



LPSS Matters

Official Alumni Newsletter of Lorne Park Secondary School

Volume 2, Issue 4

October 2002

LPSSMatters@aol.com
www.LPSSMatters.com

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Oct. 5th Reunion

We jogged and took out health club memberships. We dieted and ate slim fast food. And it worked! Everybody looked fabulous at our Oct. 5th reunion. Maybe ever so slightly more mature. But fabulous nevertheless!

A huge thank you goes out to the organizers of the reunion—Gayle Thomas ('67), and her right-hand person Lynn Jenkins (Stevenson) ('71). It was a huge job advertising, arranging for the hall, food and music, and communicating with many hundreds of alumni. However, everything was successfully pulled together for a memorable night. A thank you also goes out to John Davis ('72) who came to the rescue when Gayle and Lynn were refused a liquor license. The writers of *LPSS Matters* understand that, fortunately for our reunion, John has a long and colourful history with the LCBO and its numerous products, going as far back as grade 9 or 10.

By all accounts the Oct. 5th LPSS reunion was a booming success. Some 1,000 or more alumni attended, from as far away as B.C., Texas, Louisiana and Georgia. Music for the night was provided the Randy Dawson Band.

We were also graced by the presence of several teachers. For those of us who have

forgotten, they showed us one more time who's really in charge!

Pictures of the reunion are provided courtesy Penny Blacker (Pike) ('76). Penny has been kind enough to post 57 pictures on the Cartogra web site at <http://www.cartogra.com/home/home.asp>. Near the bottom of the page you will see a BLUE box that says "New to this site?" below that it says "Visit a friend's site." Enter the account name and click on the arrow below the box to the right. Account Name: kanook (lower case). This will take you to the first page. Once there click on the orange "View my album button". The next page will ask you for a password. Password: pss (lower case). You can print any of the photos. You can also order prints from HP directly if you wish to do so. Any troubles email Penny at kanook@neo.rr.com.

Additional reunion photos can be found in two other places: (1) Hit the Photos button on the Reunions page of our alumni website; and (2) in the 1975-79 correspondent's report in Spartan Stuff. In addition, the 1984 class had their own mini-reunion the afternoon of Oct. 5th which, by all accounts, was also a great success. Pictures and write-up can be found in Spartan Stuff, as well as hitting the Photos button on the Reunions page.

Next is the 50th anniversary reunion. The big one. Numero uno. Top dog. The big banana. When? Oct. 26-28,2007. Details? Stay tuned.

To view Reunion Photos click on the Photos button located on the Reunions page of our LPSS alumni website



You will buy a helmet—and like it!!!



SONGS TO GET OLD WITH

For all of you who are feeling a little older and missing those great old tunes, there is good news. Some of your old favorites have re-released their great hits with new lyrics to accommodate their aging audience. Some examples:

- Paul Simon--"Fifty Ways to Lose Your Liver"
- Carly Simon--"You're So Varicose vein"
- The Bee Gees--"How Can You Mend a Broken Hip"
- Roberta Flack--"The First Time Ever I Forgot Your Face"
- Johnny Nash--"I Can't See Clearly Now"
- The Temptations--"Papa Got a Kidney Stone"
- Nancy Sinatra--"These Boots Give Me Arthritis"
- ABBA--"Denture Queen"
- Leo Sayer--"You Make Me Feel Like Napping"
- Commodores--"Once, Twice, Three Trips to the Bathroom"
- Procol Harem--"A Whiter Shade of Hair"
- The Beatles--"I Get By with a Little Help From Depends"
- Steely Dan--"Rikki Don't Lose That Clapper"
- Herman's Hermits--"Mrs. Brown You've Got a Lovely Walker"
- The Rolling Stones--"You Can't Always Pee When You Want"
- Creedence Clearwater Revival--"Bad Prune Rising"
- Marvin Gaye-- "I Heard It Through the Grape Nuts"
- The Who--"Talkin' 'Bout My Medication"
- The Troggs--"Bald Thing"

(sent in by Lynn Jenkins (Stevenson) ('71)

Thank You!!!

It's time a big thank you went out to Sandy Fortune ('73). Sandy is the main person behind developing and maintaining our website. It's Sandy who diligently and tirelessly adds new names to our distribution list almost every day. And it's Sandy who posts the newsletters, and updates *We Remember...*, Reunions and all other sections of our website.

Sandy designed our alumni website. For more information on Sandy's web services, check out <http://members.rogers.com/sfortune1121/>, or contact Sandy at sandyfortune@hotmail.com.

"Into the Unknown"— Lynn Jenkins (Stevenson) ('71)

Samhaine (known by most today as Halloween) was regarded by the Druids as a magical and mystical occasion. It still is the night when the veil between the living and the dead is at its strongest.

The ritual associated with this day is Breton and uses the Cauldron which is the ancient symbol of Mother Earth and the Four Foods of the Dead. The Celts celebrated on November 1st. They believed that during the eve before their celebration all the barriers between mortal and immortal, visible and invisible were down. Correct ritual was practiced to keep the evil Gods away. Markets were held, games were played, poetry was recited in public gatherings and dancing and feasting often went on for days.

Souling Day is when Christians remembered the souls of the dead waiting for the final resurrection. Souling Processions were held which involved children begging for apples and pennies. The Celts believed that apples were representative of Avalon, the apple island of the Blessed Souls. Over the years, it became customary for children to go from door to door, not to beg, but to receive gifts of food and coins for the feast from each householder. Because of their belief in Avalon, the Celtic tradition was to make apple cake or soul cake. Thar (Thor)

Cakes were made of oatmeal and honey. It is an ancient cake that was made for the dying and the dead and it contained gifts of the earth and the other world.

All Hallow's Eve was restored to the Church of England calendar in 1928. It was known as the time when the souls of dead ancestors could appear and the powers of the Otherworld could be brought into the Starlight.



This was Hecate's night to celebrate - it was her festival. Druids kept fires burning and candles were lit in each household to keep evil spirits at bay. Men wore masks to represent the spirits. This practice also kept them from being recognized by the spirits of the dead who just might want to do them some mischief. Today, masks and guises are meant to represent the creatures which are believed to be at large on this night. For those who practice the Wiccan tradition, it is their New Year's Eve. To them, Samhaine represents the end of one cycle and the beginning of the next, therefore, is a time to celebrate.

