

Weston Collegiate Alumni News

2012 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, another winter has come and gone. With summer on the way, our thoughts all turn to those lazy, hazy days of summer at the cottage or on the boat fishing.

Your Foundation has been working hard at fundraising events this year to aide WCI's graduates of the future. With that, I take great pleasure in announcing the *155th Anniversary Pub Night on October 27, 2012* and hosted by Weston Collegiate Institute.

It's been five long years since we celebrated the school's 150th and had a little get together, so now is the time to mark your calendars.

2011 seems to have been another banner year for Weston Collegiate, with a couple of authors having their books published, with one book being made into a movie. Congratulations to all!

The school can now boast to having **eight Order of Canada recipients** which will all be honoured on the wall outside of the school office. This first Weston Collegiate alumna to receive the Order of Canada was the late *Vera Peters MD, OC* who was made a member (CM) in 1975 and an Officer (OC) in 1977. She was followed by *Esmond Butler OC* in April 1989, *William Paris CM* in October 18, 1989, *Robert Bradford CM*, October 23, 1989, *Elwy Yost CM* in September 1999, *Carol Taylor OC* in 2002, *David Eadie CM* in 2002 and *Michael Scott CM* in 2008.

We will also be adding to our list of **WWI, WWII and Korean War heroes** that paid the "ultimate price" with an additional plaque to commemorate the sacrifices that the families of Weston and Mount Dennis made during those years.

The Alumni Foundation has now also moved into 21st century; with the aid of *Lesley Ross*, we can now be found on **Facebook**. Lesley has been a great addition to the Board with her marketing and communication skills and helping the Foundation to get the word out. So stop by and have a chat or just post your messages to fellow Alumnae/Alumni.

I sincerely hope that everyone has a safe and exciting summer, and we look forward to seeing you in October for the 155th Pub Night.

Sincerely

Peter W. Fritsch
President
Weston Collegiate Alumni Foundation

Table of Contents

1. 2012 PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE	1
2. EDITOR’S NOTES	2
3. TRIBUTES	3
4. DECADE NEWS	8
a) The Late 1920s	8
b) The 1930s	8
c) The Late 1940s & Early 1950s	9
d) The 1950s	12
e) The 1960s	14
f) The 1970s	15
g) The 2000s	15
h) The 2010s	16
5. CHARITABLE DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM WESTON COLLEGIATE ALUMNI IN 2011	18
6. IN MEMORIAM	19
7. WESTON COLLEGIATE ALUMNI FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR 2012 - 2013	20
8. WESTON COLLEGIATE ALUMNI FOUNDATION DONATION & NEWSLETTER APPLICATION FORM	21

EDITOR’S NOTES

This year’s Alumni Newsletter is the nineteenth produced to date. The first four Newsletters were published in December 1993, December 1994, December 1995 and December 1996. No Newsletter was published in 1997 – probably because volunteers were exhausted from working on the 140th Reunion of October 1997. Since that reunion, the Newsletter has been published every June starting in June 1998 until the current one in June 2012.

The first issue of the Newsletter was a modest four-page effort that was photocopied at the York Board of Education Offices and was distributed free hoping that voluntary donations from alumnae/alumni might at least cover the mailing costs. Unfortunately, voluntary donations did not cover mailing costs during the first three years and effective December 1996, the Newsletter was only mailed to persons that had purchased a five year subscription for \$10 or a lifetime subscription for \$25.

By June 2003, the Newsletter had become a serious financial burden and effective June 2004, the Foundation stopped selling subscriptions and posted the Newsletter on its website, www.westonalumni.com, for the first time. Alumni who had purchased five-year subscriptions continued to receive the Newsletter annually until their subscription lapsed. Many persons who had purchased life-time subscriptions elected to continue receiving “hard copies”, and several agreed to receive the Newsletter by electronic mail. Persons who never subscribed to the Newsletter can view it by visiting our website. O. M.

TRIBUTES

Russell Holder (1933-2012)

by Debbie (Holder) Kirkby

Russ Holder was born in Toronto's west-end on October 29, 1933 and graduated from the Vocational Department of WCVS in 1952. He then joined DeHavilland Aircraft where he worked for some four or five years until his department was shutdown. Next, Russ joined RH Nichols Ltd., a firm that made specialized instrumentation and control equipment for hydro-electric power stations where he remained for 16 years until the Company closed its doors. In 1972 Russ joined Acres International, consulting engineers, a firm which designed hydro-electric and thermal generating stations in many parts of the world. While working with Acres, Russ was posted to several parts of the world including Baghdad, Iraq; Nairobi, Kenya; Barbados; Bermuda; Jamaica; and elsewhere. Because of these postings, he also visited many other countries including Switzerland, England, Spain, and Greece.

Russ married Lois O'Brien, a Toronto lass, in May 1956. Sadly, we're sorry to report that Lois passed away in October 2006. These loving parents and grandparents had four children and six grandchildren. Russ lived in Stouffville for 52 years (1960-2012) where he was a dedicated volunteer with several service organizations – particularly as Secretary-Treasurer of the Stouffville Lions Club. He was involved in several sports – hockey, baseball, bowling and golf but in recent years, golf was his passion and he played it at least twice per week with friends and family members.

