



South Collegiate Alumni Association  
Spring 2011

# LIONS' PRIDE

*Virtus Repulsae Nescia Sordidae*



## Larger than Life: Memories of Jean McRobert

by Dr. Jamie Henderson  
(‘56)

(Note: Dr. Henderson is currently on the staff of the Hospice of Windsor and Essex County Inc.)

### A Memory from the 50's

Much like Bill Hennessy (See *Spring 2010*, "Grad Recalls Some Memorable Teachers from The 1950's", P.10), one of my clearest memories in the secondary school category of memories (and, in retrospect, a highlight), was the presence of Jean McRobert.

I had Mr. Dinsmore in my early mathematics courses and I seemed to have been successful, as I was promoted to the first level of Geometry under the guidance of Jean McRobert. My first test results were in the mid 20's. Miss McRobert sensed that I may have had potential, so she moved me to the front left of the classroom. I proceeded to give what I thought was a good effort and waited for the Christmas Exam.

On my return to her classroom in early January, I went to my front row seat, turned the completed exam over and was astounded to see the mark of 96!

On closer examination of the paper, I read the name *Fred Palmer* (not Jamie Hender-

son). Eventually, I made my way to the second last seat in the row by the door and saw MY paper, with the mark of 18. My absence of any sense of mathematical theory and ability was a cruel reality!

Miss McRobert sensed this and suggested I return for further enrichment of the fundamentals of Geometry at the Grade 11 level. She also suggested that I promise that I would not sign up for, or attempt in any way, the final Departmental Examination. I took her advice to heart and did not sit or stand for that exam. I knew then, and know now, that a 72 would never have been a reality.

### A Memory from the 70's

I was a member of the Gino Fracas *University of Windsor* football coaching staff for several years in the late 1960's and early 1970's. We had played a game against *Laurentian University* in Sudbury and on the trip home stayed overnight in Orillia. Several team members went out to celebrate, and on their return were very loud and caused some disruption to the guests at the hotel (a great deal of disruption!)

The next morning I was heading into the Dining Room to join the coaches for breakfast, when I noticed two ladies -who looked very much alike - talking to the on-duty

Manager about the noise and mayhem of the previous evening. Before I sat down I glanced toward the ladies one more time, and recognized *Jean McRobert*. I believe the other person was her twin sister, who had also been a mathematics teacher, in Toronto (I am fairly sure of that because Miss McRobert used to always say "Faster 13D... my sister is two or three lessons ahead with her course")

On sizing up the situation, I slowly made my way out of the Dining Room without saying hello. I regret that now because I know she would have been kind, straightforward and to the point with her words. She likely would have said, "Well, Henderson, I am not surprised at the conduct of the Windsor team knowing that you are part of the leadership component." I will never know, because I missed that opportunity to say "Hello. How are you?". I wanted her to know that she had an impact on my life and career. She once told me I would be surprised what a little discipline and improved study habits would do to make me a better student. She was a person who was larger than life to me, and in her own way made any future education and career choices more rewarding.

**Editor's Note:** I'm sure that



Miss Jean McRobert in 1954  
Staff (1931 - 1969)

every student who attended South during the 38 year tenure of Jean McRobert will have his/her own memories. While some may not always have appreciated her teaching methods, she was, without question, a remarkable teacher who inspired countless students to strive for academic excellence. One student wrote a poetic tribute for the 1968-69 yearbook which included the following lines: *Thank you Miss McRobert for making me know "my best", for helping me understand that only the "best" is worth producing... Thank you for both your praise and your disappointment. They give me the will to work harder... Thank you Miss McRobert for your dedication, devotion and loyalty.*

# SOUTH'S OLYMPIAN RETURNS

by Pete Telford (Staff, 1978-98)

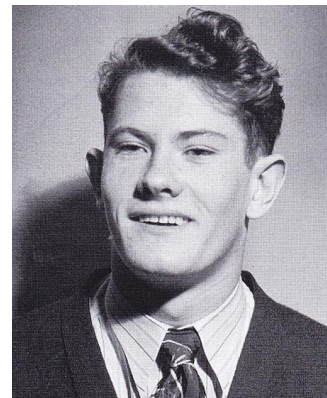
On the evening of January 7, 2011, the *South* Gym resonated with the cheers of a wide cross-section of fans who had come to welcome back the most successful basketball player in the school's history. Here was that slim forward who wore the #1 jersey, and captained the 1946 Senior club, back on the floor for the first time in 55 years! It was **Chuck Dalton** night at *SCI*.



