



LPSS Matters

Official Alumni Newsletter of Lorne Park Secondary School

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February 2010

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www.LPSSMatters.com

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Next Edition— June 10

Please email your news, thoughts, ideas, etc:

editor@lpssmatters.com

Dear Grads,

Wow!

Who would imagine that we are starting our 10th year here at LPSS Matters.

How time flies. I wonder how many air miles time has and if time is the reason I keep getting turned down when I try to upgrade my cheap seat in to business class? What does time look like and does he / she have only carry on? Ah, too many questions and not enough time for answers. Time just keeps on flying.

Hope 2010 has started off well for you. I am sure it will present some interesting challenges but if I have learned anything over the years it is that LPSS grads always find a way to get it done and to tackle life's most unique situations spectacularly.

Hard to believe though that 10 years have passed since a small band of LPSS grads sat down and thought it might be cool to create a newsletter to help reconnect all of us who passed through the door of this wonderful high school.

Great memories to be sure and great opportunities to explore life with all its many faces.

Appropriate time as well to say thanks. Thanks to those who helped kick this off, thanks to Maknet for their wonderful support, direction and platform to make all this possible, thanks to our current and past staff at LPSS Matters for putting in the hours to bring this news and these stories to you and thanks to you for your continued interest in this newsletter and your kind letters over the years.

Here's to 10 more great years!

Michael Phillips ('76)
Editor—LPSS Matters



With my lovely wife



Time to start flippin the pages!



February may be the shortest month of the year, but it plays host to so many significant and special occasions... especially this year! Recently all eyes were on Vancouver, Canada for the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. The solidarity and patriotism was almost palpable as Canadians united and collectively hoped for and received their first gold medal on home soil!

Family Day is a relatively new addition to the February calendar in some areas of the country offering us a chance to relax and re-connect with our kids. It's a welcomed mid-winter reprieve that is much needed in our stressful and busy lives.

The whole week of Feb. 15th is reserved for *Random Acts of Kindness* week whose participants agree that doing a good deed for another not only helps the other person feel good, but makes us feel good too!

We also have the opportunity to sway from our non-carb eating ways, by indulging in the traditional Shrove Tuesday fare of pancakes while others will be kicking up their heels at Mardi Gras which is sure to be even bigger this year with their home team so deservedly winning the Super Bowl!

Many florists probably didn't get much sleep mid-month as they busily pruned, wrapped and delivered the myriad of roses that were on order for Valentine's Day...*aka Love Day!*

Ahhhh Love...it can be quite an abstract concept to explain. Is it a feeling...an action...an experience...a thing? The age old question arises, what is love anyway?

Its intangible nature feels its way to capture the attention of our hearts as we read novels of passionate love, listen to the lyrics and melodies of songs weaving in the musician's experience of the joys of fulfillment or the pain of unrequited love, and watch romantic movies evoking a warm and fuzzy or empty feeling in our hearts, depending where we are with respect to love and relationships at that moment.

Love can be expressed so many different ways, and a perfect example of this was clearly demonstrated from many corners of the world just shortly after we ushered in this new decade.

The experience of profound devastation and continuous emotional and physical pain endured by our earthquake stricken neighbours to the south has evoked levels of caring, concern, love and compassion from the rest of the world on a scale that far exceeds the seismic magnitude of the quake itself.

From the generous outpouring of compassion and support for the people of Haiti to the theme of the top grossing Golden Globe best motion picture, *Avatar*, the message is clear – we are all connected as human beings – one universal family. Movies...natural disasters – they inspire us to awaken to the capacity of love and compassion that exists within each of us, perhaps beyond how we would relate to one another on any given day.

Even amidst the financial crisis and economic calamity that many families are facing, we see people digging deep – not only into their hearts but into their pockets.

Through these experiences we become transformed and receive a huge gift...the connection to a deeper part of ourselves that we can model and share with our immediate families and communities.

Our children watch as we extend this love, compassion and aid to these thought-to-be strangers...maybe even saying a prayer – a simple, yet profoundly powerful means of support.

However, sometimes we forget. We can lose our perspective, unconsciously mistreating those around us, having allowed the stresses of normal life close the door that had been opened to living and behaving from the biggest part of our heart.

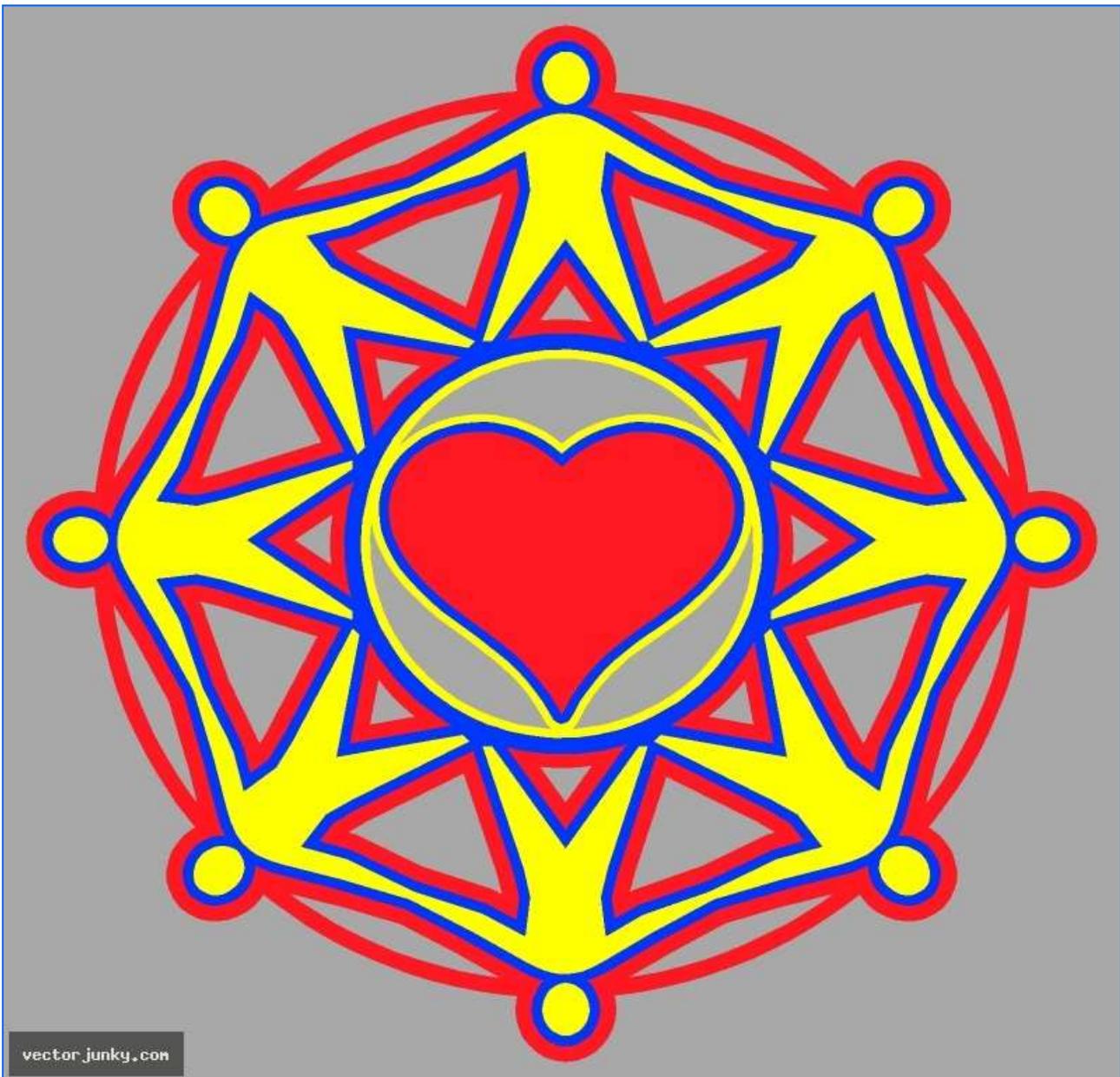
This tragic event has captivated global attention, it can also be a source of inspiration for all of us individually; reminding us that we have the capacity to 'dig deep', not only when crises happen within our universal family but how we relate to one another everyday; whether it be with strangers or those living under the same roof as us.

Our hearts go out to those in Haiti who are gratefully receiving the help they need now, and as one of the poorest countries, always did.

It's like the world is now saying, "I **see** you."

