



LPSS Matters

Official Alumni Newsletter of Lorne Park Secondary School

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

(see page 3)

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"The pessimist may be right in the long run, but the optimist has a better time during the trip"

Unknown

Valedictorian speech

(Following is this year's excellent Valedictorian speech. Take a moment to read it. If this is any indication of the quality of people who will soon be taking over, we're in pretty good hands.)

Natasha Mytnowych
Valedictorian Speech
Oct. 26, 2001

We move forward
It's what we do

We climb the ladders the
mountains the molehills
We forge our way into the
abyss...

But how do you know where
to start
When all you want is to go
back to when you were five
And you could giggle and
scream and bawl and whis-
per and run with pure bliss
running through your veins
And you could still put to-
gether what the world meant

It was Grover,
And your Barbie Dream-
house
Gargamel and Asreal and
the Popples and Alf
You knew the Ghostbusters,
Inspector Gadget, and Jem
and the Holograms
You made breakfast with
your Easy Bake Oven

And had pizza with the Teen-
age Mutant Ninja Turtles

And you had it
But then the world coughed
The plates shifted
And you spun and you spun
back towards the sun
And the giggles and the yells
melted into LA Gear sneak-
ers and crimped hair and
slap bracelets

And the Questions
And our minds filled with
questions of how somehow
Our lives weren't like Full
House
TGIFed to tidy itself up in 22
minutes minus commercials
And Steve Urkel didn't walk
through the front door to
make you laugh when your
world collapsed
And Yo Quiro Taco Bell, Joey
Lawrence, Tori Spelling, Bub-
ble Boy, Puffy Shirts No
Soup for You
Meant more than saying
what you thought
And when you did open your
mouth to speak
Your throat filled with glass
And all that came out were
the shards of questions
Am I just a girl?
Who will save your soul?
What if God was one of us?
Is it getting better, or do we
feel the same?
Isn't it ironic, don't you
think?

And the images and
thoughts and dreams be-
came the single repeated
catch phrase of the moment
And you had no steering
wheel, no brakes, no cruise
control, no four wheel drive
And it was years before you
even got your licence
Trapped on a one way high-
way no lights on going faster
and faster and all you can
hear is...

I know what you're thinking
cause right now I'm thinking
the exact same thing.
Actually I've been thinking it
ever since I got here: Why
oh Why didn't I take the Blue
Pill?

I do wish I could chat longer,
but I'm having an old friend
for dinner
But John, when the 'Pirates
of the Caribbean' breaks
down, the Pirates don't eat
the tourists
Dionne and I were both
named after great singers of
the past who now do info-
mercials.
Are you crying? Are you cry-
ing? There's no crying in
baseball!
I made my family disappear

We're Generation Next
Pepsi-Cola
Coked-Out
Downloading
Dot Com-ing

Selling out to Time Warner
For Mochafrapachino stock options

And just when, again you had it figured out,
You knew which character on the Saved By The Bell reunion special you were supposed to be portraying
You go to flick the switch,
Turn the power on
OK to go
The box is ready for lift off
But this time
All you see is

Desert Storm
OJ Simpson
Princess Diana
LA Riots
Waco Texas
Oklahoma City
Heaven's Gate
Matti Baranovski
Columbine

And that's when the glass begins to shatter
And the box melts into the sun
Which scalds your skin
So you flip and you flip and you flip
and flip and flip and flip

Until finally you find a channel
Where WE are

Winning the Metro Bowl
Playing in SAC Kindergarten
Going One Way
Sitting by the milkshake machine
Going down the hall
Seeing its homey day
OFSSSAs, ROPSSAAs
Field Hockey, Lacross, Skiing, Rugby,
Swimming, War Canoe, Hockey
Players Club

Brighton Beach, 7 Stories, Web of Murder, Jitters, Vicious Boyz, Godzilla Lunch in the Art room
Photography, Film Club, James Bond Music Trips, Spartan Singers, Concertina, Stage Band,
Fashion Shows, Talent Shows, Battle of the Bands
Dances
Model UN, SAVE, Prefects, Mentors
Euchre and Homework in the Caf
Pipes bursting on really lucky mornings
All School Assemblies
A Night of the Stars
The Moment of Silent Prayer and Meditation
The feeling the air has when you're still here at 11p.m.