Russ Holder died of cancer on January 10, 2012 in his 79th year. Mr. Jim Mason, Editor of the Stouffville Sun-Tribune paid him the following tribute:

“Quietly, he made Stouffville a better place. His funeral in Markham was a tribute to a wonderful community soul. His name will live on in the work of the Lions and through his children and grandchildren – Quietly – The way Russ Holder liked it.”

Reg Kellam (1934-2012)

by Rudy & Audrey Miller

Reg Kellam was born in Weston on January 16, 1934 and grew up on a farm on Highway 27 near Rexdale Boulevard in northern Etobicoke. He graduated from WCVS in 1952 and subsequently completed the Business Course offered by Ryerson. Following graduation from Ryerson, Reg taught at Bracebridge High School for two years and while there, he continued with several summer and night school courses at Wilfrid Laurier leading to a Bachelor of Arts Degree (BA) with a major in Business and a minor in Geography. In 1965 Reg left Bracebridge and accepted a position with the North York Board of Education, first teaching at Earl Haig Collegiate (where he remained for over 15 years) and later at Nelson A. Boylen Secondary School. He retired in 1989.

In 1959, Reg married Mary Gunn who is also a WCVS alumna. They have four children and 13 grandchildren. Over the years they enjoyed many wonderful summers at their cottage in Muskoka and winters at their condominium in Fort Myers, Florida.

Reg was an avid golfer and a champion bocci ball player. He was also a very dedicated husband, father, grandfather and will certainly be missed by his family and his many friends. Reg passed away on February 19, 2012 of a heart attack, about five weeks after celebrating his 78th birthday. Mary still resides at their condominium in Toronto.

Stanley Josiah “Si” Leuty Ph.D. (1934-2011) *by Todd and Michael Leuty*

Si graduated from WCVS in 1952 and went on to complete a Bachelor of Horticultural Science from Ontario Agricultural College (OAC '58) at the University of Guelph (then a satellite of the University of Toronto). He is fondly remembered among his alumni friends as one of the “Florida Firemen”, after he and six friends drove a 1925 REO Speedwagon fire truck to Florida for Christmas break in 1957/58. Si continued his education at Michigan State University where concurrently he completed his Master and Ph.D. in horticulture in 1962.

Dr. Leuty began his career in 1963, teaching chemistry at the University of Wisconsin (Madison), where he also completed his post-doctorate training. In 1965, he returned to Ontario, first to Smithfield and later to Brighton, to begin work in apple research with Agriculture Canada, testing new apple cultivars and rootstock, and developing new high-density planting systems. In 1974, he and his family moved to St. Catharines to work at the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario, Vineland. There, he conducted research in the Niagara region developing new peach and nectarine cultivars for fresh market and processing industries. Eventually he became the Director of the Vineland research station, retiring from research work in 1981. While in St. Catharines, Si was an active member of the St. Catharines Singing Saints barbershop choir. He then moved to Meaford, Ontario to become a full time apple grower, fulfilling a lifelong desire to return to farming as he and his family did when he was young. He and his wife, Myrna, established and operated a large-scale apple orchard and controlled atmosphere storage until they retired in 2001.

Si married Myrna (nee Risebrough of Richmond Hill) in 1958 and they raised four children. Kirk (b.1958-1990) graduated from Confederation College (Thunder Bay) before joining the Royal Canadian Air Force. He became one of Canada's top airshow pilots, demonstrating the F-18, before he was tragically killed in a NATO training accident in 1990 just prior to the Gulf war. He was married to Barb, and his three children, Michelle, Daryl and Nina are now young adults. Todd (b.1961) graduated from the University of Guelph with a BSc. and MSc. He and his wife Isabelle have two children, Scott and Claire. Jennifer (b.1964) completed her BSc. at the University of Guelph and she and her husband, Jack Cullen, raise thoroughbred race horses. Michael (b.1972) finished a BA in anthropology at Wilfrid Laurier and a post-graduate diploma of education at the University of Wollongong, NSW. He is currently back at Laurier working on his Master of Social Work (MSW). He is married to Natalie and they have two children, Aaron and Emma.

Si had four older sisters, Joy, Pat, Mary and Johanna, and was the youngest child and only son of the late Stanley and Nellie Leuty. Stanley Leuty Sr. was a mathematics and phys.ed. teacher at Weston Collegiate & Vocational School for many years.

Si and Myrna enjoyed 53 years of marriage with a shared love of golf, travel, family and friends. Their relationship was regarded by all as a model of unconditional love, respect and friendship. They were active members of their Guelph Alumni, which they considered an extended family. Myrna passed away in June 2011 after a long illness. Si died suddenly in October 2011. They are both remembered fondly and sadly missed.