Much love, compassion & peace for you and your family in 2010! Jo-Anne

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As an awareness coach, emotional fitness trainer, author and speaker, Jo-Anne Cutler is passionately committed to bridging the energy, communication and connection gap between kids and their parents. By being aware of how cycles of disconnected behaviours impact our children and our relationship with them, we can shift what we are unconsciously teaching them by example and can inspire a new legacy of parenting for generations to come! For more information please visit [www.theparentingshift.com](http://www.theparentingshift.com) and you can also follow Jo-Anne on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/awarenconnected/) , [www.twitter.com/awarenconnected/](http://www.twitter.com/awarenconnected/) .





## The Doctor Will NOT See You Now

Fred and Muriel Davis had been among Dr. David Campbell's very first patients. Over the past fifty years the office furniture and receptionists have changed, but Dr. Campbell's detailed knowledge and sincere interest in their well-being has been constant. When they received written notice that he was retiring, they called to congratulate him, asking who was taking over his practice. "No one – there just aren't enough doctors going into family practice". The notice stated they had six months to find another doctor. Is that fair, and how will they find a new doctor?

### ***When a Family Physician Ceases Practice***

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has strict guidelines for retiring doctors:

- the physician is only expected to notify those patients to whom they are **actively providing care**; and should remind patients where they can go to obtain emergency or urgent care
- the physician must make appropriate arrangements for either the retention or transfer of patient medical records, and give patients information to access their medical records
- the physician should try to ensure that patients requiring ongoing care (in hospital or care facilities, or post-operative follow-up) will continue to receive necessary care
- the physician should attempt to facilitate patient access to prescription medication required for long-term or chronic conditions by providing the patient with renewals or repeats of the required medication

By providing reasonable notice, attaching a list of local walk-in clinics, Emergency departments and Telephone Health Advisory Service (1-866-553-7205), and meeting with patients regarding medication orders, Dr. Campbell has acted within the College's guidelines. But is this really enough support for a typical senior?

### ***Who is Accepting New Patients in My Area?***

The first option is to ask the retiring doctor for recommendations. Since all patients will be relocating, ask the staff where other patients are transferring. Ask friends, colleagues and the local hospital for names – but remember, your search will be confined to those physicians **accepting new patients**.

Consult the College of Physicians and Surgeons' **Doctor Search Service** at (416) 967-2603 / (800) 268-7096 ext. 306 / [www.cpsso.on.ca](http://www.cpsso.on.ca)/doctor search. Search for family doctors in your area who are accepting new patients; or do an advanced search for geriatric medicine specialists or doctors attached to specific hospitals. While the menu lists virtually all communities in Ontario, smaller communities may elicit '*We are unable to locate any physicians that match your search criteria*'. The website also warns that:

- the College cannot guarantee that any doctor will be accepting new patients; call the doctor's office directly to confirm
- this service cannot tell you whether a physician performs a particular procedure or has expertise in a particular area
- in some communities, there are no doctors currently accepting new patients, so widen your search to neighboring or larger communities

### ***Evaluating Your Options***

Once you have a list of who is accepting new patients, do some research. Call the doctor's office – a challenge in itself sometimes! – and ask the office manager:

- how old is the doctor, and how long have they been in practice?
  - o to be sure your new doctor won't be retiring soon
- does the doctor have other seniors as patients?
  - o to get a sense of whether senior patients, who may take up more office time, are indeed welcome in this practice
- what are the major services of this family practice?
  - o one senior recently signed on with a new family doctor, only to find the office teeming with flyers promoting her Botox injection services!
- where is the office?
  - o is it convenient to the home, is there appropriate parking or transit access
- is the office accessible?
  - o this will be important someday, even if it isn't right now. One geriatrician, who practices from a small house, assured patients there were wheelchair facilities - but there are 8 steps leading to the front door!

Try to join a group practice, so you may see any physician in the group without having to wait to see a certain one. Inquire about after-hours policy, laboratory services and their hospital privileges.

### ***Making a Choice***

Once you have developed a short-list of three to five names, book an appointment:

- observe the waiting room – the staff, how they treat other patients and other seniors; the number of patients waiting, the wait time, and the general atmosphere
- meet with the doctor; explain your mission and gauge their response – do they listen? do they seem interested and motivated to take you as a patient?

Review your mental check-list, listen to your instincts, make your choice and have your files transferred. Congratulations!

It may seem like six months is plenty of time, but finding the right combination for you will take time. Since this will be one of most important relationships in the coming years, invest the time and effort to make best choice.





“Into the Unknown” - Lynn Jenkins (Stevenson) ('71)  
Www.marylynnstevenson.com

Into the Unknown

Predictions for 2010

As we begin a new year there is always that looming question “I wonder what kind of year this will be?”

As I sat focusing on the upcoming events of 2010 my thoughts started to wander and I realized that sometimes we are so concerned with what may or may not happen that we forget to live in the present. There are times we need to revisit our past, not to focus on old problems or to get caught up in what might have been, but to take a look at our accomplishments in life. Sometimes we just need to be reminded of our inner child.

It then dawned on me that my guides were indeed giving me a prediction for this year. 2010 is a year to look at our past. Not to dwell there, just time enough to remember. So often we put our focus on our failures and our fears and forget to look at our accomplishments. If you succeeded once, you can succeed again. Perhaps there is something you wanted to do but never got around to it. Life gets in the way and becomes an excuse for not doing something when it is really fear that is holding us back.

2010 is a year of growth and expansion, but do be careful, too much expansion too quickly can bring about bankruptcy. Moderation is important at the beginning of this year. It is the year to follow your dreams. Time to take that step you have always wanted to but been afraid to.

2010 is a year about you. It is about taking a good look at yourself and if you are not happy with what you see, it is time to make the changes. I recently read a quote by Jimmy Dean “*I cannot change the wind, but I can change the direction of my sails*”. How true a quote this is, only you can make the changes you want in your life. Winston Churchill once said “*You are the artist; it is up to you to create the life you desire.*”

As you re-examine your past you will find the courage to move forward. As you look at some of your mistakes, you will have an ‘aha’ moment as new ideas quickly develop in your mind.

The economy will become stronger this year particularly towards the end of June. In the latter half of the year the job market will open up and new opportunities will arise.

There will be a takeover involving two major companies that will be brought to the public eye and raise many an eyebrow as to the legitimacy behind it.

The political arena will continue to be the circus it has become over the past years. More scandals will come to light, some involving Harper himself. An assassination attempt will be made on a political figure.

This is a year to discard clutter from your life, to let go of old fears and old hurts. It is a year to get rid of what is not necessary in your life to make room for the new and the positive that is coming your way. As opportunities arise, it is up to you whether or not you go after them.

Have a wonderful 2010 and remember to believe in yourself and have the faith to make your dreams come true.

## LPSS Grads Making News — Marlene Kadar ('69)

Lorne Park grad, York University Professor and sister of the late Elliott Kadar ('72), (1953—2009), Marlene Kadar was recently named one of Canada's most powerful women in the category of trailblazers and trendsetters by the Women's Executive Network (WXN), an advocacy organization for women in the workplace. Kadar was one of 100 top female winners chosen in eight categories from across Canada and honoured at an awards ceremony at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Kadar's inclusion in Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 by WXN recognizes her work in forging a new path for autobiography. "I'm honoured by this award and especially honoured to receive it in such distinguished company," she says. Among the honourees in her category are former prime minister Kim Campbell, former United Nations high commissioner for human rights Louise Arbour and journalist Ann Medina.

"I began my career with the belief that ordinary women and girls had stories to tell about their lives that made contributions to the history of knowledge that we, until that point, had not been able to accept fully, especially in comparative literary studies." Kadar now scours archival records and oral histories in search of what she calls traces or fragments of individual lives. She focuses on the private, personal experience of individuals within the broader context of the public, historical record.

Kadar has visited so many archives over the past 10 years, she has lost track. "I began my research in 1980 at the Houghton Library at Harvard where I was the first woman given access to Leon Trotsky's exile papers, which had been closed until Jan. 2, 1980," she says. That's where everything started for her, including her work on Frida Kahlo, the great Mexican painter and one of Leon Trotsky's lovers. "Hers is a good example of a life that was hidden and that we had to excavate from the history that was embedded in that archive," she says. "Archives are mysterious places because you often don't know what your research will be about until you've lived in there for awhile."

Over the years, Kadar has developed a particular interest in the lives of Roma women and girls incarcerated in Ravensbrück Concentration Camp during the Second World War, a Nazi camp for women and girls many of which were Roma.

Marlene is the 5th woman from the right



Thanks to David Wallace, communications coordinator, Faculty of Arts York University  
[www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?article=11794](http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?article=11794)

## Letters and Stuff! We Need Your Help — Please Read Below

Dear Michael,

I wanted to drop you another line to let you know that I am still slowly gathering data for the book on the history of Lorne Park Football.