**SENIOR BASKETBALL TEAM 1945-46**

**Back Row** (L to R): Bob Hill, Ted Rowe, Ron White, Henry Skinner, Bob Adams, Bill MacDonald, Herb McKegney

**Front Row** (L to R): Ross Morton (timekeeper), Dick Hutchinson, Mike Halliday, Bert J. Beattie (coach), Chuck Dalton (captain), Ed Walters, Paul Skinner (scorekeeper)



After Chuck Dalton graduated from *South* in 1946, he went on to study at the *University of Western Ontario* where he also pursued his basketball career, enjoying four seasons as a star with the *Mustangs*. After graduation from *UWO*, he was recruited by Gerry Livingston, to come to Tillsonburg and play for the team he was building, featuring players from around the province. In 1952, this team, called the *Tillsonburg Livingstons*, won the Ontario Men's Championship, defeated Winnipeg to win the Canadian Championship, and then bested the Canadian Intercollegiate Champions for the right to represent Canada at the 1952 Olympic Games in *Helsinki, Finland*.

The Canadians won their first three Preliminary Round games in Helsinki, but lost two very close games in the Main Round (57-55 to Brazil, and 82-81 to Argentina) and were eliminated. The eventual winners were the *USA* who defeated the *USSR* for the gold medal. But this young man from London Ontario had been to the top of the basketball world!

So, when Chuck Dalton returned to *South* this past January, as a spectator at the *South/Laurier* Senior Boys game and the Annual *South* Men's Alumni Game – a special celebration was in order. A replica jersey, with Chuck's old #1 and his name embroidered, was presented at the scorer's table and Chuck came on the floor to toss up the first ball of the Alumni Game.

It's nice to think of that *South* jersey sharing a place in the Dalton home with Chuck's Olympic shirt, and nice to see the man whose name is engraved on the Honour Roll in the front lobby of *South* back in the school again after more than five decades.





# SARAH PAJUK ART PURCHASE AWARD



Sarah Pajuk (1988)

On Oct. 14, 1989, South student, **Sarah Pajuk**, died tragically in a motorcycle accident. Only 19 years old, Sarah had recently moved to Burlington with her mother, after spending four years at South. A memorial service for Sarah was held at Huron College (where her father worked) and it was attended by a large group of former classmates. The day following this service, many of these students were together on a bus taking a South field trip to the Albright-Knox Gallery in Buffalo. While discussing their grief, they came up with the plan to create an "Art Purchase Award" in memory of Sarah. Subsequently, these students were able to raise enough money to support **The Sarah Pajuk Art Purchase Award** (\$100 annually) for a number of years.

Each year the award is given to a graduating student, one of whose artworks is purchased and hung in the school. The award criteria are said to reflect Sarah's personality. She was a risk-taker: *"strong, independent and self-directed, challenging the limits of what can be achieved"*.

Since the award was first presented, twenty-one art students have been recipients. For the complete list of award winners, see the box to the right. It is interesting to note that two of these winners are now on staff at South: **Andrew Huff ('98)**, a member of the Science Department, and **Irene (Mordas) Radchenko ('99)**, a member of the English Department.

It is equally interesting to note that some of Sarah's family members were unaware of the award that has been given out in her name since 1990. Earlier this year, Art Department Head, Teri Levack, received a phone call from a woman who turned out to be Sarah's aunt Hazel. She had just recently returned to London and was trying to locate another family member, when she came across a reference to the award and wondered if the person being honoured was her niece. Teri confirmed that it was indeed her niece and invited her to come to the school to see some of the artworks purchased in Sarah's name.

**FINAL NOTE:** If anyone can share any information as to the whereabouts, careers, etc., of any of the other Sarah Pajuk Award winners, please forward the details to [contact@southalumni.ca](mailto:contact@southalumni.ca).

## Sarah Pajuk Award Winners

1990	-	Andre Csapo
1991	-	Sharon Clark
1992	-	Sarah Leggett
1993	-	Jennifer Seachrist
1994	-	Dee Dolman
1995	-	Melanie Simpson
1996	-	Heather Lynch
1997	-	Ben Playford
1998	-	Andrew Huff
1999	-	Irene Mordas
2000	-	Besa Muslimi
2001	-	Duncan Patterson
2002	-	Amber Lee
2003	-	Peter Yuill
2004	-	Sean MacPherson
2005	-	Jennifer Kyle
2006	-	Jordan Prinzie
2007	-	Liz Turner
2008	-	Dylan Macaulay
2009	-	Carla Aziz
2010	-	Jessica Kamphuis



Sarah's Aunt Hazel with Art Dept. Head, Teri Levack beneath **Andrew Huff's** 1998 award winning painting, in student services hallway, Dec. 2010.