Bob Scott (1933 – 2011)

By Orlando Martini & Ken Kitchen

Bob Scott was born in Guelph, Ontario on May 25, 1933. The following year, his parents, Wilfrid and Hazel Scott, moved the family to Woodbridge where they had purchased Deans Funeral Home and Ambulance Service. Bob grew up in Woodbridge and lived there for 75 of his 78 years; year one was spent in Guelph and his final two years in the Aurora-Newmarket area. In Bob's day, there was no high school in the Woodbridge/Kleinburg/Nobleton area and as a result, students from those communities were "bussed" to Weston Collegiate & Vocational School (WCVS) where they were affectionately known as the "bus kids". Bob was a 1952 graduate of WCVS and until his final days on Earth, remained a proud alumnus of the School. He was also a very strong supporter of the Weston Collegiate Alumni Foundation (WCAF) having served on its Executive for twelve years – two years as Vice President, four years as President, four years as Past President and two years as a Member-At-Large (Jan 1986 – Dec 1997).

Bob married Jane Buckley, a Registered Nurse, on September 28, 1957 and together they raised two sons, Brad and Jeff, who not surprisingly, followed in their father's and grandfather's footsteps and became funeral directors. On September 28, 2007, Bob and Jane celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

It has been reported that Bob was involved in his father's firm, W.R. Scott Funeral Home & Ambulance Service, long before he graduated from WCVS. Indeed, those of us that were his high school classmates know that he had a driver's license by age 16, was involved with the ambulance service as a teenager when he was strong enough to lift a patient or help carry a stretcher.

As time passed, Bob took over management of the ambulance service from his father and took this responsibility to the profession and to patient-care very seriously. He was active in the St. John's Ambulance, the Canadian Red Cross, The International First Aid & Rescue Association and the Ontario Ambulance Operators Association. Under Bob's watch, Scott Ambulance Service grew and was involved in several newsworthy events including:

- The Devastation of Hurricane Hazel in 1954 – Bob and his staff worked countless hours with local Police, Fire and other Rescue Agencies, treating and transporting victims to hospital or safety.
- The Air Canada Crash Near Woodbridge in July 1970 – Both Scott Funeral Home and Ambulance Service played pivotal roles in the days following this event which claimed 108 lives.

As time passed, Bob's knowledge of pre-hospital care and disaster management became widely known and he made many presentations on the subject locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. Along the way, he was also a driving force behind the Ambulance & Emergency Care Program at Humber College where he served for several years as Chair of the program's Advisory Committee.

Unfortunately, Bob Scott did not inherit his father's longevity genes and his last few years on Earth were plagued with ill-health including Parkinson's disease. He passed away on December 22, 2011 in his 79th year.

Bob, dear friend – thanks for the memories.

Rest in Peace and may God bless you.

Peter Snarr (1959-2012)

By Nancy Phillips-Amodeo

Peter was one of the three railway engineers who passed away in the tragic via rail train derailment on Feb 26, 2012 in Burlington.

Peter graduated from Weston Collegiate Institute (WCI) in 1978 and followed in his father's footsteps by going to work for CN at 18 years of age. He started as a brakeman then went to Gimli Manitoba to become a railway engineer. Upon his return to Toronto he was placed at the Macmillan Train yard in Vaughan. From here he went on to become conductor for GO Transit for many years before moving to VIA a few years ago.

Born in Windsor and spent much of his summers at the family cottage on Lake Couchiching north of Orillia where he would boat and fish with his daughters Kristina and Samantha.

He always loved sports, playing football and rugby at WCI and coached his daughters in baseball as well as enjoying hockey, golf and Nascar racing.

While at WCI he was well known for his sense of humour founding the hard to define pseudo-musical group "The Flaming Wombats". The Wombats would appear at most school sporting events entertaining all with their costumes and songs, none of which could be reprinted here!

Peter your love for life and your laughter will resonate in our hearts and memories forever.

"The Flaming Wombats will rise again!!"

One look at this photo sums up Peter Snarr.



Front Row Left to Right: Ed MacDonald (open mouth); Vladimir Vucovic, Peter Snarr (white shirt); John Rombough (who passed away three years ago) is behind Vladimir; Gary Fors is on John's shoulder

Keith Clark (1930-2012)

By Orlando Martini

After graduating from WCVS in the spring of 1948, Keith Clark enrolled in Forestry at the University of Toronto and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree (BScF) in 1952. Following graduation, Keith worked for approximately one year for the Department of Lands & Forests in Northern Ontario and then joined his step-father's firm, Ron Hastings Co. Ltd., - a specialty machine and welding shop in North York. He remained with the firm as its financial officer and office manager until the shop was closed and the property sold for re-development in 2007. Unfortunately, Keith's retirement years were short and sad. He died of cancer on May 24, 2012 after a lengthy illness at the age of 82. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Nancy, sister Heather (Hastings) Bain, brothers Don and Bruce, daughter Debbie (Clark) Sprake and her husband David plus three grandchildren.