The smell - of woodchips, muffin mix, fries, sneakers, gym clothes, old lunches, science, math and English text books, floor wax, paper towels

The smell of smiling. Breathing. Living.
The smell always being here, under the plastic, under the new paint, or up the stairs
Through everything.

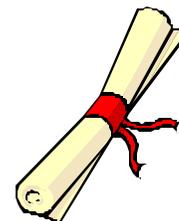
The smell you can't hear on the radio
The smell you can't read in an ad
The smell you can't see on t.v.

So remember, take the moment, to breath down to the tips of your fingers and the edges of your toes and enjoy the smell of

Simple things
Screaming Scheming Dreaming
Trying all the tricks of the trade
Going against the grain
Making our own good culture
Soaring beyond your own Great Expectations
Not being the Fifth Business in your own life story
And remembering, that If you build it, they will come
Abiding by the Golden Rule
And never refusing homemade cookies
Scraping your knee, falling out of a tree, Slamming your finger in the car door, and living to tell about it
Planting flowers, trees, feet, kisses
Not being afraid to say I've made a mistake
And forgiving yourself
Keeping Promises, Secrets, and Pinky swears
To All the places you'll go
Where the sidewalk ends
And where you'll be free to wear sunscreen

Knowing all good things will come to an end
But We Move Forward, it's what we do
Stay true to yourselves and your dreams
And know they can come true

Thank you



REUNIONS

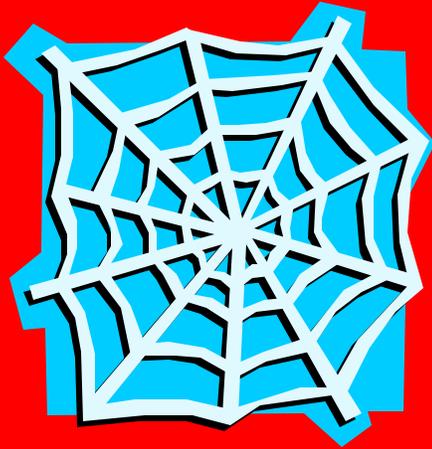
1992

Class of 1992—it's been ten years since you graduated. Interested in helping with organizing a reunion? Contact Natasha Blair (Lemire-Blair) ('92) at tash@abstrakt.org.



THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

The location for the third Tuesday of each month Clarkson get-together has changed. People are now gathering after work at Cuda's, 1107 Lorne Park Rd. (just south of the tracks) (905) 274-3318.



We're on the web!!

LPSS Matters now has its own website – www.LPSSMatters.com.

Just like our newsletter, this is an LPSS alumni website operated by LPSS alumni. Please feel free to forward suggestions for content or improvements.

Many thanks to Sandy Fortune ('73) for all her work designing and maintaining the website, and to Lawrence Mak ('96) for hosting the website.



We Remember...

Bill Walker taught from 1959 - 1984. He started at Lorne Park as the Head of the English Department. He also became a guidance counselor in the later years. After retiring from teaching he sold real estate for a number of years. The cause of death would be attributed to the fact that his lungs stopped working and the oxygenation process couldn't function. No one knows why this happened. He was on life support for the past 2 and 1/2 weeks and then his system just couldn't respond. He had survived a successful heart operation but he always seemed to be short of breath.

(information provided by Sandra Bishop ('78))

Barb Pearson is definitely worth a note in the obituary section. She graduated in '76, and died in 1978. She was one of the most memorable faces of the '70's at LP, having been involved just about everything.....including many awards, such as the Christ Church Citizenship Award, 1976 (just one of many).

(information provided by Laurie Tisdale (Wheeler))



I wanted to mention a very sad passing - Noreen Newey (1972), my best buddy in high school, and someone with whom I kept in touch always - even when she lived overseas for a time. (She and her daughter lived with us for a few months when she was working in Canada). She moved back to Ontario (Oakville), where she lived until her death in 2000 from cancer. She fought the good fight, but in the end that horrible disease took her. She left behind a husband and two beautiful daughters, who were her life. She was a terrific and true friend. (born 1953, died 2000).