(Clockwise from above, left)

**Irene (Mordas) Radchenko**, 1999 Award winner, current member of South's English Dept.

Irene's award winning painting (hanging in South's atrium)



Pencil Sketch done by **Sarah Pajuk** during her time at South, found at the school recently by Teri Levack

## **SOUTH MUSICAL THEATRE**

PRODUCTION OF



at the  
**SOUTH COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE  
AUDITORIUM**  
**MAY 4-7 7:30 PM**

# **Beauty & The Beast**

**May 4 -7, 2011**

**7:30 PM - South Auditorium**

The South Collegiate Institute Music Theatre Program is thrilled to present Disney's magical **Beauty and the Beast**. The classic tale of beautiful Belle and the impossible love of a cursed prince, an enchanted castle, and a single rose. This charming musical will be sure to delight audiences of all ages. **Beauty and the Beast** will be on stage from May 4 - May 7 at 7:30 PM in the South Auditorium.

**Tickets are \$15 and will be available from March 1<sup>st</sup> through the Grand Theatre Box Office**

**519-672-8800.**

## Letter from a Remarkable 1930 Grad... 98 Years Young!

It is causing me guilt because I neglected to thank you for the spring (2010) issue of *Lions' Pride*, on which you are doing such a wonderful job. The picture of the staff (1929-30) on the front cover was wonderful, as was the news that our school was once again L.S.C.I. I started at Victoria school and was part of the Tecumseh "safari" from Askin Street. As I looked over all the faces of the staff, it occurred to me, as I named the subject for which each was responsible, that there was an important subject about which each was not aware, but which all were accepting and instilling into all of us. That was the joy of learning.

It was the joy of learning that paved the way for my vocation in a medical specialty until 1984. I left London on August 31 (1939), the weekend that war was declared, and was immediately immersed in the war effort which disrupted the lives of so many in Canada, including mine. After the war, I was able to find some spare time to study tai chi, watercolour painting, silver and goldsmithing and tying trout flies (for the occasional times when I could get fly fishing). In addition to the above, I taught evening classes for over twenty years on the subjects of Meteorology, Advanced Piloting and Celestial Navigation.

Since I retired more than 26 years ago, I have spent four years studying Comparative Religions, and for over twenty years, I have been studying Quantum and Particle Physics. This has been facilitated by finding an American source from which I may obtain courses on CD's and DVD's by top college professors.

And all of the above are not because of me, but due to the teachers in my life, and of course the majority of these are on the front page of last spring's issue. I will be 98 years of age in a few months and it frustrates me not to be able to thank all those teachers in your *Lions' Pride* picture who unconsciously instilled in me that joy of learning that has given me so much pleasure for so many years. My days are full to overflowing and the time remaining is not enough.

It is frustrating that I cannot thank them personally. My only recourse is to thank you for publishing their picture and reminding me what I owe them. Thank you...

**Larry Barton, class of 1930**

**Editor's Note:** My thanks to Dr. Barton for taking the time to write us. He also sent a shorter response letter that has been included on the *Mailbox* page. The kind of zest for life and love of learning that Larry so clearly demonstrates is truly inspirational. Personally, I think he is far too modest in his assessment about who should take credit for all his successes, but it's wonderful, nevertheless, that he has such deeply appreciative memories of his teachers at *South*. Definitely another of our remarkable alumni.

# UPDATE ON SCAA PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES...

## *The Beautification Project*

As indicated in last fall's newsletter, students from *Fanshawe's School of Art and Design* presented 34 proposals for landscaping improvements to South's school grounds. Written evaluations of all these proposals are on file in the alumni office. As was stressed in the last issue, what we need now is a group of interested volunteers to form a committee to make some specific recommendations and to lead a campaign to implement the desired changes. Wouldn't it be nice to have the areas along Tecumseh and Belgrave "beautified" a little before the **85th Reunion, May 24-26, 2013**? Perhaps no one was thinking about landscaping last fall, but now that spring is here....

If you are willing to be involved, please give us your name: [contact@southalumni.ca](mailto:contact@southalumni.ca) or (519) 432-5671.

## *The Gathering on the Green*

The Alumni Association will be participating for the third time in Old South's annual "*Gathering on the Green*" on **Saturday June 4th**. Not only does it provide an opportunity to reconnect with neighbours and alumni, but it's a really enjoyable day. If you're in the area, stop by our display table for a visit.

## *Lions' Pride – Editor's Thanks*

It's been very gratifying to get so many notes and e-mails of appreciation. In particular, alumni seemed to have enjoyed items that include personal memories of staff members or fellow classmates. Thank you to everyone who has submitted material for the newsletter. It not only makes my job both easier and more rewarding, but it also makes the newsletter much more interesting. So keep those letters and articles coming!