And what better way to end this column than with an old Samhaine custom... Let the house fires go out with the end of the old year and light a new one from the special Samhaine fire before it goes out completely. This symbolizes a clearing out of old ideas and the taking in of new ones.

2003 PREDICTIONS

In our January 2003 issue Lynn will be providing predictions for the upcoming year. She has offered to do general AND personal predictions. Anybody who would like a private 2003 prediction can contact Lynn Jenkins (Stevenson) at LPSSMatters@aol.com. Include your name and age. Lynn will respond directly back to you.



You Think A Gallon Of Gas Is Expensive?

Makes one think, and puts things in perspective:

Diet Snapple 16 oz \$1.29 \$10.32 per gallon
 Lipton Ice Tea 16 oz \$1.19 \$ 9.52 per gallon
 Gatorade 20 oz \$1.59 \$10.17 per gallon
 Ocean Spray 16 oz \$1.25 \$10.00 per gallon
 Brake Fluid 12 oz \$3.15 \$33.60 per gallon
 Vick's Nyquil 6 oz \$8.35 \$178.13 per gallon
 Pepto Bismal 4 oz \$3.85 \$123.20 per gallon
 Whiteout 7 oz \$1.39 \$25.42 per gallon

Scope 1.5 oz \$0.99 \$84.48 per gallon
 and this is the REAL KICKER.....

Evian water 9 oz. for \$1.49 \$21.19 per gallon.
 \$21.19 FOR WATER!and the buyers don't even know the source.

So, the next time you're at the pump, be glad your car doesn't run on water, Scope, or Whiteout, or God forbid, PEPTO BISMOL or NYQUIL!!!!

(contributed by Dana-Leigh Tisdale)

We Remember...

Dr. Gary Lentis Stoik ('64)
(Sept. 23, 1945 - May 15, 2002)

Gary passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his family as he had wished. Loving husband to Marsha (Laidley), and much-loved father of Erin, Ashley and Dana. Beloved son of John and Margaret, dear brother to Jack (Gisele) and Uncle Gary to nephews Gary, Sean and Ian Stoik. Son-in-law to Marian Laidley and brother-in-law to Donna (Laidley) and Jim Osumi and Jennifer and Al Howatson. Gary's warmth and spontaneous energy will be missed by his friends and medical colleagues in Toronto and Abu Dhabi, and by the many patients who made his surgical practice such an interesting and fulfilling part of his life. Gary was a surgeon at the Toronto East Hospital. Gary graduated from LPSS in 1964

Fred Hilditch ('63)

Clare Cressman, Vice Principal
(taken from the message board on
Classmates.com)

My dad Clare Cressman was a Vice Principal at L.P for a few years. He made the stained glass window above the front door for the 25th anniversary I believe. Anyway, just thought I'd post that he passed away last year, and L.P. was his favourite school that he taught/administrated at in his 35 years of teaching. It broke his heart to leave there due to health problems.

Cathy Cressman (Sebastian) ('80)

Earlaine Adamson

I'm not quite sure if *LPSS Matters* has been told, but the current head secretary of Lorne Park passed away last week. She died of cancer after a years struggle. Her name was Earlaine Adamson, and she also had two children who went to Lorne Park.

Jill Barnes ('99)

(Ed. note: *Earlaine was instrumental in helping us get LPSS Matters off the ground two years ago.*)

Jack Long

Jack taught at LPSS from '59- '67. He taught Phys. Ed. and Business and coached the football team during his years at LPSS. After leaving LPSS he finished his illustrious career at Bramalea S.S. retiring in 1981. Jack and Shirley moved to Oakville shortly after his retirement where they remained until 1995.

Family was everything to Jack and Shirley, in order to be in close proximity to their grandchildren they moved to Georgetown.

In retirement Jack continued to enjoy their cottage up in Haliburton where he spent many happy hours placing worms on hooks for his seven grandchildren, painting cartoon characters and his favorite, landscapes. Jack died of congestive heart failure on December 27th, 1999 at the age of 79.

Jane Roberts-Long

Sandy Crawford ('80)

Dr. Sandy (Crawford) Kirkley, and her husband, Michael Kirkley who both tragically passed away on September 8th, 2002. Sandy went to Western and became a world-leading researcher in orthopedic surgery. Cathy and Michael have two sons. They will be deeply missed.

Clarissa Stevens-Guille ('83)

Top 10 Things Canadian Would do if They Were Able to Retire Today*

1. Travel—41%
2. Sports and leisure activities—32%
3. Personal pursuits—29%
4. Community work—28%
5. Spend more time with family & friends—22%
6. Personal improvement—21%
7. Learn arts & crafts—21%
8. Home improvement projects—9%
9. Shop—2%
10. Social activities—2%

Source: The Retirement and Leisure Dreams of Canadians. A POLLARA survey for AGF, November 2001. (*Some people included more than one activity as a response.)

Alumni Advice—(Doug Greer ('66))

As we watch the leaves turn colour, we all know winter will soon approach. At this time of year, don't forget your pets...the little (or large) snuggly friends that sometimes provide extra warmth in our beds on those really cold nights. Grooming is as important in fall and winter as it is in spring and summer.

In summer, some people believe that running into lakes, rivers and streams will take care of their pets' bath & grooming needs. Unfortunately, this is not the case. Did you know that a shorter coat in summer reduces the air conditioning insulation for our best friends? A longer coat in winter, without good grooming can make a nice comfortable home for some parasites, and if your pet has a skirt of hair under the chest, legs and belly, it tends to collect snow balls and icicles that melt on your carpets and floors. By trimming these areas, as well as the beard and other feathers you will keep your pet more comfortable upon his return from the walk in the park.

Have you noticed how salt from the roads and sidewalks affects your boots? That same dreaded salt can build up on your buddy's feet and be painful. Ice and snow that is allowed to build up between his pads and toes can spread the toes, cause irritation and result in all that foot licking we see in our pets. Regardless of the seasons, clipping between the pads and trimming your pet's nails keeps the foot nice and tight, and less likely to attract ice those ice pellets, allowing your pal to walk with you in comfort. When you come home from your walk, be sure to dip your buddy's paws in clear water and dry them with a towel...this will remove the salt from the pathways and roads.

Once the leaves have fallen, before we can blink an eye, the holiday season is upon us. Our pets watch us perk up the household, decorate it for the holidays, and see all sorts of very special preparations being made. Mom sometimes treats herself to a new hair do and outfit, and Dad even concedes to do the same.