Byron Victor Tweedy (1931-2011)

By Orlando Martini

“Vic” Tweedy as he was known to most of his friends and colleagues, was born in Toronto on June 30, 1931, to Forrest Byron and Una (née Southall) Tweedy. He was raised in Weston, Ontario, graduating from Memorial Public School in 1944 and Weston Collegiate and Vocational school (WCVS) in 1949. He attended Victoria College, University of Toronto for one year and subsequently joined the Canadian Army in 1951. Following graduation from the Canadian Army Staff College, Byron Victor Tweedy held a variety of command, staff and other appointments in Canada, eventually attaining the rank of Major. Prior to unification of the Canadian Army, Navy and Air Force, Major Tweedy was a member of The Royal Canadian Ordinance Corp and following unification was attached to the Logistics Branch of the Canadian Armed Forces. He was also a United Nations and Nato soldier having served approximately fourteen years in Korea, Japan, Lebanon, Cyprus, Vietnam and Germany (three tours of duty). In total, Major Tweedy’s military career spanned more than thirty-three years (1951-1984). His final posting was to Headquarters Maritime Command (Pacific) in 1981 at which time he took up residence in Sooke on Vancouver Island where he resided until his passing on October 9, 2011.

An inveterate traveler, there are few parts of the World which Major Tweedy did not visit. He prided himself on having visited more than seventy countries.

Major Tweedy remained single until his late fifties when he became a devoted family man. He is sadly missed by his beloved wife Margarita Mancera Tweedy (née Canedo) and daughter Byrona Sophia Michelle Tweedy, both of Sooke B.C. He also leaves a son, Dr. Christopher McClure of Florida, U.S.A. and three McClure grandchildren. Although he never lived in the area, Byron Victor Tweedy will be buried in a family plot in Hillcrest Cemetery, Smith Falls, Ontario where his Irish ancestors from Eire settled circa 1832.

Byron “Vic” Tweedy has been a very strong supporter of the Weston Collegiate Alumni Foundation (WCAF) since it was founded in 1982 when WCI/WCVS celebrated the School’s 125th Anniversary. He attended the 1982 Reunion and the subsequent ones in 1987 (130th Anniversary), 1997 (140th), 2002 (145th) and 2007, the School’s Sesquicentennial. His annual donations to the Foundation during the period 1982-2011 totaled over \$2000. Rest in peace “Vic”, your generosity and support of the WCAF will be sorely missed.

Editor’s Note

The foregoing tribute to Byron “Vic” Tweedy is a condensed version of an extensive obituary notice which was published in the Ottawa Citizen on October 13, 2011 and provided to your Editor by Keith Harris of Ottawa. A similar obituary notice which appeared in the Times Colonist of Victoria, B.C. was supplied by Margarita Tweedy. Thanks Margarita and Keith. O.M.

DECADE NEWS

The Late 1920s

by June (Anderson) & Douglas Musselwhite

In last year's Newsletter, we did a write up about **Miss Evelyn Ackrow** who graduated from WHVS in 1930. We thought that Evelyn was Weston's oldest living graduate, and nobody has come forward since to challenge this claim.

This summer, on July 11/2012, our oldest alumna will celebrate her 100th birthday with a party. Happy Birthday, Evelyn!

On Thursday, July 11, 1912 on the family's 100 acre farm on Highway 27 where Humber College now stands, Sarah Evelyn Ackrow was born. She started her schooling at nearby Highfield Public School which was at the south-east corner of Highway 27 and Rexdale Blvd. Then in 1918, her father, John Ackrow, sold the farm and moved the family into Weston where he became a house builder. One of the houses Mr. Ackrow built was at 12 Fern Avenue where his family lived for many years. After his wife died, their only child, nine year old Evelyn was raised largely by her father's maiden sister. Evelyn continued her education at King Street Public School and then Weston High and Vocational school from which she graduated in 1930. She then attended a business college in Toronto.

Evelyn's father established a real estate and insurance business in the old Bank of Nova Scotia building at Main and Dufferin (now Weston Road and Lawrence Avenue) which later moved north on Weston Road next door to Squibb's Stationers. Following her father's death, his brother Herb took over the business. Later the firm became Ackrow and Wells when Herb Ackrow's son-in-law, Laurie Wells, joined the business in 1946. Evelyn joined this family business after finishing her schooling and worked there until she retired in 1976.

For many years Evelyn remained in the family home on Fern Avenue where her long time neighbours included the Bannerman, Heslop, Sainsbury, Ambrose, Milroy and Taylor families. Before Evelyn moved in 2000, to the senior's residence, Weston Gardens (formerly Central Park Lodge) on Queens Drive, she had lived for a number of years in an apartment at Weston Road and Lawrence Avenue.

Evelyn is a life-long member of Central United Church, Weston, an avid bridge and euchre player and after her retirement she travelled widely, including trips to Florida and Hawaii.

Although she uses a walker to get around, Evelyn is in fairly good health and is looking forward to celebrating her 100th birthday in the summer of 2012.