I spent time this past November scanning all the football photos from all the yearbooks from 1957 onwards, as the school allowed me access to their archives. This exercise has helped me gather about 60-70% of the raw data needed (i.e. teams, players names, team photos, etc).

I am also scheduling some "meet and greets" with current and former coaches and players who have already advised of their interest in sharing their stories and pictures for the book.

In the next edition of the newsletter, can you **please send out a note to the alumni to ask them to send me what they have**. Specifically I need pictures (scanned photos from games, banquets, screen shots from video's, wtc), newspaper clippings and game details/stories, and game records. scores, etc, from the 50's, 60's and 70's and 80's.

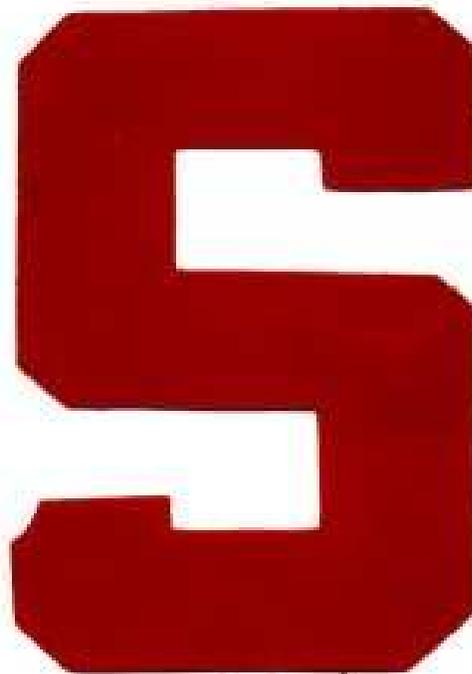
Please advise if you have any questions or comments regarding the progress on the book. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Best Regards,

David J. MacNeil  
LPSS Class of 1991  
lpssfootballhistory@gmail.com

Let's get David the info he needs so he can complete this most interesting project. I cannot wait to see it and I bet that is the same for many of you.

(Editor insert)



## We Remember...

Gary Brownridge ('62)

Carol Cuthbert (Brooks) ('66)

Rob Adlam ('67)

Kerry Greer ('69)

Barry Carroll ('71)

Howard Barlow ('73)

Patricia Janet Harrison (Deighton) ('75)

"Did you ever know that you're my hero,  
and everything I would like to be?  
I can fly higher than an eagle,  
'cause you are the wind beneath my wings."

Rest in peace



# Past Reunion Events— 77- 81'ers Meet, Mix and Mingle—Good Times!



Bill Nygren



Craig Nogas, Lianne Newby



Shelley Snell, Bill Nygren



L2R— Debbie Rossetti, Sandi Legault, Kim Baldwin, Lorna Bartholomew,



John Sorokolit, Sue Pipher

Reunion Party 1977- 1981 - Saturday, October 24, 2009

Well, we all had a great time at Fogo, a fabulous new lounge in Clarkson, with well over 100 alumni out! The atmosphere, the cocktails, and most of all - the company - were exceptional! The feedback from those who were there (and even from those who weren't there!) was a resounding "let's do it again in a couple of years."

What a great way to spend a Saturday night - rekindling old...and even starting new friendships! Check out the photos - they speak for themselves!

Liz McElheran '80



Debbie Rossetti



Harold Chataway, Lianne Newby, Karim Kolia



Joe Axiak



Harold Chataway, Jane Darragh, Karim Kolia



Jane Darragh, Joanne Suffield



Kim Dawson, Liz McElheran



Michelle Devereaux, Jami Hawlik



L2R, Jane Darragh, Liz McElheran, Kim Dawson, Shelley Snell, Kathy Strome

# Past Reunion Events— 77-81'ers Meet, Mix and Mingle—Good Times!



Lorna Bartholomew, Kim Baldwin



Rankine McKenzie, Ted Aiton



Liz McElheran, Ted Taylor



Sandi Legault, Joe Fiorino



Russ Smith, Mike Taylor



Rankine McKenzie, Craig Nogas



Mike Taylor, Debbie Rossetti



Michelle Oliphant, Michelle Devereaux, Jami Hawlick



Sue Pipher, Leanne Newby, Ginny Kent—  
Lemon, Maureen Garvagh



Steve Finlay, Shelley Snell, Bill  
Nygren, Liz McElheran, Russ



Ted Taylor, Steve Finlay

**1957—1964** Fred Hilditch ('63) - [fred@businessdata.on.ca](mailto:fred@businessdata.on.ca)



## Memories of the Premiere Class Era 1957 to 1964 - Fred Hilditch 1963 January - 2010 – Twenty-Seventh Edition

From Art: I don't take credit for any of this, and I'm certainly not a farmer. However, I did enjoy it, and did reflect on some of the comments.

### An Old Farmer's Advice:

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.  
 Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.  
 Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.  
 A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.  
 Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.  
 Meanness don't just happen overnight.  
 Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.  
 Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.  
 It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.  
 You cannot unsay a cruel word.  
 Every path has a few puddles.  
 When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.  
 The best sermons are lived, not preached.  
 Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.  
 Don't judge folks by their relatives.  
 Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.  
 Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.  
 Don't interfere with something that ain't bothering you none.  
 Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain dance.  
 If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.  
 Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.  
 The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every morning.  
 Always drink upstream from the herd.  
 Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.  
 Letting the cat out the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in.  
 If you get to thinking' you're a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around.

**Barbara Gilday LPSS 63** - celebrated her 65th birthday by jumping out of an airplane at 14,000 feet. What a trip! Who



says aging can't be fun? Rev. Barbara J. Gilday,

**Cathy Abbs LPSS 1968** - The Newsletter I enjoyed it very much Fred. In the 2nd picture, the kindergarten teacher's name is Mrs. Bird I had her for kindergarten. Shortly after teaching kindergarten (may be few years - time goes by quickly) she opened a fabric store in the Oakville Plaza near Trafalgar & QEW and had it for many years. Also, Ms Spears is my aunt. She married my Uncle Alan Harmer. I didn't realize she taught there for a short time (3 years). Apparently she taught my cousin's class - Jim Crozier (recently deceased) physical education at the Clarkson Public School - before I got there.

**Pat (Buckland) Moore LPSS 1964** - What wonderful pictures and it looks like you covered a lot of territory! Glad the weather wasn't too bad for your visit. I just had my knee replacement on the 19th and got home yesterday. I've got 37 staples in it. I had a wonderful roommate, so we kept each other laughing in between the pain, etc. We'll be keeping in touch. This is her 2nd knee she's had done. It's quite something to hear the saws, scrapers, smell the cement, and feel the pounding of the hammer. It moved my body, but I didn't feel the pain. After they lowered the divider I watched them wrap my leg. It moved as they worked on it, but I couldn't feel anything. That wasn't my leg. Must belong to someone else. The pain after the freezing came out wasn't nice, but we were overdosed with pain killers and at that stage, you really couldn't care less. Don's a great nurse to me at home, but it hurts his back with all the stuff he's had to do. We're just getting on to a routine, then it will be better. My roommate said the first 3 weeks there's pain and after that things settle down. I just have to make sure I don't overdo it (like I feel like that right now!). Hope all is well with you both and again, I'm so glad you stopped in! Keep in touch. I visited Pat last Oct when we were out in Alberta for a wedding in Canmore. Don, her husband helps his son with 11 quarters of land, a quarter (160 acres) equals a quarter of a section, a section of land equal to one square mile (2.59 square kilometers), 640 acres, or 1/36 of a township. So you could say the land is 2 3/4 miles square. That is a whole lot of land.



Am I a Fireman yet? (True story)- Maybe - but according to the internet it happened in Phoenix and Australia, not Calgary and my cousin's wife says the same story is in one of the Chicken Soups for the Soul. Good Story and I call it Plausible. Here are some comments that I got back from it. LPSSer - Awesome Fred: Thanks for forwarding it. Hope all is going well for you. Our daughter (41) had her first child on Dec. 15th and presented us with twins. We're all having a great time. Customer - Good morning Fred. That was a very touching story. Thank you. It makes us appreciate what we have even more. Associate - Fred...thanks for sharing. Brought a tear to my eye also. Wife's Friend - OMG that was very nice.. thanks for sharing. Fellow Baseball player Hi Fred, Thanks for the great story. It brought a tear to my eye, and thought about my mom, she mentioned to a nurse before she died the exact thing Billy said at the end. Jesus was with her all day and extended his hand.