The kids in the family are all excited, and the anticipation builds! Looking their best for the holiday season is as important to your pet as it is to you. They know that if they look good, they'll get more pets from those guests you invite in a this time of year! So remember to book some time at the spa for your best friend too, but please keep in mind, that the holiday season is a groomer's busiest time of the year. In fact, a groomer friend of mine said he worked until 11:00 pm Christmas eve, and slept through Christmas and Boxing Day.

Please take good care of your furry friend(s), and enjoy the upcoming season!

Doug Greer ('66)
Clip Joint Professional Pet
Grooming
905-823-6104

Who the heck comes up with this stuff. Anyway, try it - it's weird. Did you know that a flight number from one of the planes that hit one of the two towers was Q33NY.? In MS Word type in that flight number Enlarge the font size to 26 Change the font to Wingdings

Two young boys walked into a pharmacy one day, picked out a box of Tampax tampons and proceeded to the check-out counter. The man at the counter asked the older boy "Son, how old are you?"

"Eight" the boy replied. The man continued "Do you know how these are used?"

The boy replied, "Not exactly, but they aren't for me. They are for my brother, he's four. We saw on TV that if you used these you would be able to swim and ride a bike. He can't do either one."

The people who are starting university this fall (2002) across the nation were born in 1983 or 1984.

- They are too young to remember the space shuttle blowing up.
- Their lifetime has always included AIDS.
- Bottle caps have always been screw off and plastic.
- The CD was introduced the year they were born.
- They have always had an answering machine.
- They have always had cable.
- They cannot fathom not having a remote control.
- Jay Leno has always been on the Tonight Show.
- Popcorn has always been cooked in the microwave.
- They never took a swim and thought about Jaws.
- They can't imagine what hard contact lenses are.
- They don't know who Mork was or where he was from.
- They never heard: "Where's the Beef?", "I'd walk a mile for a Camel", or "de plane Boss, de plane".
- They do not care who shot J. R. and have no idea who J. R. even is.
- Michael Jackson has always been white.
- McDonald's never came in Styrofoam containers.
- They don't have a clue how to use a typewriter.

(courtesy Beloit College in Wisconsin)

LETTERS

CENTENNIAL STRUCTURE

In response to the question about the star in the July issue of *LPSS Matters*, it gets "stolen" every year around this time as a part of a grad prank. They cut it off in the middle of the night, hide it in a backyard for a about a week, and then when the teachers complain enough it gets put back in the middle of the night again. I graduated recently and its been a tradition every since I can remember.

Hope this helps!

Anonymous

LPSS HIGH SCHOOL WEBSITE

(Following is an e-mail sent to the high school)

Are you adding any names to the Alumni section. Seems my year '68 has been stuck at 4 people for over a year whereas Classmates has grown from 15 to 41..

If you want people to send in info, why not put reminder in *LPSS Matters* or post a message on the Classmates 'Messages' section.

Many thanks,

Bruce McLeod ('68)

You know you're getting old when your wife gives up sex for lent, and you don't realize it until the Fourth Of July

Milton Berle

I much prefer being over the hill to being under it

Bruce Lansky

You're at that age when everything Mother Nature gave you, Father Time is taking away.

Milton Berle

TEAM IN TRAINING

I'm going to be entering an adventure race in October (www.hitec-ars.com). I'm entering as part of a group called Team in Training (www.teamintraining.com), as part of the team we must also raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The race is going to be intense. We'll be running 5-8 miles on a trail, mountain biking 10-15 miles, kayaking 1-3 miles and there are up to 10 eco-challenges throughout the race (including a 12 foot wall we must climb).

The race sounds hard (I'm stoked though), but it's for a great cause. I've lost a few people over the last few years to cancer, most of them some form of Lymphoma.

As part of my training I need to raise at least \$3100US. I was hoping I could ask fellow LPSS alumni for any assistance. If you live in the states the donation is tax deductible, if you don't you'll still have that warm fuzzy feeling after donating. I'm in the process of putting up a website to keep track of my progress, you can find it at:
<http://nexus.carleton.ca/~barky/TNTars.html>

Anyone interested in supporting the cause can pay with Visa, Mastercard or by writing a cheque payable to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. A pledge form and my mailing address are available at:
<http://nexus.carleton.ca/~barky/TNTPledge.html>

Thank you,

Chris Bark ('95)

DRIVERS LICENSE

This is something to worry about. Check it out. Did you know that you can see anyone's drivers license using the internet, including your own? It's an American based site, but it also links into Canada. I just searched for my license, and there it was, picture and all. Where it asks what state - put your province. This was something I didn't know you could do. I'm not sure I like this info out there for anyone to access. DOES THIS BREACH THE PRIVACY ACT OR WHAT?

Check it out <http://www.license.shorturl.com/>

Lynn Jenkins (Stevenson) ('71)

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

You know what? I HATED high school so it's probably best to remove me from this list of inbred pigs that just so happened to attend the same ignorant high school.

Colin Ready-Evoy ('91)
Artist

A hearty THANK YOU to CBL Data Recovery. The hard drive containing all issues of *LPSS Matters*, our entire alumni e-mail list, and miscellaneous other things related to our alumni newsletter self-destructed. The data was no longer accessible. CBL Data came to the rescue in more ways than one. They quickly and professionally retrieved our data. And, upon learning it was for a high school alumni newsletter, reduced their standard \$1,400 charge to the student price of \$250.

CBL Data are located in Markham, Ont. We dealt with Daniel Hargrave.

Spartan Stuff

1957—1964—Fred Hilditch ('63) fred@businessdata.on.ca,

Our **Mike Raham's** ('64), (Dentist in Halton) sister Pat (Carr) ('65) (Nurse in North Halton) meets on the first Monday of every month with a group of about 20 women from the Georgetown, Ont. area to make special quilts for the children in the transplant unit at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. This is the brainchild of Pat Carr, the "Just for Me quilting group" has donated over 50 quilts to the unit so far. Pat Carr, who has also volunteered for the past 11 summers at Camp Oochigeas, a summer camp for children with cancer on Lake Rousseau in Ontario's Muskoka region, says she hopes that "Just for Me's" efforts will inspire others to give of themselves. See the web for more information www.canadianliving.com/crafts/features/quilt-fundraise/3.asp

Do you remember **Mr. Stefaniw's** (teacher (1961 to ?) lived on Meadowood Road) white weird car "The Isetta" - the only one with a front door and 3 wheels? His car was always being picked up by the football team and moved to the football field. 1962-64 – Thanks to **Leslie O'Neil** ('64) for this question answered by *Colin Fraser* ('65). The Fraser brothers **Tom** ('60) & **Colin** both teach math at Niagara College.