(information provided by Hannah Hunter (Davis) ('72))

(Note: Starting with this issue "Into the Unknown" will be a regular column, written by Lynn Jenkins ('71). Readers are invited to contact LPSS Matters with any questions or comments they may have for Lynn).

INTO THE UNKNOWN

Remember graduating from high school with all those dreams and aspirations for the future? How many followed their dreams? How many ended up on a path that they never would have dreamed of? I know I sure did!

Way back when, I had my future all planned out. I would work as a secretary, get married, have children and live happily ever after, or so I thought. The universe certainly had a surprise in store for me!

Life after high school started out fairly normal. Immediately after graduation I started working at the CIBC in Cooksville as Branch Stenographer. That was where I met my first husband. If I had known enough to trust my instincts back then, I wouldn't have dated him, never mind marry him! However, I have since learned that all things happen for a reason, there is not such thing as coincidence. The result of that marriage was three beautiful children who made it all worthwhile.

After a year or so marriage we separated and I went to England. (There were no children at that point.) While in England, I started to explore my intuitive side a little bit more. Went to a Spiritualist Church for the first time. I was amazed at what they told me! I also had several ghostly experiences while there, a lot more than I ever had back in Canada! A year and a half found me back in Canada. At this point, Bill and I decided to give our marriage a second chance. I had my three kids and the marriage was over... for good this time.

By this time, even though it scared me a bit, I began delving even deeper into the world of the paranormal. It fascinated me to no end. If there was a Psychic Fair, I was there. About 16 years ago, I went to see a psychic who informed me that she would be teaching a class in Tarot Cards and thought I would be interested. From there, there was no turning back. I had just taken the first step on the path I was meant to take.

After taking the course, I remember going to Psychic Fair and having a reading done by Ray Faucher. The whole reading was geared to me doing this kind of work for a living! At the end of the reading, Ray stood up, shook my hand and said he would see me on the circuit. Well, I did do several Fairs that Ray and his partner Stan were also at. Not only that, Stan and Ray started First Star Enterprises and began doing their own fairs. I was a regular on their fairs for nearly 10 years. Finally, I got fed up with the political arena it had become and stopped doing them. Since then...

I am now happily married and living in Bervie. (A village just east of Kincardine.) We have two rather large dogs that enjoy the freedom of running in a two-acre field as opposed to a fenced in yard in town. Our neighbours across the road have a 2 year old, 550 pound African Lion in their barn. It is double caged, so, no fear of escaping!

Our house is 140 years old and comes complete with ghosts. Shortly after we bought the house I kept 'seeing' an older woman wearing a long grey dress with a long white apron over it. She told me her name was Cook. Well, about a month ago, one of my clients was telling me that her ancestors were all from Bervie. Our house used to be the Anglican Manse and her ancestors were very strong in the Anglican faith and spent time in this house. Anyway, her great grandmother's last name was Cook and she and her husband owned the inn across from the house. She has since shown me a picture and that is definitely who is in our home. Russ, my husband, has a picture of his grandfather in a frame that we always kept in the den. A few weeks after moving in here I noticed the picture sitting on the window sill, an odd place to put a picture but figured that if that was were Russ wanted it, okay with me. A few days after that, while sitting in the kitchen eating dinner, Russ thanked me for putting his grandfather's picture out. Not only did neither one of us put the picture on the windowsill, neither one of us unpacked it! We have both heard voices that did not belong to either one of us. One day, a friend of mine was visiting and had brought her daughter. Every time the daughter went into the kitchen she felt a shove. When they left I heard a very distinct voice say, "Well, thank God they finally left!". There are many more stories, but that will be another time.



Before moving to Bervie, Russ and I lived in Port Elgin for 4 years. During that time, I wrote a column in the Beacon Times called Into the Unknown. A year and a half after starting the column Into the Unknown became a talk show on the local cable network. I have been a guest on The X Zone with Rob McConnell and several other radio programmes. A few years ago I was a guest on TNN's Crook and Chase. I go to Nashville once or twice a year to do readings as I have built up a fairly strong clientele in that area.

