhee** [1979], **Anne Jennings** [1963] and **Mr. Rick Perkins, Miss Nancy Derouin, Miss Linda Dukal** [all three former staff members].

Do You Remember ... our exchange students who over the years came to King from many foreign countries? Perhaps you were one of

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the host students who got to exchange more than quizzical looks in class or in the halls; you may have actually been able to visit Germany, Argentina, Thailand or Spain with your exchange. One wonders if students such as **Maria Costello**, **Stephan Herpens** or **Prapasri Rajatapiti** ever think of their days at KCSS.

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PLO

Perhaps the biggest hurdle to overcome when getting around to planning a high school reunion, especially a milestone such as a 50th anniversary, is locating and getting in touch with former students and staff. Compared to this task, lining up volunteers, planning events and making myriad arrangements for such diverse items as insurance and food are a walk in the proverbial park. Locating former staff means dealing with retirement issues; downsizing to a smaller house and moving, re-locating to sunnier climes and some just fade out because they don't wish to attend functions such as these due to old age. Dealing with students brings a whole host of different problems. People move away to university, women marry and often change their last name, jobs change and result in some of us moving to follow our new dream. To combat this, and to ensure that we have located as many people as we can, the executive has amassed a dedicated bunch of people who are given one job and one job only. Find as many warm bodies as possible. It would be unfair to single any one group of people out for dedication to this task because, truth be told, virtually every year going back to 1961-61 has someone devoted to finding former friends and classmates. A final list of these volunteers will be posted on line and at the reunion so that we may all raise a glass and toast their efforts. Meanwhile, we can all do our part to help. We can pass the news along by word of mouth, a phone call here and there or sending some e-mails and telling everyone whom we know went to King about next May

Where Are They Now?

Merle [Allan] Duncan [1972] hooked up with us on Hotmail and left this posting, "I graduated from U of T BSc. Pharmacy in 1976 and spent 30 years as a retail pharmacist, retiring in 2007. I am thoroughly enjoying the retired life, travelling whenever possible and researching the family genealogy. **Glenn** [Duncan, 1972] and I married in 1986 and we have lived in Richmond Hill for the last 26 years. Glenn started out with York Regional Police in 1974 and then transferred to fire fighting with Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services in 1979. He is currently a Deputy Fire Chief with Vaughan"... **Mark**

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D'Anna [1982] runs his own construction company in the Schomberg area... **Frank McCormick** [1968] is a retired electrician, currently living in Barrie and assisting with the reunion... When she was asked what had kept her busy for the past twenty plus years, **Megan [Gallagher] Farrell** [1989] replied, "The past 20 years? Hmmm....do you have time for a long read? Basically university, travel, work, marriage, work, kids, work, (some travel), more work and family. Does that seem too general? I cannot complain!"... Megan filled out one of our surveys indicating that she is coming to the reunion; she just needs to find time in a busy schedule... **Greg Clark** [1987] and **Niki Burdon-Clark** [1988] are in Ottawa where Greg is vice president, managing director of CB Richard Ellis real estate... Greg says he has not missed a reunion yet, and doesn't plan on missing the big one next year.....**Rick Sheth** [2003] is currently "a 3rd year medical student out of the Caribbean right now. I have to write my USMLE step 1 exam in a couple months and then I'll be doing 2 years of clerkship in the state"... From **Samantha Ierullo** [2005], "...I left King I went to Western and graduated with my BA in English and Ethics. I now work for a speaker's bureau downtown - we book celebrity and professional speakers for conferences, colleges, etc. It's an interesting gig!"... **Ray Zimmerman** [1962] and **Catherine (Whalley) Zimmerman** [1966] are living on the west coast and planning to come east for next year's reunion. Ray also mentioned the passing of his sister **Gloria Zimmerman** [1966] several years ago...From **Jennifer Morrison** [1998]..."I got married this summer and live in Port Dalhousie- St. Catharines. I went to Brock University for Kinesiology and am now a teacher. I am teaching Phys.Ed and Health for grades K-6 and enjoying coaching the Grade 7's and 8's. I am in my 6th year teaching and am really enjoying it!"... Former staff member, **Bill Earle** [1966-1967] writes that he has already booked his plane ticket from Australia and is hoping to see a large number of students from 1967 at next year's reunion.

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Lost Sheep:

Sandra van den Beld [1977], **Mary van Allen** [1971], **Tami van Dyk** [1991], **Allan van Dyke** [1971], **Tracy van Grootel** [1977], **Ron van Noort** [1982], **Andy van Willigen** [1980], **Anne-Marie Vandebeek** [1998], **Frances Vanderkooy** [1970], **Arie Vanderlinden** [1977], **Theresa Vanderburgt** [1984], **Nicole Vanderwater** [1990], **Henry van Kooten** [1968] and finally, **Georgia Godfrey** [1969] and **Dave Newbigging** [1985].