Gary Cronyn ('66) brother of **Al** ('63) married to **Kathy (Klug)** ('66) went to the University of Waterloo. After graduating in Mechanical Engineering in 1971, I joined Ford of Canada working in Oakville, Vancouver and Edmonton. I then joined CIL at their Edmonton refinery for a year and then moved to The City of Edmonton for two years. After 6 years out west Kathy and I decided to return to Ontario and I took a position with the Road Safety Branch of Transport Canada. It took me about 3 weeks to realize that I wasn't Federal Government material but about a year to relocate to the Canadian Automobile Association as Director of Technical Services in Ottawa. My auto club experience included 6 years in Ottawa, one year at AAA in Virginia, two years as President of the Manitoba Motor League in Winnipeg and finally about 11 years as President of CAA Eastern Ontario in Kingston. I retired in 2000 and Kathy and I live just west of Kingston, where we built our own home. We have two children, Sean who is 27 and working for P&G in Brockville and Heather who is 24 and recently graduated from teacher's college and moved to the London, England to teach elementary school. His LPSS years - When I went to LPSS in the early years I was never a part of the "in" crowd, probably because I was not tall, dark, handsome or an athlete. I was however a bit of a rebel, particularly when a few of us got motorcycles and decided to hang out together. That is how I came to know **Pete Crowder** ('65) and **Court Chappel**, both of whom were in the social fast lane.

Tidbits - J.D. Gamble-he lives on the west coast-runs a whale-watching, fishing business. **Carol Burge** (Collette) lives in Hawaii-a very successful artist known around the world, by the way! **Monica Bradley** lives in Australia. **David Holbrooke** is in California. **Sue Holbrooke** is in NYC. **Shari Syme** is in Victoria - last time we spoke she was a competitive synchronized swimming judge. **Rodger Walker** was out east - golf pro.; **Gary Brownridge** was in Michigan; **Hilda McNamara** (Dee Chenier) is a successful interior designer. **Bev Oda** was with Baton broadcasting (CFTO) and is retired in the Kawartha's. **Denny Atfield** ('61) has a bar in Nassau called the Sand Trap it's a sports bar. He lived in Nassau off and on for the last 30 years. He has got 2 boys who live in Fla. **Hal McKay** is retired in Mississauga. He is the organist and church choirmaster. **Louis Silcox** ('65) a school principal who was the head of the Youth Science Federation Canada. Sue finally found a really nice letter received in 1991 from **Alice (Ayer) Drader** ('65). At that time Alice was working for Theatre Direct Canada in Toronto, having previously taught for thirteen years. **Mr. Gordon MacFarlane** is retired; he lives in Toronto and has been delivering lectures on art and architecture to various groups in the province. I know he did a series of lectures up in Barrie at Georgian college in their Continuing Education division and he has delivered some in Continuing Education at Ryerson. He also has led some architectural walks/talks in Toronto. I believe **Bev Cronmiller** (Zeigel) (girls phys ed teacher) has also recently retired and she lives in Oakville.

Bear Story by **Doug Edward** ('64)- We're on Wolf Lake, which is on the south border of Algonquin, just outside the park but just inside the no development or "buffer" zone. We bought there (before buying a home) because of the setting - tons of uninhabited lakes to portage into and spend one to several days at, tons of wilderness to explore, tons of wild animals (had a rogue "park" bear - a boar about 350 lbs. on our deck last week - ever since they stopped the spring bear hunt we've had to deal with the odd bear), etc. GREAT fishing.

Hockey Memories by **Doug Edward** (1964) -I played with the group that included **Keith Greeniaus, Ken Wills, Larry Stirling, Rolf Kielman, Mike Pinkoski, Barry Ward**, etc. from the Clarkson area, until we couldn't get enough players. (I remember the time we had three teams from Michigan at Port Credit Arena for games against three Clarkson area teams - we beat the Michigan State Champs in our age group 3 - 1 - **Bart Crashley**, who went on to play for Detroit Red Wings, played in the age bracket above ours, and dazzled them.) Then we merged with a group from Lorne Park under the Lorne Park green and

Spartan Stuff

1957—1964—(cont.)

gold colours and played in that short-lived Mississauga Junior C League - guys like **Danny Higashi**, **Dean Oldershaw** (the Olympic paddler), **Glen Corbett**, **Rick Temporale**, etc. We even had a couple of guys from Port Credit, or the old Cloverleaf group, when we entered tournaments, like Max Hickox, and another guy whose surname started with an "N", and was from a pretty well known PC hockey family - full name escapes me. I'll see what I have

Garry Jasper ('63)– A little story about the sailboat he built in the GTA and took to Florida where he currently lives. Actually he and his wife Sharon are in Arizona where he is on a 3-year contract but his girls, in their late twenties, live in Florida. - On our boat trip to from Canada to Florida we got stopped twice - once in Vermont and again in Fort Lauderdale. The time in Vermont while on Lake Champlain they came along side while we where motoring. They did not stop us - just send one of their guys onboard as we kept on motoring. Sharon and I were talking to the officer on the upper deck when what should we hear, but Nicole our daughter yelling at the top of her lungs, from below that the PIGS are following us and are running right along side. That, for sure, was true: one on board, one running along side. I had to pop my head down below and tell her that they were on board as well. Same kind of stop, check the safety stuff and make sure we had a holding tank for the crapper, and that we were not just dumping the bad stuff over board. I must say the officer took it pretty well and did not give us a rough time over it. Pretty lucky I would say that time, just very embarrassing.

Jack Long – LPSS Teacher - Jack taught at LPSS from ' 59 - ' 67. He taught Phys. Ed. and Business and coached the football team during his years at LPSS. After leaving LPSS he finished his illustrious career at Bramalea S.S. retiring in 1981. Jack and Shirley moved to Oakville shortly after his retirement where they remained until 1995. Family was everything to Jack and Shirley, in order to be in close proximity to their grandchildren they moved to Georgetown. In retirement Jack continued to enjoy their cottage up in Haliburton where he spent many happy hours placing worms on hooks for his seven grandchildren, painting cartoon characters and his favorite, landscapes. Jack past away in December of 1999 at the age of 79. His son Jim Long is also a grad of LPSS ' 65 as well as his brother **Ralph (65)**. Jim started his teaching career at Bramalea and is currently at T.L.Kennedy. His subject area is Phys. Ed. and Mathematics. Thanks to Jane (Jim's wife) Roberts – Long. The Fraser brothers Tom (1960) & Colin are good friends of the Long's.