Port Credit River Railway Bridge, The Frozen Port Credit River N of the Tracks, and the Port Credit Arena





The new PC bridge on the north side will help the GO Train traffic move more safely. The installation, part of a seven-year, \$385-million joint initiative of provincial and federal governments to improve GO service, took place over six hours in the early morning, and was meticulously orchestrated to minimize disruption to GO service. The third set of tracks is being added to the existing two-lane bridge. In a press release, federal Minister of Transport Lawrence Cannon said, "the installation of this third track will help cut commute times for passengers and improve the efficiency of this important commuting option." Construction on this section of the line began in April 2007, and is expected to be completed by November 2009. It's part of a bigger expansion between the Port Credit station and the Kerr St. depot in Oakville. I remember skating under the bridge in the early 60's when we had winter carnivals with the area high schools. Of particular memory was the crash of our LPSS team that was winning the chariot race. When we were exiting the turnaround pylons while another team was just entering the turnaround. I think I was out for a minute or so. The carnival was held north of the tracks. Port Credit Arena turned 50 in October. The arena opened in 1959 as Mississauga's first municipal indoor rink and today is the oldest city arena still in use. In 2010, the arena will undergo renovations that will provide more space for visitors and teams, while retaining most of the building's original architecture. Streetsville arena is about the same age and has been already renovated. The entrance for the renovated Port Credit arena will be from the parking lot.

**Lawrie Hignell LPSS 64 – ReAcQuaintances** - Ever since my attendance at the 2007 Lorne Park Secondary School 50th anniversary celebrations, I have had the opportunity to track down various high school friends, whom I had lost touch with when I moved west (U of A-Edmonton) and taught high school math for 39 years there. My most recent acquaintance, was with Fred Hilditch ('63), at his cottage in the Muskoka area, on Jan 2. I had played hockey with Fred and his brother John, ('64) both on a team, as well as many hours in the basement of the Hilditch home on Balsam Ave in Clarkson (practising our slapshots against the cement wall), and on the frozen 'slough' on the other side of the tracks. Fred was a much better player than me, so when I got to visit him and his family this past month, it was great to see a large hockey rink shovelled on the ice in front of their cottage, and a pick-up game going on in the bright sunny cold weather. It was great to see Fred again, share several beers, cigars, and rum and cokes, and meet his good wife Diane, and daughter Brooke (a Team Canada women's rugby player, as well as a chemistry teacher at Erindale Secondary School) as we reminisced of our times together in Clarkson. I look forward to seeing them again this summer, and a return visit when the weather is much warmer, and the only ice is in our drinks on the dock.



**Pat (Buckland) Moore LPSS 1964** - has been keeping in touch with some of her Clarkson friends from way back. She has been corresponding with Des Taylor and his wife who live in New Zealand. It sounds like a wonderful place to live. Of course she's in constant contact with Sharon Christie Tosswill where she stayed for the LPSS Reunion. Fred Hilditch and his wife stopped in at Pat & Don's home in Elnora, Alberta during the summer on their way to see the mountains. Pat had a knee replacement in October and is healing nicely, although not quickly enough for her. She hopes to get the other one done next year. Pat's Mom, Ruth Moore, from Winnipeg, came to spend 3 weeks including Christmas and they had a great time. Pat's sister, Judy and Judy's daughter, Sarah, and grandson, Diesel, also came down from Edmonton for a week. It was one of the best Christmas holidays ever. Don was very attentive to Pat and her Mom - Ruth has a walker and Pat has a cane. Lots of fun. Many card games were played, they all ate too much, etc. You know how it goes. Pat would love to hear from more LPSS people through her email address [mocow43@platinum.ca](mailto:mocow43@platinum.ca) All the best to everyone.

Comments made in the year 1955! That's only 55 years ago!

'I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$10.'

'Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$1, 000.00 will only buy a used one.'

'If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit. 20 cents a pack is ridiculous.'

'Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging 7 cents just to mail a letter?'

'If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store.'

'When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 25 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage.'

'I'm afraid to send my kids to the movies any more. Ever since they let Clark Gable get by with saying DAMN in GONE WITH THE WIND, it seems every new movie has either HELL or DAMN in it.'

'I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down in Texas.'

'Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$50,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the President.'

'It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet.'

'It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work.'

'I'm afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business.'

'Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the Government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to government.'

'The drive-in restaurant is convenient in nice weather, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on.'

'There is no sense going on short trips anymore for a weekend, it costs nearly \$2.00 a night to stay in a hotel.'

'No one can afford to be sick anymore, at \$15.00 a day in the hospital, it's too rich for my blood.'

'If they think I'll pay 30 cents for a hair cut, forget it.'

Thanks to: Pat x2, Art x2, Lawrie, Jane, Cathy, Sharon.

## The 1965-1969 REPORT



Lyndell (Kerr) McNabb '66, Ray Riddell '66  
and Jane Boyd '66



Guess Who??



Nancy Simmons '66 and Bob Connely '66



Jane (Smith) Connely '66 - [jbconnely@hotmail.com](mailto:jbconnely@hotmail.com)



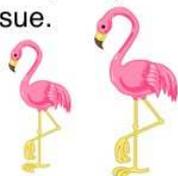
Elaine (Ostrander) George '66 - [elainegeorge71@hotmail.com](mailto:elainegeorge71@hotmail.com)



This is our fourth issue as correspondents for the LPSS 1965-69 Report. We hope you are still enjoying the latest news about our group. Not sure what our readership numbers are so please let us know if you are out there. Your input is important to us. Send us any news about your lunches, trips, and get-togethers. Pictures are great - everyone likes to see friends from the past. Old pictures from the past are most welcome.

Make sure you include names and dates. If you're not sure who's in the photos, tell us that and we'll ask our readers for help.

Jane Connely has now become our correspondent in Florida. Must be nice, eh? She and Bob will be enjoying their new condo on Amelia Island until at least April. Thanks to the magic of email, Jane has contributed to this issue from there. Only downside is that we aren't able to work at the computer side-by-side where many laughs have kept us going for each issue.



Once again, here is how the format works. Use any or all of the categories below. Other ideas are welcome.

1. Profiles - suggest a classmate or teacher that you would like to see interviewed.
2. Travel Snaps - send us 1 or 2 pics of your recent travels with a short descriptive caption.
3. Remember When - send us an old picture or tell us about a funny school incident or event that you've never forgotten.
4. Who's where, doing what? - brief updates about yourself or high school friend (who agrees to this being in the newsletter).
5. Let's Do Lunch - describe your get-togethers over lunch or coffee.
6. Eye Spy - send us any other photos of interest with friends, family, cottages.
7. Finding Nemo - tell us about a classmate you might like to find and who may want to reconnect through the newsletter.

## Travel Snaps

Here are the latest travel pics and story for your enjoyment.

### MISLED IN MONTERREY, MEXICO

by Carol (Cline) Brayman '66



We really enjoyed our day exploring Monterrey and during that time came to know some of the staff at the Sheraton enough to respect their judgment. Hence we believed he who knew most about cars and driving when he said "Hwy 134 from Toluca to Zihuatanejo? No problema, it's all fixed up now and is like a cuota" - I may have the spelling wrong, but cuotas are Mexico's version of the 407 and usually quite beautiful. Since taking Hwy 134 would save us (if the info had been correct) at least four hours of driving, we took the word of this apparently informed concierge with his local knowledge. Tum de dum dum ... day one of the second stage of our journey started when we left Monterrey.

We had a phenomenal and beautiful drive after (husband) David very skillfully negotiated getting out of Monterrey in the morning rush hour - which begins at 6:30. First we hit San Luos Potosi, after traversing some desert and mountains, and sped on towards the end point some five hours away - Toluca, which is a large city in itself and a suburb of Mexico City (which we were trying to avoid).

More great driving and we proudly entered Toluca at around 5:30 - well before the sun had set but unfortunately, once again at rush hour! Because we weren't sure about how far we'd get that day, we hadn't made any reservations. We thought that would not be a problem, but it turned out that this industrial city had a) no tourist information and b) a two story limit on buildings and stringent rules about signs, so we had no idea where the hotel district was. As well, Amelia - our GPS - had thrown up her hands and was politely trying to send us back to Mexico City! No thank you Amelia!! Several cell phone calls later we landed a hotel, but NO ONE AT THE DESK could tell us how to get there!! Like Boston Charlie we drove round and round. At one time Amelia thought she'd honed in on it, but we wound up at a strip club in the really 'interesting' area of town - perhaps revenge on her part. Finally we spotted a hotel with a hotel type garage. We were assured by the attendant that it was the Del Rey and we pulled in - 3 hours later. It turned out to be the bus terminal hotel! Stark but safe are two adjectives to describe it. Our crash there, then dinner in the terminal and.....