Do You Remember ...Initiation Day? Grade nine students [minor niners to the grade 13 class] faced the uncertainty of a day designated by the administration to introduce them to their new school. The problem often was that the rest of the school felt it was their right to become involved. Thus, control of the day slipped out of the hands of the responsible people and became a day of embarrassment and humiliation. By the 1990's the event was known as Welcoming Day, in hopes that a more gentle title would keep the hi-jinks to a minimum. When that well meaning experiment failed the administration initiated a formal program known as King Camp. This event involved volunteer teachers accompanying the grade nines to an outdoor camp for three days of bonding. It survives today as Roc King Camp.

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PLO

After a week of celebrating their first-ever appearance in the Metro Bowl championship game the KCSS Sr. Lions were licking their wounded paws following a thorough "beat down" at the hands of the Holy Trinity S.S. Titans from Courtice, on Wed, Nov 24. Ouch! Our beloved Lions not only hurt their paws, they had their heads handed to them in the process. It was an unexpected ending to what was truly a wonderful football season. Coaches **Jeff Masterson**, **Brad Matwijec** and **Frank Nardone**, and all of the players, can look back with pride [there's the Lion connection again] on their accomplishments. If nothing else, the evening at the Rogers Centre provided an opportunity for many former players and non-playing alumni to come together and reminisce. There was **Ed Serjeantson**, greeting many of his former players, and talking about that incredible Sr. team from '71-'72 which stopped Thornhill 6 times on the 1 yard line to preserve the York County championship. He wasn't the only one remembering the days when it was KCSS that manhandled the opposition. **Scott Haggith** [1991], **Mark Furgiuele** [1991], **Bill Marks** [1966], **Rob Irwin** [1990], **Tom Gardner** [1990], **John Peddle** [1970], **Bill Jenkins** [1971], **Russell Oldfield** [1970], **Brian Else** [1985], **Dave Miller** [1986], **JP Marchello** [2000], **Jung Yul-Kim** [1992], **Joe Pittari** [1991] and scores of others did likewise. Nov. 24 was not so much a football gathering as a mini reunion celebrating one of the many threads that are woven into the King City fabric ... Helping to ease the pain, however, was the girls' junior basketball team which captured the YRAA Tier 2 championship this past month. Under the guidance of coaches **Jennifer Ley** and **Becky McQuaig**, and with significant input from **Mike Mallory**, the girls stormed through league play going 8-0, defeated Milliken Mills, Vanier and Maple before edging St. Jean de Brebeuf by a single point at the buzzer to capture the title. It was probably the most significant girls' victory since **Gwen Chvalevich** guided her 1975-76 junior girls' squad to the GBSSA championship.

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Where Are They Now?

John Rohde [1979] lives in Lethbridge, Alberta ... **Margaret Durtnall** [1962] only spent grade 10 at King City Composite School. However, in a recent e-mail she heaped praise on two of her former teachers. "I hope every student had a **Mr. Fidler** (History) or **Mr. McCarthy** (English) in their school life.... Mr. McCarthy and his wife went out of their way to try to keep me in school..." She is currently a social worker and a mature student in university studying African and East Asian history.... **Shelley McNamara** [1980] runs the Sink or Swim Tattoo studio in the St. Andrew's plaza in Aurora **Bobby Fagogenis** [199] is still teaching South Korea....**Teresa Di Angelis** [1990] is currently teaching at, ironically, St. Teresa of Lisieux C.H.S. in Richmond Hill, ON.... **Glenn Dewhirst** [1989] owns his own sign and graphic printing company, Prism Creative, in Newmarket...Former Phys. Ed. teacher **Sharon McKenna** is hoping to attend the reunion but as she writes, "Guess I have to start qualifying my plans with 'God willing'. I turn 60 next month and am aware of the luck involved with still being healthy"....

Lost Sheep:

While e-mail notices and word of mouth will continue to be the most effective means of contacting alumni and former staff about the May reunion, post office mailings have begun to go out to many for whom we have no e-mail address. The first staff member whose whereabouts is unknown is **Bob Rutherford**. There will undoubtedly be more. We would also like to locate the following students: **Steve Holloway** [1979], **Marjorie Buddingh** [1980], **Zelda Hutt** [1966], **Kerri Roots** [1997], **Kerry Hughes** [1963], **Bill Beecroft** [1965], **Dave Fearon** [1988], **Tricia Zurbrigg** [1991], **Judy Woods** [1970], **Simon Warner** [1998], **Cindy Lyman** [1987], **Mike Gasko** [1970], **Susan** and **Sherrie Fair** [1988].

Do You Remember being afraid of **John Turchin**?