Peter Harvey ('63)- (lived in Park Royal) I went to 13 schools in 12 years. I was born in England, and came to BC, back to England, back to Canada, and finally ended up graduating at Santa Monica high School, California. I then went to Santa Monica College, then to Cal-Poly. I came back to BC in 1967, with my new US bride, and threw out the anchor. My in-laws lived in San Jose, Ca, and so for 35 years we have driven that road so much, that if you sing "Do you know the Way To San Jose?" I say "Blindfolded!"

John Richards – ('63) After LPSS, I went to The King's College, Briarcliff Manor NY just north of NY City. That's where I met Lynn, who hails from Connecticut. We got married in 1970. Following graduation, although I had job offers that could have kept me in the US, I chose to return to Toronto and go to work for the Royal Bank. It was either that or get drafted and be sent to Vietnam. In 1979, the RBC offered me a transfer to their New York Branch. We moved to New Jersey and until 1986 I worked in New York, 2 blocks from the World Trade Center. When I decided to leave the Royal, I took a job with a small bank in Connecticut where we raised our 3 kids. Michael, the oldest is an airline pilot for USAir. Daryl, lives near Savannah Georgia and works with computers. Anne-Marie is in her Junior (3rd) year at Georgia Tech. The bank that I joined in the CT was ultimately acquired by a North Carolina Bank, First Union, and in time I was offered this job in Atlanta. If you don't like 95 degree weather and 95 % humidity, June through November, you wouldn't like it here. Big time college football, the Braves and NASCAR racing, it doesn't get any better. My Mother lives in Guelph, so we get up to visit from time to time. David, my brother is still in Toronto, a retired High School principal. Phil, my other brother lives in Greenwich CT and is also retired.

1050 Chum – is back. – This radio station decided in 2001 to become a Sports only station. 16 months later they found their senses and returned to the Oldies. This station brings back lots of memories. This is a good conversation piece. Try it.

Thanks to Mary Lou, Pat, Colin, Leslie, Sue, Diane, Garry, Doug, John, Peter, Jane, Lynda, Bobby, & Frank Oda.

Spartan Stuff

1965—1969—David Crouse ('65) david.crouse@utoronto.ca

David Crouse ('65)

I live in Oakville, Ontario with my wife Jean. I have two children from my first marriage. Colin is 25 and finishing up his B.A. at the University in Guelph concentrating in psychology. Erin is 19 and is entering her second year at McGill majoring in music. Both are LPSS graduates. After high school I went to the University of Toronto and took my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Industrial Engineering. I then worked for about twenty-seven years specializing in project management and control, facilities management, and financial management and control. During the nineties, while working, I took a Bachelor's degree in interrelationships and behaviour from the U of T on a part-time basis. Knowing I wanted to do research, I then went back to school full-time for three years at the U of T and have just taken my Master's in Sociology, specializing in social ecology. This has lead me to two research appointments, one at U of T and one at the University of Waterloo. My main hobby is playing sax in the Mississauga Pops Concert Band, which comprises some 56 players.

Gayle Howard (Cunningham) ('65)

Gayle graduated from the Hospital for Sick Children School of Nursing in 1968 and worked at HSC until she married Dr. Pat Cunningham in 1974. She worked in her husband's General Practice office and took her B.A. from the University of Waterloo in 1987, and her M.H.S.C. from McMaster in 1989. Both Gayle and her husband are retired and live in Brantford. Her hobbies are: The Brantford Opera Guild, painting, gardening, and needlework. They have a Bichon Frise named "Diva".

Ole Kahl ('65)

Ole is presently living in Lorne Park (for 21 years). He is married to Barbara, who retired from teaching last November. They have a son and daughter who have also graduated from Lorne Park. Ole attended Wilfred Laurier (B.A.) and University of Toronto (M.Ed.), and worked for the Peel Board of Education as a teacher, vice-principal, and principal. From Ole, "I was fortunate to be able to retire and experience what they call "freedom 55", and am enjoying my "freedom" with travel, gardening, and golf".

Lynda Luker (Parsons) ('65)

Lynda lives in Edmonton happily married to Norman Parsons LPSS 1961. They have a recreational/retirement home in the rocky mountain foothills. Her father, Mr. Art Luker, used to own the Texaco service station on Lorne Park Road. Art, 80 years old, just purchased and drives a 750cc Honda Motorcycle. Lynda's brother is a retired school teacher living in Muskoka. Her other brother, Bobbie, has a car rental business in the Caribbean (thanks to Fred Hilditch for this bio).

Pat Raham (Carr) ('65)

Pat is married to Barry Carr, an Air Canada pilot, and they have two adult daughters. She is still in the nursing profession, having spent 29 years at the Brampton Hospital (now the William Osler Health Centre) and has just recently started at the Georgetown campus of the same WOHC. In Pat's words: " I am actively involved in charity work involving children with cancer. I have worked at an oncology camp for the past 11 years as the Arts & Crafts leader. This camp builds self-esteem and self confidence for those youngsters undergoing cancer treatments. I also have a group called "JUST FOR ME" and we make lap-sized quilts for the kids that are going into the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at the Hospital for Sick Children".

Dave Richards ('65)

From David: "Good to hear from you, Dave. My brother, Phil asked if I had heard from you just last week. He lives in Connecticut and was up for a few days. We were playing golf and, naturally, remembering our friends at Lorne Park. I told him that I hadn't seen you since the early 80's when we met at a marathon. I was Headmaster of Kingsway College School in Etobicoke when I retired last year. I was there for 4 years after working as a principal in the public system. My wife, Jan, and I own a sailboat that we cruise and race on Lake Ontario. I am living in Toronto. I have a son and daughter, both married, from my first marriage. Phil is also retired. My older brother, John, is still with a bank in Atlanta, Georgia".

Spartan Stuff

1970—1974—Dana-Leigh Tisdale ('71) dtisdale@telusplanet.net

Greetings from 'snowy' Calgary!