The 1930s

by Orlando Martini

We are pleased to report that **Helen (Eagle) Abrahams**, who turned 93 on February 18, 2012, continues to enjoy good health. She still lives in her King City home and carpet bowls weekly at the local Seniors' Centre. Currently, Helen is busy "emptying the house" of clothes etc. that she no longer uses and local charities are the beneficiaries.

On June 1, 2012, **Fred Worthington** will celebrate one year in his Walkerton, Ontario Seniors' Residence – about six weeks before his 94th birthday on July 14/2012. He and his late wife lived in Walkerton from 1943 until 1956 while he was in the employ of the railway and he commented that the rent on their apartment in those years was \$8 per month (Fred has an amazing memory for dates and events). His health is generally good except that he needs a cane if he walks any distance. Currently, he is enjoying the

Stanley Cup playoffs, Blue Jays baseball and golf on his television. Friends that Fred met in Walkerton during the period 1943-1956 are “all gone” but his youngest daughter and her husband (both retired school teachers) live nearby in Paisley and he sees them weekly. All being well, they will bring Fred to the October 27, 2012 School Reunion.

The Late 1940s & Early 1950s *by Orlando Martini*

In last year’s Newsletter, we reported that **Dr. Wesley Turner** (class of 1952 WCVS) had just completed his latest book, “*The Astonishing General, The Life and Legacy of Sir Isaac Brock*”. Last month, Dr. Turner received a letter from the Ontario Historical Society which advised that his book was being awarded the 2011 Donald Grant Creighton Award honouring the best book of biography or autobiography highlighting life in Ontario, past or present published within the past three years. The Honours and Awards Ceremony will take place on Saturday June 9, 2012 at 12:00PM at the Waterloo Region Museum in Kitchener. Congratulations and very best wishes Wes!

It should also be noted that in 2011, Dr. Turner’s earlier book, “British Generals In the War of 1812” was brought out in paperback by McGill – Queen’s University Press. On this basis, one must conclude that 2011 was a very good year for Dr. Turner. We would also remind alumnae and alumni of Weston Collegiate that Professor Turner served as Editor-In-Chief of the Commemorative Book that the Weston Collegiate Alumni Foundation published for the School’s sesquicentennial in 2007.

Following graduation from WCVS in 1952, **Stuart Harvey** enrolled in the MPC (Math/Physics/ Chemistry) course at University College, U. of T., where he earned a B.Sc. and M.A. degrees. He then went on to Oxford University in England where he earned a Ph.D. in Physics.

Dr. Harvey returned to Toronto after completing his studies at Oxford and taught Physics at the U. of T. from 1962 until 1970. From 1971 until 1993 he worked as a Research Scientist with Ontario Hydro. After “retiring” from Ontario Hydro, Dr. Harvey worked as a private consultant for about fifteen years, finally retiring a few years ago when he reached age 75. Stuart and his wife are long-time residents of Etobicoke where they raised two sons and a daughter. They have four grandchildren.

Dr. Harvey’s older brother, **David**, transferred from WCVS to Northern Vocational after completing grade 10 where he studied electronics. Subsequently, he graduated from the electronics course offered by Ryerson and then worked for several years at Atomic Energy’s complex in Chalk River, Ontario. After leaving Atomic Energy, David joined the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Nova Scotia as an electronics specialist. David Harvey, who will celebrate his 80th birthday in 2012, still resides in Dartmouth N.S.

Stuart and David Harvey have twin brothers, **Terry and Michael Shaw** who adopted the family name of their step-father (Mrs. Harvey’s second husband). We’re sorry to report that, Terry, who graduated from WCVS in the late 1950s, and became a curator at the Halifax Maritime Museum, passed away from pancreatic cancer in 2005. Brother Michael, a U. of T. graduate in anthropology, is retired and living in Belleville where he is an active member of the Bay of Quinte Yacht Club. Prior to retiring, Michael worked for Canadian Standards Association (CSA) for over 16 years and for the past ten years has been on the Board of the Hastings County Historical Society.

**Weston Collegiate “Old Boys”
of the 40s & 50s** *by Pat Falby*

About eleven years ago (in 2001), four “Old Boys” of Weston Collegiate & Vocational School (WCVS) had lunch to celebrate the lives of two recently deceased colleagues/brothers, namely, **Doug Falby and Robin Dunlop**, both of whom had grown-up in Weston’s south-end. It was a most enjoyable get-together where the four reminisced about old times and decided to organize a pre-Christmas luncheon again next year (2002) with more “Old Boys” being invited.

The 2002 (second), 2003 (third) and 2004 (fourth) reunions were held at the Delta Hotel in Mississauga (Highway 401/Mississauga Road area) while the fifth was hosted by **Ralph McCormick** at the Oakville Country Club. The next four reunions were hosted by the late **Bill “Louie” Reil** at the Brampton Golf at Country Club (2006-09) and the last two were also at the Brampton Golf & Country Club and hosted by **Jack Kelly**, a Past President of the Club. Jack has a wide circle of friends in the Weston area and for over thirty years has been the prime organizer (with **Chuck Wardrope and Ed Calhoun**) of the Ron Buckley Benefit Golf Tournament for muscular dystrophy, the disease that ended our colleague Ron’s life at an early age.