## WHO'S WHERE, DOING WHAT?

ADRIENNE (GILBERT) WOLF-LOCKETT '66



*Here's the third installment of Adrienne's adventures with the Peace Corps in Jamaica, with her husband Bob (they both volunteered after they retired in Portland, Oregon).*



May 20, 2009

Incredibly, it's been 2 months since we embarked upon our Peace Corps adventure. "Spring" is difficult to envision in our corner of Jamaica where the temps bounce between 78 and 90—with comparable humidity numbers and everywhere is lush and green all of the time. But we're doing well and wanted to fill you in on our lives.

So much has happened since last we wrote but the biggest landmark in our time here came this past Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, when we transitioned from Peace Corps Trainees to Peace Corps Volunteers. Yes! We finally did it!! We were sworn in at the U.S. Embassy in Kingston with all the requisite pomp: the playing of both Jamaican and U.S. national anthems, benedictions, speeches, certificates, and handshakes. We both were very moved by the ceremony as we realized that it really was the culmination of a year's effort to join the Peace Corps and, greater than that, a dream of many years come true. The speakers made much of our willingness to serve and forego personal comforts during our time here. Looking around at our fellow Volunteers, we felt a real sense of pride in them and were honored to be part of this group.

We took advantage of our time in Kingston to do some shopping, determined to indulge in just a few small luxuries despite our meager Peace Corps stipend. We bought an inexpensive toaster and a Brita water filter. (We'd grown weary of bread singed on the gas stove and wanted to do whatever we can to make our water appealing as it's essential that we drink lots of it in this hot climate.) We also stocked up on staples that will allow us to avoid the taxi ride into Annotto Bay for a few days more—cold cereal, oatmeal, canned tuna, powdered milk, etc.—as well as traditional Jamaica foods: yellow yam, cho cho, plantains, and callaloo. We're learning to take advantage of private car rides since it's so much easier to transport bags than when we're squished into a taxi. ("Smaall up! Smaall up yusef!") Incidentally, the record for number of people jammed into a taxi is now 11-- 3 in the front, 6 of us in the back seat (this includes 2 small children), and 2 in the "kitchen" (hatchback trunk area)!!

So now we're back "home" in Robins Bay, St. Mary Parish. We'd love to get some plastic recycling going in Robins Bay—plastic is everywhere: in the bushes and on the beaches!-- and

we've been met with enthusiasm for such a project. Our first order of business now that we're back is to get the few businesses that there are here to start recycling while we strategize how to implement for the rest of the community.

Life moves rather slowly in Jamaica and so infrastructure and capacity building will be our challenges: who pays for the plastic bags? where to store them? how to transport them for collection? Since "sustainability" is the Peace Corps mantra, we need to figure out how to create a program that will persist beyond our 2 or 3 years here.

Another project that we're starting on is the idea of a summer nature club for Robins Bay kids. If we can pull together our plans quickly enough, there's a chance we can obtain funding from a Jamaican source to allow for some basic supplies, transportation for field trips, and perhaps even lunch for the kids. The grant application needs to be submitted by the end of this week so we need to move quickly.

This weekend we experienced a wonderful display of thunder and lightning that reminded us of a sea battle between sailing ships: here's

### Adrienne's Story Continued



Adrienne is second from the right

the flash of a cannon broadside, then the low ominous rumble; here's another, and another still! It might have been a reenactment of Admiral Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. As the combatants drifted away, rain began and continued, heavily, throughout the night and into Saturday morning.

May is a rainy month, we're told, and it's certainly shaping up that way. It was actually a bit cool Saturday, a sensation we were well on our way to forgetting! Saturday afternoon we spent with our supervisor, Angie, and her children at Greencastle Tropical Study Center/Greencastle Estate. We made Mexican food for dinner: burritos, refries, fried plantains and ate on the veranda, where a Jamaican Owl serenaded us with its very weird cries.

I suppose we're still in the honeymoon phase of Peace Corps life—after all, our two years has officially just begun—but we genuinely are very happy and comfortable in this new life. The pink-and-turquoise walls of our little house may get slightly old after a while as may the boom-box music wafting many a night, but the joy of being in such a warm, welcoming community and taking on meaningful work tells us that we're where we should be in our lives right now.

Oh, some of you have asked how we're doing with learning Patois. The reality is that practically everyone in Jamaica speaks standard English and you can easily be understood but the challenge is having the ear for the taxi driver's or the market woman's response which is typically heavily accented Jamaican. [Think Bob Marley lyrics times 10.] We can each bumble along in Patois but since most people expect standard English from us and we're still at the awkward phase, candidly we only use a few Patois phrases.

But practice we will so that we'll be able to hold our own in local conversations.





## Messages

**Evelyn Gehmacher**, LPSS 1966 has contacted us. Evelyn is now living in Calgary Alberta. She is interested in reconnecting with former classmates from the '60s. She has given us her email. Free free to contact her at: [evelyngeh@shaw.ca](mailto:evelyngeh@shaw.ca)

She is looking forward to hearing from any of you that remember her and want to say hello. Evelyn is hoping that there may be some LPSS grads out her way to get in touch with. She is heading to Maui with her husband in March. Aloha - enjoy your trip and remember to send a picture and short caption for the 'travel snaps' section.

(Jane has sent the [grad contact list for 1966](#) to her and those people who have agreed to be on it. Any other takers?)

### AND

*\*Don Berlinghoff has sent this interesting message for your listening and viewing pleasure. You must be quick to catch it all! Thanks Don for this.*

**Here it is, set to pictures--- Had to share this one. It's a fabulous flashback through the past half century. Turn up volume, sit back and enjoy a review of 50 years of history in less than 3 minutes! Thanks to Billy Joel and some guy from the University of Chicago with too much time to Google!**

**I wonder how many of the images those under 40 will recognize from the early part of the song?? You might have to watch this more than once.**

**[Click here: We Didn't Start The Fire](#)**

Message from Jane and Elaine: Happy 10th Anniversary to Newsletter!

We are not magicians! Although we would like to hear more from anyone out there who is reading this section, we can't wave a magic wand to make it happen. So.....

'let your fingers do the walking' over the keyboard and hit the SEND key.



## CAROL'S MEXICO TRIP CONTINUED

...breakfast early the next day (where I had the best cup of coffee the whole trip thus far), set us up for day two of the drive.

We bid Toluca farewell at 7 a.m. and headed to Hwy 134 - the super road!! Well, it was beautiful - the first part was a bit like I hear Roger's Pass is - round and round, as we ascended the 9000 feet up the mountain ranges. It started to remind me of the Amalfi Drive without the sea so close by. In every small town we saw sleeping policemen and hit massive delays - fortunately, it's rather remote so not many towns. Of course all gawked when they saw our Canadian license plates. On Hwy 134 we encountered goats, donkeys (and stopped to witness one donkey fight!), cows, people stringing ropes across the road as a kind of toll, and my personal favourite as we climbed higher - rock slides!! At 2 p.m., well after we'd expected to see the Pacific coast, we stopped by a river at a small inn to have a fabulous al fresco lunch. A good thing as the worst part of the drive was yet to come.

The next three hours of driving were quite beautiful and quite nightmarish too. We drove up and down, across about three mountain ranges on roads not wide enough for two vehicles. It seemed that at the summits they'd run out of \$\$ for guard rails or shoulder, and that was my side of the car. Thank heavens we had the Honda with its standard transmission. David did a remarkable job getting us through, but I had to really fight panic some of the time and at the end we both agreed there were more than a few times when we thought we wouldn't make it. We were regretting not having told anyone our route because if we'd gone over - not impossible- it was so remote, no one would have known for days. We finally arrived in beautiful Ixtapa as the sun was going down.

We leave tomorrow a.m. for Ajijic. There's a long winding route that goes up the coast and then inland to Ajijic, which will take just about the whole day to drive. And there's a new cuota which one map shows is unfinished but the other shows as complete and more direct, into the mountains. The concierge at our hotel assures us it's finished and it's beautiful..... Guess which route we'll be taking!!!!?





# EYE SPY



## Pub Night at The Pump in Clarkson

On January 12, 2010 our third Pub Nite gathering took place. It was 'wing' night at the Pub and the place was hopping with locals. Not too many former LPSS grads but a few did show. Seating was at a premium and only a few bar seats were available for us. The ambiance was excellent - lots of people meeting up enjoying beer, food, the Leaf game and energetic conversation. We would like to encourage more of you to come to these nights.

\*\*\* Next gathering will be June 8th at 7:00pm. The outdoor patio should be open so that means lots of room for more of you!!