Weather: Yes, it's snowing this a.m. Highways are closed due to whiteouts and so far today 75 accidents have been reported! -5° C today, and +12° C forecast for Thanksgiving Monday.

An apology is first on the agenda: "Saw the (July) newsletter; looks good except spelling; Davison not Davidson." Sorry, Jim!

Reunion: Due to illness, (I couldn't walk, nor talk last weekend!) I was unable to join those at the Reunion. **Bob Anderson ('71)** sent me this email:

Hi Dana; missed you at the re-union. Barry Carroll, Sue Thomas, Marg Streight, Jeff Brydon, and a few others from '71 showed, but no more than 6 or 7 from our year. Compared to the hundreds of others that showed, we were definitely under-represented. In spite of that, it was fun, and really good to see the old crowd. Lots of laughs, and I even got chatting with Mr. Auchincloss, remember him? Cheers! – Bob

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Bob Anderson ('71) – I married Barb Skrepnek of Yorkton in May of 1980. She had been a summer student at the Bay in Yorkton when we met there in 1978. I was a young manager there, having transferred from Prince Albert in Aug. 1977. We dated for 2 years while she attended the U of S, and following the wedding I lived in Weyburn for several more months while setting up the store, then transferred back to PA with Barb. Sarah was born that fall in PA, and Barb took a year off school, but we transferred to Saskatoon in 1981 so she could finish medical school, which she eventually did. David was born in 1983, and Heather in 1988. Barb is a local GP and works part time at the Circle Drive Medi Clinic at 8th St. and Circle Drive. Sarah, now 21 is in 4th year B.Sc at the U of S, and is planning to be an eye Doctor. She has her mother's academic ability, and is a good student. She's also an excellent pianist (gets *something* from her dad!) and highland dancer.

David is now 18 in 1st year Commerce at the U of S, and living at home. He is a very talented trumpet and bass player, and plays in a band called the Pinstrip Project; mostly jazz and swing. He's a good kid, but struggles a bit with the usual issues of that age-Calculus, girls, you know.....

Heather is my little sweetie. Well not so little now. At 13, she's growing up fast, and I wish sometimes she'd stay little, as she's our last child. Also talented musically, she's a good little pianist and sax player. I'm also teaching her fiddle, as she picks things up quickly and likes fiddle music.

NOTE FROM DANA-LEIGH: I had the privilege of seeing Bob in person several months ago. I was toying with the idea of switching from Telus to Shaw (internet) and since Bob is the Regional Manager for Shaw (for Saskatchewan), who better to ask? To my surprise, he emailed me back and told me 'he'd tell me in person'!!! As it turned out, he was coming to Calgary the very next day, and we had a wonderful evening of "do you remember when" ... sitting on the banks of the Bow River! (please note my change of email address below!!!)

I also want to mention that if you take time to look Bob's picture up in the The Key, you will know exactly what his son, David, looks like ... "chip off the old block" or "like father, like son".

Spartan Stuff

1970—1974—(cont.)

Dayle Bishop (Patriquin) ('71)

I am currently living in Norval, Ontario; a small hamlet sandwiched between Brampton to the east and Georgetown to the west and on the same Credit River that flows down to Port Credit. *I've been happily living in a small, old house (1867) for the past 6 months and spending my time drywalling, painting, painting, painting, wallpapering, and constantly fixing or having to get things fixed when I'm not at work! I'm still married to Dennis (high school sweetheart) but he has been working in Ottawa for the past 3 years, so we trade the 4-5 hour commute on weekends. He's been with Northern Electric/Northern Telecom/Nortel forever. Our 4 "children" have grown up. We have 5 grandchildren! I finally got the initiative to break out of Sesame Street when the youngest was 1 year old and went back to school but not in the Arts field.* Somehow this person that just could not get through Gr. 13 math with Mr. Kumala ended up in Engineering! Electrical field to boot.

Marilyn Buck (Barrett) ('71) is in Burlington now after being in Oakville all her married life (married 73). She is married to Rick who is a captain with the Oakville Fire dept. Jason just got married and her daughter Dawna is almost a teacher. (submitted by Laura (Cole) Grasset)

Laura Cole (Grasset) ('71)

Hello, after high school I worked as a legal assistant till 89. In 85 I got married and in 89 had my first child; the second one in 91 and the third in 96. I live in Oakville with my husband who is a lawyer in Toronto. Sorry, I didn't make it to the reunion really wanted to go but couldn't get there.....hope there is an update.

Jill Kimpson (formerly Jackman). Jill did not graduate from LPSS, but the class she was with throughout her high school years graduated in 1971. Jill lives in Canmore, AB and works with the Alberta government there. She has one son, Joss and is extremely proud of her new granddaughter, Brynn.

Graham Samuels ('71) has lived in Orangeville, Ontario for the past 14 years, Phys.Ed. Math Teacher at the Woodlands Secondary School in Mississauga, Principalship within the next 1-3 years; married 11 years to Ginette, Flight Attendant with Air Canada; daughter, 22 years old, free-lance Fashion Model, Marketing / Promotion Consultant.

Pearce Thomas ('71) - Graduated from Laurentian University 1975 (Bachelor of Social Work)

Married - Debra Jane Scott - Graduate of Clarkson 1972 - Graduated from Western 1976 (Occupational Therapy)

Married June 6, 1975 2 Children - Shayna (21 years old) and Cameron (18 years old)

Occupation - Attendance Counsellor (York Region District School Board)

Hobbies - an Extra in Movie work - I spend my summer in the background of movies - look for my arm in 'Driven'.

Greg Wolvett ('71) ~ I have lived in Barrie ON for the last 3 1/2 years and am waiting for my green card to move to Tampa Florida. If you look at my Web site you'll see I'm in the Golf business and Florida is better than Barrie at this time of year.