In recent years, the following Weston Old Boys have passed away: **Bill Bain, George “Joe” Harley, Bill Plewes, Bill “Louie” Reil and Don Trimble**. However, this popular pre-Christmas luncheon still manages to draw some 20 to 25 Old Boys from the following roster (in alphabetical order): **Dave Allat, Dixon Ambler, Peter Armstrong, Lou Bunda, Al Chard, Bob Chard, Gordon “Gus” Chard, Wilf Chard, Gary Eatough, Pat Falby** (the Prime Organizer), **Bill Francis, Doug Heathfield, Stew Hill, Brian Holden, Ron Hurst, Marvin Kutz, Jack Kelly, Bruce Lee, Orlando Martini, Santo Martini, Ralph McCormick, Bob McPhie, Rudy Miller, Dave Plewes, Clark Pulford, Gary Seagrave, Norm Smith and Chuck Wardrope**. Each year the list of invited Old Boys seems to grow and two or three that came to the 2011 Reunion were first-time attendees. Other Weston Old Boys from the 40s and 50s are welcome to join the group by contacting Pat Falby – Phone: 905-829-9917 and/or Email: pfalby@cogeco.ca.

The photo on page 11 was taken with Rudy Miller’s camera and shows the old Boys that attended the December 2011 Reunion.

Weston Collegiate Old Boys' Reunion & Lunch

Wed. Dec.7, 2011, at Brampton Golf Course



Back Row (Left to Right): Bruce Lee, Dixon Ambler, Bob MacPhie, Bill Francis, Dave Plewes, Santo Martini, Ron Hurst.

Front Row (Left to Right): Norm Smith, Jack Kelly, Gary Seagrave, Orlando Martini, (Brian Holden, behind), Pat Falby, (Gus (Gord) Chard, behind), Wilf Chard, (Stew Hill, behind), Chuck Wardrope.

Sitting: Rudy Miller

The 1950s

by Margaret (Crombie) Rome

Last summer the C12-1958-WCVS graduating class held a reunion, organized by Connie (Lyles) Muhl. 15 women met at a restaurant in Newmarket, which was a central location for all of us. This was the first get-together since the 150th anniversary weekend, so there was lots of talking and catching up. From the emails received after the event, everyone had a great time!! Hopefully, this will be a yearly event from now on. Below is a picture of all who attended, and a listing of the names below.



Back Row Left to Right: Laura (Lambie) Budd, Eva (Langdon) Osborne, Margaret (Crombie) Rome, Connie (Lyles) Muhl, Joan (Dalziel) Todd, Carole (Sutton) Black, Barbara (Locke) Cook, Orian (Strachan) Fingler, Theresa (Hayes) Metcalfe.

Front Row Left to Right: Virginia (Sewell) Wainman, Bernice (Masters) Nixon, Dale (Garvey) Marcotte, Sheila (Grundy) Garner, Lois (Vaughan) Maters, Joan (Warren) Stork.

A WCVS Alumni Group of the Late 1950s & Early 1960s
by Ethel (Mertens) Corry

In 2003 a few WCVS alumni of the late 50s and early 60s organized a reunion for early October in St. Jacobs. It was such a success that the practice has continued every year except for 2007 when it was held in Weston in conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of WCVS/WCI. Since most of the Reunion attendees are retired and have more free time, it is fun to reminisce and share family news. Five years ago, the meeting place was changed from the Stone Crock Restaurant in St. Jacobs to the At-The-Crossroads Restaurant located north of St. Jacobs and south of Elmira where Highway 85 meets Listowel Road.

The following persons attended the 2011 Reunion: *Cathie (Mackay)* and *Alex Durrant* of London, Ont.; *Linda (Musselwhite)* and *Bob Long* also of London; *Bonnie (Lamont)* and *Gary Holloway* of Caledon East; *Helen (Bowman)* and *George Grainger* of Elmira; *June (Anderson)* and *Doug Musselwhite* of Etobicoke; *Doreen (Boden)* and *Bob Dennison* of Brampton; *Sandra (Bannerman)* and *Russ Jones* of Kleinburg; *Nancy (Taylor)* and *Rodger Cummins* of Toronto; *Gail (Robinson) Tiessen* of Kleefeld, Manitoba; *Sylvia (Papa) Danzie* of Clifford, Ont.; *Ethel (Mertens)* and *Charlie Corry* of Listowel.

Several others attended earlier reunions including: *Andra (Cairns)* and *Pieter Ripping* of Stouffville; *Helen (Smith)* and *Mike Hamilton* of West Lorne; *Judy Pearson* of Huntsville; *Carol (Ambler)* and *Jim Coon* of Kettleby; *Joan Sainsbury* of Weston; *Sandra (Hamner) Doyle* of Edmonton, AB; and *Joanne (Middelmas) Gabura* of Oakville.