Elaine and Donna at the bar



Ellen (Ritchie) O'Halloran '66



Donna (Walker) Harrison '66



## Other Sightings.....

Beth Windeler '65 entertaining friends at her downtown condo



# Remember When ?

Test your memory of this group of Grade Eight classmates from Whiteoaks Public School circa 1960



Cover the answers below as you try to recall the names. If you are in this picture, why not send us some of your personal memories of those early days.



**Back Row:** Jerry Dent, Peter Raham, Craig Webb, Keith Greeniaus, Larry Stirling, Craig Wallace, Ed Koch, Brent Cowie and David Rennie

**Middle Row:** Doug Abel, Vance Whitten, Gail Atkinson, ?, Janis Webster, Carolyn Cameron, Richard Doherty, Paul Swartz and Mr. Kirkby, (Teacher)

**Front Row:** Nancy Simmons, Jane Smith, Eleanor Dawson, Susan Ebelthite, Jane Crook, Adrienne Gilbert, Marna Dent, Carol Cline, Elaine Ostrander, and Carol Williams

# Looking Back to the Sixties

Just to keep you guessing, we have 3 more photos from the past. Any ideas who these three young people are?



Photo number one



Photo number two

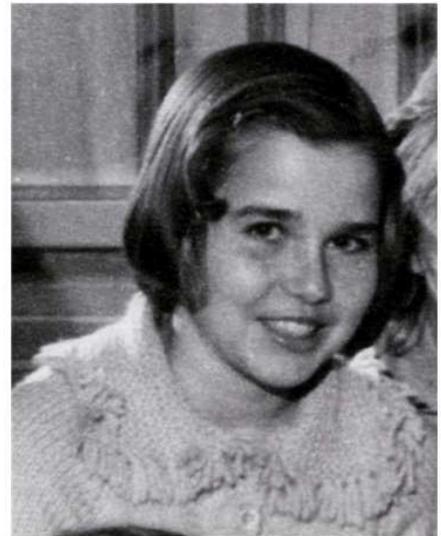


Photo number three

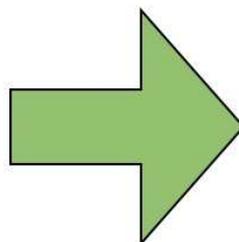
What about these other three famous people??



Prime Minister Trudeau still held in deep affection by the young, warmed many a parental heart with a comment in Regina during his western tour. When a boy kept throwing rotting grain up in his face, the cool, cultivated PM said to him, in a barely audible voice: "If you don't stop that, I'll kick you right in the ass."

from: The Toronto Daily Star, Canadian Magazine, 1969.

How would that comment stand in today's times?!



Answers

Photo one: Pat (Raham) Carr '65

Photo two: Carol (Cline) Brayman '66

Photo three: Susan Russell '66

Last photo: John Lennon, Yoko Ono, Pierre Trudeau

# Invitation

## Don't forget... our fourth Pub Night

Tuesday (wing night) June 8, 2010

at

6:00

**"The Clarkson Pump"**  
**1744 Lakeshore Road W.**  
**905-855-9354**



*Hope more of you will try to come to this one. It will be held in the outdoor patio (weather permitting).*



*Signing off for now,  
Jane & Elaine*



**You all know the expression: "Time Flies"**  
**So don't wait any longer. Join your buddies from the LPSS years at the Pump and drop all your cares at the door.**



**1970—1979****Ross Murison ('73) - [rmurison@sympatico.ca](mailto:rmurison@sympatico.ca)**

I missed you last time out. Not my choice. I was facing a challenge, that of a detached retina.

Timing couldn't have been worse. I was finally back in class, my first day in fact. But let me backtrack for a moment. In August I noticed a couple of black floating things in my vision. Not good and it got worse. I ended up under a surgeons care to re-attach my retina. Thank God there are people around that are willing and able to do these surgeries. I was disappointed with the treatment I got at Emergency. The Doctors seemed more concerned with lecturing me on the difference between an urgent matter and an emergency. But that's another rant for another day.

One thing I would leave you with on this. If you suddenly see black floating things in your vision go see your optometrist. Regardless, make sure you see your optometrist at least once a year. Mine has a new service where she takes a picture of my eye. She can then compare it from check-up to check-up and see if there is any deterioration. The medical profession works best when they catch things in the early stages.

I do want to say a special thank-you to my friends who saw me through this and were there to help and encourage.

I'm back on my feet and back in school. Humber College was excellent about the issue. They just transferred me over to the January start. It's great fun, just me and the 20 year olds. They're decent kids, well mannered. I see a lot of me in them, especially the un-motivated ones. That was me to a tee back in the day. It took me several kicks at the can before I finally got on my path.

Now I have a new path, a much more delicious path and I have a picture that I would like to share.



Well done and congrats  
Ross!

Good for you for following  
your dream.

Editor

PS—When you come over  
for dinner I will have every-  
thing ready to be cooked

I'm planning to start a blog about my experiences with going back to school. So far though, it's been great. (Although I haven't had any tests yet)  
I'll let you know when it's up for you who are interested. As always I'm on Facebook and LinkedIn.

## News

There's been very little in the way of email, however there is one that was passed on to me by our illustrious Editor. We received an email from Deborah Parker. She felt that Sandy Leluk ('74) might be too shy to show off her daughter Aryana carrying the Olympic Torch in Georgetown.

Here's the picture.



Isn't that awesome, congratulations!

I know there were some of you that saw the torch as it passed through Mississauga. I actually saw it in Sudbury when I dropped my daughter off in January. It's pretty cool.  
I'm really looking forward to the Olympics in February. Hopefully I'll have some time to watch them. I do get a reading week.

Please feel free to drop a line with any news that you would like to share.

## Re-Connecting

Please feel free to drop me a line. As always I try to make a point of answering all emails and if you are so inclined please connect with me on Facebook or LinkedIn.  
It's a great way to keep up to date with people.

## Our Culture

I'm going to keep with the same theme as last time. I'm going to go with what I'm listening to and watching right now. Well, as long as it's from the 70's of course.

There have been a lot of re-masters lately. The one that really interested me was the Beatles.

Now they did two different versions, one in Stereo and one in Mono. For my money the Mono is far superior. There are things that I've never heard before. I can listen to it over and over again.

It took some quick talking around the house as we had just completed the discography. Timing is everything.

Have you been out to the movies? There are some really good films out right now. As I hear it anyway. Unfortunately I haven't been able to get out.

Avatar looks amazing. James Cameron just keeps on ticking. Avatar will surpass Titanic as the highest grossing film.

That means he'll have the 2 top films of all time.

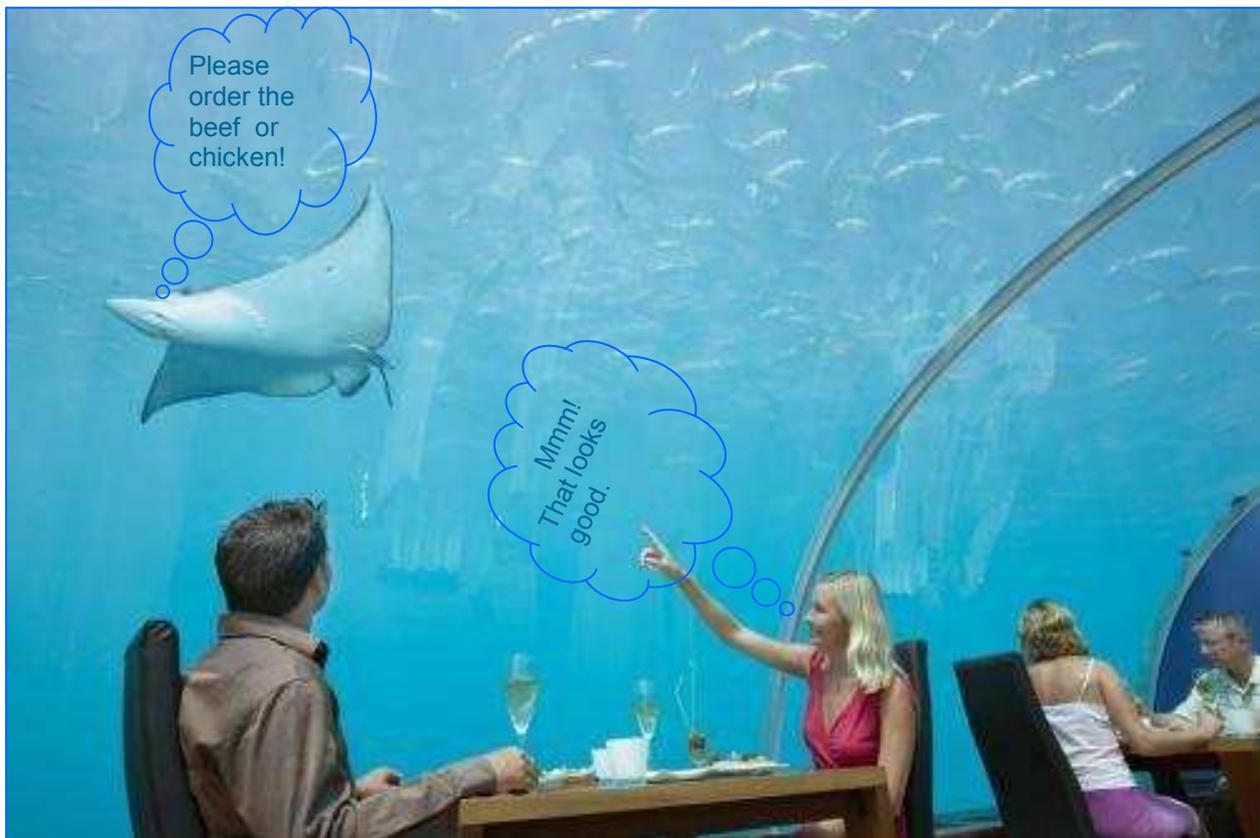
Anyway, here are some the films playing in my DVD player and CDs on my player.