Pro-Putt Canada/Florida

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www.pro-putt.com

Dana-Leigh Tisdale ('71) as your LPSS rep, I am enjoying the opportunity to get (re)acquainted with more LPSS classmates. My challenge to you is: If you know where any of our classmates are, please encourage them to contact LPSSMatters@aol.com so that they can be included on our mailing list!!! (as well as www.classmates.com)

This is YOUR newsletter ... I would very much like to incorporate what you'd like to see in our 1970 – 1974 segment. For instance, if you're willing to share "where are you now", or have any suggestions, please email me at: dltisdale@shaw.ca (NEW EMAIL ADDRESS). I'm looking forward to hearing from you. 403/266-7270

Dana-Leigh Tisdale

LPSS Rep ~ 1970 to 1974

Spartan Stuff

1975—1979—Michelle Oliphant (Nolan) ('77) mnolan42@cogeco.ca

Michelle Oliphant (Nolan) ('77)

Well, well, I do believe that our years ruled at the Reunion!!! We had such a good turn out and definitely had the best time. True to our legend we partied all night long!! When I checked my e-mail Sunday morning I found the following message and photos from **Dave Boileau**, all the way from British Columbia. Please accept my apologies in advance for the incorrect spelling of names or misidentification. I tried my best to verify I had the correct information but if there are errors please let me know and I will get the photos republished with the correct names. Thanks

Michelle,

Here are a few photos I received tonight. Damn, I wish I was there for the reunion, it sounds like everybody had a blast. My brother Rick called me from the cell phone and passed the phone around to some of old friends from the reunion.

Dave Boileau (Ed. Note—because of file size restrictions, most of Dave's pictures are posted on the Reunions page of our LPSS alumni website.)



Sandy Fortune & Gord Kaitting



Leanne Holmes, Michelle Oliphant,
Michele Devereux, Brian Jones,
Pam Beatson, Joanne Golla



Nigel Brunson

Thanks for all your efforts...it was quite a night...Barb Sanderson 79'

***Please pass on to the organizers what an outstanding job they did. We had such a great time! Bob & Cathy (Standon) White
What a blast that was! Too bad we have to wait another 5 years for the next one. Pam Beatson***

Hi Michelle, Great reunion eh? I had a great time and saw many people I hadn't seen for awhile. The reunion was very well done. Doug Denison

My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the reunion on sat night so wish to thank everyone who put it all together. I thought it was excellent. Warmest regards, Michael Phillips, MBA

Due to the fact that the newsletter was published shortly after the Reunion a lot of people hadn't had time to get their photos developed. If anyone else any photos they would like to submit please e-mail them to me at mnolan42@cogeco.ca and I will submit them for the next newsletter.

FOOTBALL FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who helped support the Lorne Park Spartan Football program by purchasing t-shirts or helmets at the reunion on October 5. Spartan Football has a great tradition of support from alumni. This occasion was no exception, as the souvenir t-shirts were completely sold out. All the funds raised go directly to equipment for use by the Junior and Senior Football teams.

Our annual football banquet will be held on the first Tuesday in December and we are currently looking for sponsors who can provide door prizes. Your support, as always, will be greatly appreciated. Any alumni who are interested in supporting the football program in any way, can contact John Musselman at 905 278 6177 ext 756 or by e-mail at mussel@rogers.com.

John Musselman
Senior Head Coach

Scott Price
Junior Head Coach

Jason Kingdon
Senior Defensive Coordinator

Spartan Stuff

1975—1979—(cont.)

MARK OCTOBER 16TH ON YOUR CALENDER AND CATCH LPSS ALUMNI ON TV!!

Howdy howdy howdy

Let's see now. I'll be on OPEN MIKE WITH MIKE BULLARD on Oct. 16th. It's supposed to be live, so I guess it will air that night. I'm not sure what station it's on. I've got a dish, so I'm not cable friendly. I guess you'll have to look it up in the TV guide. I do know it's on the Comedy Channel so I guess I should actually watch the show once or twice just to see who this Mike Bullard guy is anyway.

I just hope I don't bomb. I was on THE OTHER HALF with Dick Clark in the spring, and I wasn't nervous until about 10 seconds before I went on. That figures, doesn't it. I would have made a great "Gravol" commercial lying in the fetal position in a pool of my own barf. (ah, but I regress)

Now that THE UGLY MAN.COM is history, (it was only a one year commitment) I'm now doing the "ugly man advice" from my e-mail. If you need advice on love, sex, or relationships or just want to say "hi ugly man", just type marktheuglyman@aol.com And you don't even have to be ugly.

Anywho, I've got to go. Someone from the show is supposed to phone and make sure I can speak English and that I don't druel on myself when I'm talking.

Tootles
Mark Patton
the ugly man - class of '77

1980—1984—Clarissa Stevens-Guille ('83) clarissaed@planet.nl

(note: I've had some help, specifically from Charmain Mullings and Lorraine Brisbois for 1983 grads)

1980

Suzanne Keen (Latime) works as a real estate agent specializing in Condo's for the downtown Toronto market. Her clients include mainly first-time homebuyers, or investors, as well as some empty nesters. This summer she's travelled to Finland, Sweden and Denmark. She is still keenly interested in music, attending many concerts. Suzanne can be contacted at 416-593-8882.

Bill MacGregor lives in Lorne Park with his wife, working as the Vice-Principal in a senior elementary school with the Peel District School Board.

1981

Howard Smith ('81) went on to Queen's University (BA Honours Economics '85). In April '85 he started his work career in advertising with McCann Erickson, moved to DDB Needham Advertising in '87, had a stint as an entrepreneur selling French gourmet food in '89 and then landed in marketing at Mattel Toys in '90. He has had various roles at Mattel and is now Vice President of Business Development & Operations.

Nancy Hagymasy (Mitchell) ('81) attended University of Toronto and graduated with a B.Sc. in 1987. I worked in the field of Human Resources for a few different organisations (retail and communications) in the greater Toronto area. In 1993 I met my husband to be, while he was visiting Toronto. Brian is from Scotland, however he was living and working in London, England. In 1995, we were married in Toronto and immediately moved to London. During our time in London, I again worked in H.R. for a small telecommunications company. In 1998, our fist child was born, a little girl, Lauren. In 2001, Brian accepted a position in New York City and so we migrated back across the Atlantic Ocean to Connecticut where we now reside. We are expecting our second child, a boy, due in mid October 2002. Special Events and Advertising for The Hudson Bay Company, Penny joined The Pampered Chef in 1996, a Direct Sales company featuring Chef quality kitchen tools. She can be contacted at pennychef@sympatico.ca

Spartan Stuff

~~1980—1984~~—(cont.)