If the foregoing names conjure up memories and you would like to attend future reunions, please call **Bonnie at 905-584-0181** (gbholloway@bell.net) or **Ethel at 519-291-5106** (corry@persona.ca) and we will provide you with the date and location of the 2012 gathering.

The 1960s TOPS News, Feb. 2012

In last year's Alumni Newsletter we reported that Judy (Rhodes) LaFortune (WCVS class of 1965) and her husband had moved to the pulp and paper mill Town of Powell River B.C. Earlier this year, Judy sent us the attached heart-warming story which appeared in the February 2012 issue of TOPS NEWS. (TOPS is an active weight-loss support group in Canada and the USA whose full name is "Take Off Pounds Sensibly").

"Six Legs Walking the Road to Success"

When Kahlua, a Labrador cross, joined Judy La Fortune's family in 2008, he was morbidly obese and could barely walk. Judy, a member of TOPS BC 1755 Powell River since 2011, had also struggled with her weight. She reached her goal once, only to backslide, and seriously considered quitting TOPS. "We laugh about that time now because, as Judy says, we wouldn't let her quit!" writes British Columbia Area captain Barbara Richards.



With her TOPS training, Judy knew exactly what Kahlua needed: portion control, eating vegetables and fruit (carrots are Kahlua's favorite), and walking – lots of walking. They started out slowly, with Kahlua walking painfully down the driveway. But, every day they could go a little further. Soon, Judy and Kahlua were exploring the neighborhood. They even joined a daily dog-walking group.

Within a year, Kahlua reached his goal – 100 pounds lost. Judy also reached her's – 35 pounds lost – and has been able to maintain that loss for more than a year!

"Judy and Kahlua still faithfully attend our weekly TOPS meetings, where Judy serves as our trusty Secretary," Barbara notes. "Kahlua waits patiently outside until the meeting is over when he and Judy can go for another walk."

The 1970s Authors Wish To Remain Anonymous

George Darnowski lives in Schomberg and has two boys. He is working for Watts in Burlington.

Fulvio Sansone is learning to play guitar – part of his bucket list.

Nancy MacEachern has moved to Victoria

John Beran has been approached to resurrect the Weston Collegiate football program.

Mark Armstrong is still working for HP.

Rick Shortt and **Kevin Doyle** both retired from the Post Office recently.

Stephanie Haliburn, a former Sunshine Girl, was recently in the Sun as a moonlight lady. She is an actress and teaches zumba.

Rob Thompson recently joined his brother Mel Thompson on his bike ride across Canada in support of mental health awareness.

Peter Swanic has opened a place in Gravenhurst called Peter's Players, showcasing music artists such as Johnny Winter.

Dave Archer is doing motivational speaking combined with golf

Sharon Snider is a yoga instructor.

Connie Winkleman is an owner of Yuk Yucks in London Ontario.

Albert Laroccas's daughter Christine recently got married.

Denise Santarossa won an award for her teaching of young children.

Kim Dodman is still doing theater across Ontario.

Nancy Phillips-Amodeo ran her seventh marathon in New York City in November 2011. Her earlier marathons were in Mississauga in 2005 (first), Las Vegas (second), Toronto (third), Corning N.Y. (fourth), Toronto (fifth) and Mississauga again (sixth). On November 4, 2012, Nancy will run her eight marathon – again in New York City.

You are encouraged to visit the facebook page – “**We are from Weston and we will not be moved**”. Great collection of old pictures.

In memory we think of – **Andrew McCarthy, Bill Duncan, Peter Snarr and Elton Horner** who was the coolest guy from Weston.

The 1970s

Kevin Turner has been married for 25 years to Cheryl and has two daughters Mallory and Samantha. He has lived in Burlington for 24 years and has been in sales for 28 years with the Toy and Giftware company Ganz in Woodbridge.

Simon Cheung is living in Mississauga, has 2 sons and a daughter, and has 2 Kelsey's Restaurants , 1 in Burlington and 1 in Oakville.

The 2000s

Marisa Giorno, Office Administrator at WCI reported that **Aaron Persad** and **Amy Do** visited the School in March 2012. Aaron hopes to complete his Ph.D in Quantum Physics this year and Amy is completing her third year in mechanical engineering – both at the U. of T.

Anne Dale, the I.B. Coordinator at WCI reported that **Joti Randhawa** (a 2011 grad) is completing her first year at Carleton University and has been working as a Page in the Federal Houses of Parliament.

The 2010s

by Megan O’Toole, National Post April 17/2012

Quick-acting high-school teacher credited with saving student’s life with defibrillator



Weston Collegiate Institute gym teacher Jeff Crewe poses with the defibrillator that he used to save student Ajethan Ramachandranathan's life. Teachers receive defibrillator training on an annual basis.

A west-end gym teacher and his assistant are being credited with saving a Grade 12 student’s life after they used a defibrillator to revive the teenager, who had stopped breathing.

Jeff Crewe, who teaches physical education at Weston Collegiate Institute, jumped into action Friday morning after 18-year-old Ajethan Ramachandranathan collapsed in the middle of class.