Enjoy!

Well that's it for now; please feel free to email me with questions, requests, and ideas, and please find time to donate blood. It's in you to give.

Also, if you're so inclined, there are a group of us on Facebook who speak on a regular basis. Check it out; it's a great way to network, and to reconnect.

Peace,  
Ross  
July 2008



## Music – Playing on my CD Player and my DVD Player (DVD-Audio / SACD)

### 1970 Derek & the Dominos – Layla and Other Love Songs.

Although the acoustic version of Layla is worthy, I really prefer this one.



### 1971 Jethro Tull - Aqualung

Ian Anderson at his best. I got to go to a couple of his shows. The most recent one was at Massey Hall.



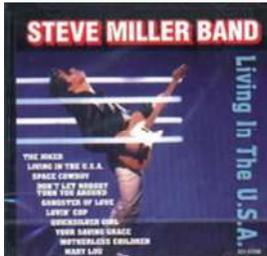
### 1972 Deep Purple – Machine Head

Lots of good songs on this release. I'm lucky enough to have this on DVD-Audio.



### 1973 Steve Miller Band – Living in the U.S.A.

Who's not guilty of singing along to The Joker while driving along?



### 1974 Harry Chapin - Verities & Balderdash

He left us too soon. Lots of good songs. Cat's in the Cradle for one.



### 1975 Roxy Music - Siren

Love is the Drug, just one of many great Roxy songs. Saw them back in the day at Massey Hall..



### 1976 Gordon Lightfoot – Summertime Dream

Really nice music on this release. Race Among the Ruins and the Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald..



### 1977 Meatloaf – Bat Out Of Hell

You can't go far wrong with Todd Rundgren, Jim Steinman and Meatloaf.



### 1978 Joe Walsh – But Seriously, Folks...

Great release. Joe is Joe. James Gang, The Eagles and his fine solo work. Life's Been Good..



### 1979 ZZ Top - Degüello

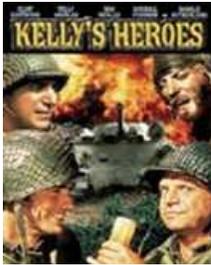
I find myself listening to ZZ Top on trips to Muskoka. It seems to help with the traffic.



## Movies on my DVD Player

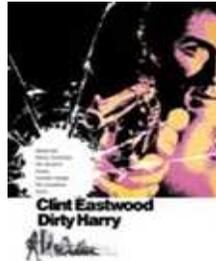
### 1970 – Kelly's Heroes

Just watched this with a few friends. Worth it just for Donald Sutherland.



### 1971 – Dirty Harry

I recently bought the re-mastered box set of the Dirty Harry films. Frank Sinatra was originally intended as the lead role.



### 1972 – Silent Running

A Douglas Trumbull's film. Lots of social conscious content. Also 3 little robots. Huey, Louie and Dewey. Pre R2D2?



### 1973 – Soylent Green

Charlton Heston sure was fond of post-apocalyptic films. What can I say? Soylent Green is ...



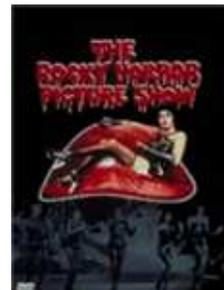
### 1974 – Young Frankenstein

What a fun film. Gene Wilder at his best.



### 1975 – Rocky Horror Picture Show

A different set of jaws. A classic. It's just a step to the left...



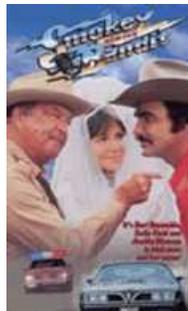
### 1976 – Network

Go to the window, open it and stick your head out and yell I'm as mad as hell and I'm not going to take this anymore.



### 1977 – Smokey and the Bandit

Just picked up the special edition of this fine popcorn movie.



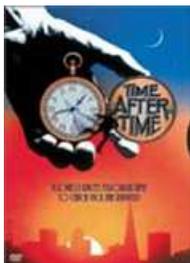
### 1978 – Drunken Master

Jackie Chan's first big film. Lots of fun!



### 1979 – Time After Time

H.G. Wells chases Jack the Ripper through time to modern day L.A.



## 1980—1989 - Decade Rep Required - Apply Now!

Hi Michael,

Here's my blurb for the newsletter. I've also attached a family picture. I look forward to every issue of the newsletter - keep up the great work!

I had two stints at LP, originally I was supposed to graduate in 1985. Instead, I joined the Canadian military. Reality quickly set in and I eventually came back to finish high school graduating with the Class of 1987. That was a great year making new friends, some who have crept back into my life in some very surprising ways. Graduated from university and currently work with a consulting firm. I spent some time working on international assignments eventually coming back to Canada and starting a family. I'm married to a wonderful woman, have two beautiful children and live just a few steps away from LPSS.

Many of my closest friends are former LP'ers. Let's not forget the long-haul friendships that are still alive from the Whiteoaks and Hillcrest days as well!

I hope everyone is doing well and look forward to future reacquaintance with former classmates. In surprising ways, of course.

Doug Janjatovic ('87)



We are looking for a decade rep to handle our 80's grads. Think you have what it takes to be part of a highly focused and passionate team?

Are you interested in your fellow grads and would love to bring their stories and life's to the Alumni stage?

Can you work for a few bones a year? You will have to provide them of course!

Then don't delay!

[editor@lpssmatters.com](mailto:editor@lpssmatters.com)

**1990—1994** Kelly Harris ('92) bharris1@cogeco.ca



Happy New Year! I hope this finds everyone well.

I did not hear from anyone with any updates and have no wedding news or baby news to report. I wasn't sure what to do with this article this quarter, and then I had an idea. I thought that it would be interesting to highlight different grads from our years that are living around the world in various places (not the ones like me still living near LP!), and find out why they are where they are. We could see how much of the world we cover.

My next issue though was finding out where people are – and how to get in touch with them. I emailed one LP alumni that I knew was living overseas, but didn't hear back, so I thought I would leave it a few days and give it some more thought.

The following day, not even thinking of my article that was shortly due, I opened my front door to get the local paper off the front porch. The Haiti earthquake had happened just 3 days prior and I sat down with my tea to look at it. On the front cover was Cheryl Hunter (now Cheryl van der Mark – LP 1992). Cheryl works in Oakville at her own chiropractic office, however, was on the front page of the Oakville paper as she is currently in Haiti with Mission of Hope Haiti.

Cheryl has been in Haiti with her husband, Laurens and her 3 children for the past 18 months. They have been in Haiti to assist with expanding Mission of Hope's hospital from a part-time to a full-time service hospital offering chiropractic, medical treatment and eventually dentistry. Cheryl is the director and her husband is overseeing the construction efforts.

Cheryl and her family were obviously in Haiti at the time the massive earthquake struck. Thankfully her and her family are all safe and they are working hard to help the sick and the injured. They are exhausted but keep on helping...and praying.

They have a Blog that I would like to refer you to – there you can read their heartfelt messages and prayer requests – learn firsthand what they are dealing with on a daily basis. <http://vdmcrew.blogspot.com/>

You can also find information there on Mission of Hope and make a donation to help Cheryl and her family in the work they are doing now to rebuild Haiti. Her and her family were due to come back to Canada in September 2010 and are in the process of trying to adopt Haitian twins. This is something they need your thoughts and prayers on.