Back in high school, I knew I wanted a career where I could be my own boss, pick and choose my own hours, travel and most important of all, help people. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine it would be as a psychic. And back then, if some one had told me that I would end up with my own TV show, I would have told them they were nuts! My life has been anything but normal over the past 16 years and I would have it no other way. Life is great!

LETTERS

WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET A TRAFFIC TICKET

This system has been tried and it works in every state. If you get a speeding ticket or went through a red light or whatever the case may be, and you're going to get points on your license. This is a method to ensure that you DO NOT get the points.

When you get your fine, send in a cheque to pay for it. If the fine is \$79.00 make the cheque out for \$82.00 or some small amount over the fine. The system will then have to send you back a cheque for the difference, however here is the trick. DO NOT CASH THE REFUND CHEQUE! Throw it away!

Points are not assessed to your license until all financial transactions are complete. If you do not cash the cheque, then the transactions are NOT complete. The system has received its money and is satisfied and will no longer bother you.

This information comes from an unmentionable computer company that sets up the standard databases used by every state.

Always drive safely.

Anonymous



COMPUTER VIRUSES

As you may know, when a worm gets into your computer it heads straight for your email address book. It then sends itself to everyone in there, thus affecting all your friends and associates. This trick won't keep the virus from getting into your computer, but it will stop it from using your address book to spread further, and it will alert you to the fact that the worm has gotten into your system.

Here's what you do. First, open your address book and click on "new contact" just as you would do if you were adding a new friend to your list of email addresses. In the window where you would type your friend's name type in !000 (exclamation mark followed by three zeros). In the window below where it prompts you to enter the new email address, type in WormAlert. Then complete everything by clicking add, enter, ok, etc.

Now here's what you've done and why it works. The "name" !000 will be placed at the top of your address book as entry #1. This will be where the worm will start in an effort to send itself to all your friends. But when it tries to send itself to !000, it will be undeliverable because of the phony email address you entered (WormAlert). If the first attempt fails (which it will be because of the phony address), the worm goes no further and your friends will not be affected.

Here's the second advantage of this method. If an email cannot be delivered you will be notified in your inbox almost immediately. Hence, if you get an email telling you that an email addressed to WormAlert could not be delivered, you know right away that you have the worm virus in your system. You can then take steps to get rid of it.

Pretty slick, huh?

Spartan Stuff

LPSS Matters is written by LPSS alumni for LPSS alumni. Correspondents are needed. Each correspondent would take a block of years from which he or she would communicate with and report on highlights of graduates from that era. Please contact *LPSS Matters* at LPSSMatters@aol.com. The pay is below minimum wage, but the satisfaction is well worth it.

1957–1964 Correspondent needed

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

1970–1974 Dana-Leigh Tisdale
tisdaled@cadvision.com

1975–1979 Michelle Nolan (Oliphant) ('77)
nolanmich@hotmail.com

1980–1984 Steve Hughes
hsteve1@tampabay.rr.com

1985–1989 Rob Boyko ('88)
rob.boyko@maketechnologies.com

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

1995–1999 Correspondent needed

2000–2004 Correspondent needed

Feel free to contact the correspondent from your graduation year with any interesting highlights or happenings.

Thanks to Nigel Brunsdon ('77) and Rob Boyko ('88) for their help in rounding up LPSS grads to join the distribution list for *LPSS Matters*. Thanks also to Lawrence Mak ('96) for hosting our website, and Sandy Fortune ('73) for designing and maintaining our website.

"You'll never catch me bragging about goals, but I'll talk all you want about my assists."

Wayne Gretzky

"We're all in this alone."

Lily Tomlin

"Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day."

George Carlin

and finally...



One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing his son how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from the trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"It was great, Dad." "Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked.

"Oh yeah," said the son.

"So what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.

The son answered,

"I saw that we have one dog and they have four".

"We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end".

"We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night.

"Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon".

"We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

"We have servants who serve us, but they serve others."

"We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

"We have walls around our property to protect us and they have friends to protect them."

With this, the boy's father was speechless.

Then his son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

Too many times we forget what we have, and concentrate on what we don't have. What is one person's worthless object is another's prize possession. It's all about perspective

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