“I was standing at the doorway. Immediately, the other students in the class hollered to me and I ran over to him and looked at him, and he was gasping,” Mr.

Crewe recalled. “I looked in his eyes and his eyes were rolled back a bit.”

Mr. Ramachandranathan, described by his sister as a tall, athletic teen, lay gasping on the floor as staff called 911. Student teacher Jessica Sung, who was on her last day of training with Mr. Crewe, rushed to fetch the defibrillator, and just in time: As they rolled Mr. Ramachandranathan into the recovery position, he stopped breathing.

‘When you think that even the one time, it saved someone’s life — it’s quite remarkable’

At that point, Mr. Crewe said, they gave the 18-year-old a shock with the defibrillator, and continued with chest compressions until the young man began to gasp for breath again. Minutes later, paramedics arrived and took over.

While all secondary schools in the Toronto District School Board, and some elementary schools, are equipped with defibrillators, it is relatively rare that the devices are actually used. Within the past couple of years, there have been two similar incidents, a spokeswoman said.

“We train quite regularly for it but to put it into practice was something quite different,” Mr. Crewe said, noting the experience was “stressful, but once we found out the student was doing OK, I felt much better.”

At the time he collapsed, Mr. Ramachandranathan — who has no known heart or lung conditions — had stopped to chat with a fellow student after doing some “light activity,” principal Deborah Blair said.

“We have no idea why it happened,” she added.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Ramachandranathan remained in hospital, awaiting a transfer to Toronto General for tests to hopefully shed light on why he collapsed, said his sister, Sarmela Ramachandranathan. The family was both “shocked” by the incident and “grateful” at the quick response by staff, she said.

“He never had chest pains or anything, and we just get a phone call saying he collapsed,” Ms. Ramachandranathan recalled, noting her brother had not recovered a full memory of what happened that day.

For now, he is doing fine, reading books and keeping himself “as entertained as possible” during his hospital stay, she added.

“We’re very grateful,” Ms. Ramachandranathan added. “It’s amazing how things can happen in seconds, just like that.”

Ms. Blair (Principal at WCI), praised the actions of Mr. Crewe and Ms. Sung, along with vice-Principal Bernard Lee, who accompanied Mr. Ramachandranathan to the hospital and remained there for much of Friday to comfort the student’s family. Mr. Crewe reconvened his class afterward to debrief and allow students a chance to discuss their feelings on the incident, she added.

“One of the things that really struck me was how the staff responded so well to the situation and did everything that needed to be done to save a student’s life,” Ms. Blair said.

Ms. Blair also touted the value of defibrillator training, which teachers receive on an annual basis.

“When you think that even the one time, it saved someone’s life — it’s quite remarkable,” she said.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS RECEIVED FROM WESTON COLLEGIATE ALUMNI IN 2011

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IN MEMORIAM

Since publication of the last alumni Newsletter in June 2011, the Weston Collegiate Alumni Foundation has been informed of the passing of the alumnae/alumni/staff listed below. Heartfelt condolences are extended to the families and friends of the deceased. Please let us know if we have missed anyone.

Era	Name	Residence	Date
40s/50s	Olive (Arlow) Watson	Kleinburg, Ont.	Jul 4/11
30s/40s	Elwy Yost CM	West Vancouver, B.C.	Jul 21/11
40s	Maurice “Moe” Thibodeau	RR #3 Guelph, Ont.	Jul 31/11
50s	Bruce Wilson	Kleinburg, Ont.	Aug 15/11
50s	Bob Templeton Jr.	Hawkestone, Ont.	Aug 27/11
50s/60s	Elizabeth (Bull) Pashby	Leaside, Ont.	Sep 5/11
30x	Marie (Penny) Dobson	Oakville, Ont.	Sep 30/11
40s	Byron B. Victor Tweedy	Sooke, B.C.	Oct 9/11
40s	Isobel (Barker) Gardhouse	Alliston, Ont.	Oct 11/11
40s	George “Joe” Harley	Brampton, Ont.	Oct 14/11
40s/50s	Stanley “Si” Leuty	Meaford, Ont.	Oct 25/11
40s	Mary (Gordon) Yeatman	Acton, Ont.	Nov 13/11
30s	Trevor Pawson	Haliburton, Ont.	Nov 19/11
40s/50s	Robert (Bob) Scott	Aurora, Ont.	Dec 22/11
40s/50s	Russ Holder	Stouffville, Ont.	Jan 20/12
Staff 1952-64	P.H. “Pete” Ferguson	London, Ont.	Jan 23/12
40s/50s	Reg Kellam	Toronto, Ont.	Feb 19/12
60s	Peter Sartell	Mississauga, Ont.	Feb 19/12
70s	Peter Snarr	Etobicoke, Ont.	Feb 26/12
40s	Mary (Macdonald) Hammond	Toronto, Ont.	Apr 2/12
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30s	Viola (Gowland) Murray	Weston, Ont.	Apr 20/12
40s	Harold Moir	Brighton, Ont.	Apr 24/12
40s	Keith Clark	Unionville, Ont.	May 24/12

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