It is great to see LP Grads like Cheryl helping others around the world – please send me your stories of where you are living, what you are doing, etc so I can include those in the next edition of the newsletter.

Until then, Keep well.

Kelly (Brisbin) Harris – LP 1992  
[Bharris1@cogeco.ca](mailto:Bharris1@cogeco.ca)

PS – Congratulations to Natalie Kontakos ('92) on the birth of her beautiful twin daughters – Eva and Stella.



**1995—1999 Lindsay Lepp (Williams) ('95) - [lindsaywilliams2009@hotmail.com](mailto:lindsaywilliams2009@hotmail.com)**

I received this letter from Heidi shortly after the publication of our last newsletter. Heidi and her family experienced a devastating house fire that destroyed their home and most of their possessions. She was kind enough to share a short story she wrote about this experience and some pictures. You will find this story on the following pages and the pic's below. Thank goodness that nobody was hurt! Perhaps before you read on go and check the batteries in your smoke detectors. One fire, is one fire to many! And . . . Congrats to:

Mark Aikman married Sonya Stuckless in August. Brett Aikman married Christine Warren in September. Dave Rogers married Suzie Losiak in September and Tanya Linse married Craig Hughes in October. Hi 5's to all couples!

"Hi Lindsay.

Attached is a short story I wrote and was published in the Oakville Today following the house fire we had in Sept 2006. It has been three years since the fire and for the most part our lives have returned to normal except for the legal negotiations between ourselves and our Insurer. (As much as I would love to share our entire experience and the Insurance process with my fellow Alumni, I must refrain at this point in time as there is legal council involved on both sides).

What I can share is that since I wrote the short story below, I have had access to the Ontario Fire Marshall's report. Our fire was caused accidentally by a faulty vacuum cleaner. It is truly horrifying how quickly your home and all of your belongings can be taken from you in a matter of 3 to 10 minutes. If I could recommend one thing to anyone, it would be to invest in small fire safe to keep your Identification and any other legal documents; Passports, Insurance, Mortgage etc. Fire fighters retrieved our fire safe from our home, and it saved us an awful lot of hassle.

Something we did not do originally, but I would highly recommend is to take pictures of every room in your home, and keep receipts for large items like furniture and appliances - put these in your fire safe. The fire itself was traumatic, but the Insurance process is a whole other ball game. Once again thank you to our family, friends, and the organizations that helped us when we needed them most.

Heidi Rampersad (nee Winterton)  
LPSS Alumni 1996"



### In the Eye of the Storm

Time spins a web of choices. Each infinitesimal moment determines the story we live. The future is a fuzzy anomaly, and the past is a broken memory pieced together by what we find significant. I search for answers, but inconclusive results haunt me. How do I rebuild my life when from the flames of tragedy everything is taken from me in the blink of an eye?

Shock sets in fairly quickly. I am spun into a reality where I desperately try to get home. Where is my scarecrow, my tin man, my cowardly lion? Even the great and powerful Oz cannot help me because he is only a man behind a curtain, and my faith in the Good Witch is limited because I feel she is punishing me. Miracles are hard to come by, and if I close my eyes and click my heels together while chanting the phrase, "there is no place like home", I am still in the eye of the storm.

I sense the tragedy, but I ignore it because I have already experienced so much sorrow. It is a September evening, and I am sitting on the front porch with my children. I am on my way to a baseball game, and my husband is taking the kids and the dog to my in-laws for a visit. My three year old son has tears in his eyes. He is worried about who will water his Great Grandmother's flowers. Great Grandma died tragically five weeks earlier allegedly due to an irregular heart, which in turn caused her to hit her head and drown in the swimming pool. I try to explain to him that Grandma is in heaven, but then he wants to visit her there. "How do we get to heaven," he asks. He is upset when I say that we cannot go there; I don't have answers for him. He wants to know why Grandma's body is buried in the ground. He doesn't really understand that her body doesn't work anymore and her organs have shut down. He wants to know why we put flowers at her grave. He accepts the answer, "because it makes us feel better." I tell him that Grandma left some very special things for us to remember her by. I tell him that Grandma will always be with us in our memories, and we can be reminded of those memories in photographs. I was very close with my Grandmother, and I have taken her death very hard.

An hour later, I hear the words over and over, "everyone is okay, but your house is gone; there was a fire." The tornado lifts me, spins me around, and drops me into the horror of what is to become my new reality. I desperately try to compose myself into my new surroundings. I try to get as many details as I can.

My brother hears emergency vehicles shortly after 6:00pm. He looks from his window and sees the smoke coming from the general direction of what used to be my home. He hears knocking on his front door; a neighbour is trying to get his attention. They run down the street. He does know if we are alive, he does not know if we are there. He notices that my husband's car is gone. He tries to get information from the police as to whether or not my car is in the garage. He watches as the flames shoot out of our windows, as the smoke fills the sky, and as the fire fighters put out the fire. It is confirmed that my car is not in the garage. He knows I am alive. He also knows that we have lost everything.

During the car ride home, time slows and the stench of smoke makes my stomach turn. I say a silent prayer. I am anxious. Upon arriving on the scene, I push my way through the crowd to find my husband on his knees with his hands holding his head. Shattered glass is everywhere, and there is more fire equipment than I have ever seen in one place. I am hysterical. I don't even know if I am coherent. I want to know where the kids and the dog are. They are fine, and with my mother-in-law. I run out of words, and fall to the ground and just stare in through the front door. Everything is black. The first thing I see is a smashed original watercolour painting of a humming bird. I painted and gave it to my husband on our second year anniversary. We have been together for eleven years and married for five.

Our neighbours run to us and hug us. They tell us that we have just lost material items, that we are alive, that we have each other. I learn that the fire started sometime shortly after 6:00pm. Neighbours behind us, say that a ball of fire shot out the family room window like an explosion; it is a miracle that we were not home. Some families ask us what we need. I think of my daughter first: Formula, Diapers. I realize that the only clothing I have is the baseball uniform that I am wearing: Clothing. I shrug my shoulders: Everything?

Fire fighters have very honourable jobs, and a compassion that is very unique compared to others. I don't even know his name, nor do I think to ask. He has been inside my home, and therefore he is a friend. I ask him how bad it is, but when he removes his mask the look on his face says it all. "Can you find my Wedding rings?" I ask. They are in the ensuite bathroom on the counter close to the window. I do not wear them when I play baseball. He returns within minutes. In his hand, he holds an engagement ring, a wedding band, and a gold necklace with a crucifix. I hold my cross, and ask God "why?" They are covered in soot, but I put them on anyway. He goes back in a second time to retrieve the rest of our valuables, and our fire safe. Later when asked what was in the drawers, I respond that the fire fighters had removed only the drawers that contained money and jewellery; they were welcome to view the rest of the contents that we had

thrown in the garbage. I do not know if they searched the garbage or not? Nor do I care. I have nothing to hide.

An official escorts us around the back of the house to see the damage. I fall to my knees, no tears fall from my eyes, I try to scream but nothing comes out. I just sit there staring in disbelief, and I tell myself, "enough is enough... wake up already". It is not a dream. The chief of fire prevention is a little surprised that house is still standing. The brick is about all that is holding it together. The lintels around the rear windows are gone and most of the wood framing is destroyed. Even the framing in the attic is completely charred but it is months before this is discovered. The kitchen is gutted and a pile of ashes sits on the floor where my solid oak table used to be. There is no indication that the kitchen hutch even stood above three feet, and the fridge has melted so badly into itself that it is almost unrecognizable.

My music is gone. A restored 1931 Heintzman piano is reduced to charcoal, and the ivory keys gone along with it. All that remains of the furniture are ashes, and in some cases metal framing and springs. Upstairs water, and smoke damage take the rest of our belongings, and the only recoverable items are a few books and photographs from the basement. Photographs - Thank God I have photographs of my Grandmother to remember her by.

I do not sleep that night, or many nights there after. The cause of the fire is officially undetermined. There are no answers, and the Good Witch decides to keep me in Oz perhaps because I have a lot to learn, or maybe because I need to experience tragedy to fully appreciate that there really is no place like home. A wise person once told me that home is where there is love. Maybe when I learn to accept that, I will have my house again.

Heidi Rampersad (nee Winterton)  
LPSS Alumni 1996"



## Spartan Staff

**2000— 2009**

We are still looking for a grad writer for this era. If you are interested send \$500,000 and your contact details and we will go from there!

Okay, you can forget sending the cash!

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*and finally...*



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“There are good ships, and there are wood ships,  
The ships that sail the sea.  
But the best ships are friendships,  
And may they always be.”