Penny Roylance (Chmilar) ('81) graduated from University of Waterloo with a BA in '85, the same year she married. She and her husband have two children, A.J. who is 13 and Kelly who is 10. They live in Caledon Hills. With a background in Special Events and Advertising for The Hudson Bay Company, Penny joined The Pampered Chef in 1996, a Direct Sales company featuring Chef quality kitchen tools. She can be contacted at pennychef@sympatico.ca

1982

Since graduating from LPSS, **Andrea Law** completed her BA at McMaster University & has gone on to start her MBA at Dalhousie University. She has been working with Royal Bank of Canada for the past 20 years, completing her Financial Planning accreditation. Currently, Andrea is a Project Manager supporting all of Ontario. She is now going on her first maternity leave (baby is due any day now!). She & her husband Marc are very excited! Andrea is at allaw@rogers.com.

1983

Lorraine Brisbois graduated from LPSS and moved south to enjoy the sunshine of Mexico. She eventually returned to Toronto she commenced her study in the world of tourism. For the past 20 years she has been working in the travel industry for some of the larger tour operators and airline partners. Currently she is the Sales and Business Development Manager with Sunwing by Red Seal Vacations and says that she's still laughing and smiling and that life is good!

Charmain Mullings (Emerson) ('83) hasn't strayed too far from the career goals she set for herself in the LP yearbook. After a number of years in broadcast journalism which included on-air positions at CBC radio and Canwest Global, Charmain has now focused her communications skills in the area of public relations. She is currently VP of new business development at Fleishman-Hillard Canada.

After receiving a degree in Economics from the University of Western Ontario, **Christine Quintal** spent nine years in institutional equity sales for CIBC World Markets in Toronto. In 2000, she moved to San Francisco to join Thomas Weisel Partners as a Principal, where she remains today.

Anne Russell (Nye) no longer works in the dental field but now works as a Production Assistant in a Mississauga Cookie Dough manufacturer. She is married with a 3 ½ year old daughter, and now lives in Brampton.

Since graduating from Lorne Park Secondary in 1983, **Richard Whelan** (known mostly as "Rich") has been busy in the financial world. He's worked with a number of institutions including TD Capital Markets, CIBC World Markets and the Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan. Tired of working for others and armed with enough knowledge and expertise, Rich is now a principal partner at PARC Capital Management Limited located in the heart of Canada's financial capital....Toronto where his Bay Street office is located.

1984

Michael Crooks ('84) lives in Ottawa with his wife and two young sons. He currently works in the sales and marketing department of Brogan Inc., a consulting company that specializes in pharmaceutical industry.

Peter Marshall (peter@marshalltaylor.ca) Received Bachelor of Fine Arts, Specialized Honours in Film from York University in 1988. I have been working in corporate communications pretty much since graduating from university, first in video production then moving into live event production. I have lived in Toronto since high school and have been with my partner Brandon since 1998. If you're interested in knowing more, check out my website at www.marshalltaylor.ca

Alison Reid ('84) has spent a great deal of her post graduating years working in the Marketing and product development world for a number of companies including Aris Isotoner and Calvin Klein. Alison is now taking a breather spending more time with family and friends.

Clarissa Stevens-Guille ('84) moved to Amsterdam over 14 years ago to live with her Dutch husband. After a diverse career that included obtaining a Masters in Marketing and starting up a consultancy and then a retail business, she moved into telecommunications. After 7 years of working in marketing and sales positions within a global telecoms provider she was made redundant. Now she's looking for a new challenge and filling her time writing a novel and being the contact person for LPSS years 80-84. She can be contacted for updates and info at clarissaed@planet.nl.

Spartan Stuff

1980—1984 (cont.)

Libby Wildman from the graduating class of '84 is currently living in Toronto. Libby has worked in both the insurance and financial world for the past two decades. Her success has resulted in the establishment of Wildman & Associates a full wealth management firm.

Kelly Greenwood (Levson) ('84) is still living in the Toronto area, recently relocated to Richmond Hill with her husband and 2 year old daughter. Kelly graduated from Queen's University with a BAH in Communications and established a career in media, marketing and research working for various ad agencies, daily newspaper organizations and most recently Yahoo! Canada. After a few years of working too many long hours at Yahoo! she recently started her own consulting business. You can keep in touch with Kelly at klevson@sympatico.ca.

CLASS OF '84



Back row: Tad Brown, Tracy MacTaggart, Laura Falby, Jane MacNaughton, Dave Sanderson, Simon Roberts

Middle row: Jennifer Marley, Fiona Harvey, Tilla She (friend of '84), Martha Glisky, Janet Kay, Michelle Darvill, Jody Pilbeam, Kerry Guilday, Erica Murray, Susan Hayworth, Brian Blenkarn, Kyle Anderson

Bottom row: Ken McCord, Casey Krivy, Kelly Greenwood, Ruth Butt, Peter Marshall

Missing from photo but not from reunion : Tiffany Leger, Odette Peek (we think) and a third person that we just don't know who that is.

Spartan Stuff

1985—1989—Rob Boyce ('88) rob.boyko@maketechnologies.com

1990—1994—Natasha Blair (Lemire-Blair) ('92) tash@abstrakt.org

1995—1999—Robbie Owen ('98) rsowen@hotmail.com

A tinge of depression taints the crisp air. The darkening mornings force you to squint as the bathroom light turns on. The days grow shorter, as does your hope of warmer weather. It appears the beauty of fall is here. Let's check in with our spartan crew to see what's going on. Nothing. Yes, that's right, nothing. But such should be expected from a generation so tangled in lack of identity that we don't even have any sort of pop reference. Gen X, baby boomers...sure, those nick names are pretty empty in their own right, but to not even have one of our own? Well, that's just pathetic. But we're happy being nameless and pathetic. Expectations are at an all time low. Nothing is what we're know as, and nothing's what we're doing.

This is Robbie Owen saying goodbye. I'll check back in for the next issue with updated unemployment figures!

*special note to those who graduated in approximately 1970-1980. Don't expect us to pay for your medical transfers.

2000—2004—Correspondent needed



This picture is taken from the official Opening of Lorne Park Secondary School, Friday, March 7th, 1958.

Foreground -- Mike Cooper and Mary Lou May
Background -- Peter Lindsay and Nancy Bird

Fred Hilditch ('63)



and finally...



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Please direct correspondence for *LPSS Matters* to LPSSMatters@aol.com

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally he decided the animal was old and the well needed to be covered up anyway, it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey. He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well.

At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement, he quieted down. A few shovel loads later, the farmer finally looked down the well and was astonished at what he saw. With every shovel of dirt

that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up.

As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted off.

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up!