## *Auditorium Project*

The **Rattle and Hum Campaign**, to update the lighting, sound equipment and air quality in our auditorium, is under way. A number of alumni and parents have made donations, totalling \$6,100, making use of the **Buy-A-Seat Campaign**, in which seats in the auditorium can be "purchased" for \$50 to \$1000 depending on location. **Matt Giffen ('85)** has kindly pledged to match all donations, up to a total of \$50,000. Our goal is to raise at least \$100,000.

Please contact the school to make a donation or for more information, and ask to speak to Kevin Wild or Bev Baines.

## *Upcoming SCAA Elections*

Doesn't this look like a friendly, happy group? The kind of group you'd like to be a part of?

The work we do may be challenging – but it is interesting and, yes, even fun. Carolyn MacVicar and I have been members of this executive ever since the Association began in 1999. Carolyn is the only Treasurer we've ever had!

Organizations certainly enjoy the continuity provided by long-term membership. But they also need fresh ideas and new enthusiasm if they are to stay vibrant. At the **May 11 Annual Meeting** of the SCAA, all 10 executive positions are up for election. We hope that a number of new members will come on board for the next 3-year term.

**If you would like to join this executive**, please send us your name ([contact@southalumni.ca](mailto:contact@southalumni.ca)). If you would like to nominate someone for a position, send us his/her name. If you have questions about the role and workload of executive positions, send them along and we'll do our best to clarify. I am looking forward to passing on the many things I have learned – to a new President.

**Pete Telford**  
**Alumni Association President, 2002-2011**



**MEMBERS OF THE SCAA EXECUTIVE**

(L to R) Betty Telford (staff '74 - '99), Summer Burton ('92), Mike Bloxam ('01) (Secretary), Connie Weir ('66) (Newsletter Editor), Dan Knight ('07), Andrea Manias ('70, staff '76 - '09), Pete Telford (staff '78 - '98) (President), Carolyn MacVicar ('80) (Treasurer), Knute Dohnberg ('65), Kelly Kleinhans ('80) (Vice-President) & Bob Johnston ('56)



# IN LOCAL NEWS....



**DAN COLFAX ('62)**, star basketball player during his time at South, and one of the most highly respected high school basketball coaches in the city, is still inspiring kids on the court. Although he's been retired from teaching for several years, he's still coaching basketball at Westminster. This year he took his *Wildcats* senior team, seeded 10th in the province, to the OFSAA AA tournament in North Bay.

**PAUL COCKER ('64)**, President, CEO and Chairman of the Board of **McKay-Cocker Construction**, was featured on the front cover of *Biz Monday* (LFP, March 14/11). The company, co-founded by his father in 1946, was described as an "industry icon", with "a reputation for quality and craftsmanship". They are currently working on the new Goodwill Office on Horton Street, after recently completing the Hale-Trafalgar Overpass. They are also working on the GM plant in St Catharines.

**KNUTE DOHNBERG ('65)** was featured in *The Londoner* (Feb. 24/11) as one of just two Londoners who have been awarded membership in the Canadian Ski Instructors' Alliance Hall of Fame. Knute got his start at the London Ski Club in the 1960's, and in 1970, at just 23 years of age, was the youngest instructor to receive CSIA level IV certification. He currently belongs to a club in Beaver Valley, where he still teaches ski instructors on the weekends, when he's not fulfilling his duties as a vice-president of Royal LePage Commercial in London. Knute is also a director of the SCAA.

**TED GOODDEN ('66)** was featured in *The Londoner* (March. 24/11) in an article entitled "Stained glasses to clay masses". Ted, a well known stained glass artist, just had his first clay sculpture show - a 21 piece exhibit - at The Art Exchange, 247 Wortley Rd. He said that he got interested in clay sculpture while teaching art at Beal, and has been creating "roughly one shape per week for the last twenty years". He felt the time was right to "test new waters" and see if people would respond.

**LISA SHACKLETON ('90)**, who established the **Yoga Shack** in Wortley Village in 2009, was inspired to start up her business after yoga helped her to heal her body following a devastating car accident in Calgary in 2006. From vice-president of a high-tech firm in Calgary to entrepreneur in London was quite a change, but Lisa has been so successful that she was nominated this year for a London Chamber of Commerce *Business Achievement Award* in the small business category. Although she didn't win, Lisa should be proud of what she has accomplished: expanding in just over two years, to two studios and 55 classes a week.

**LIL MALINICH ('93)**, a talented actress who now makes her home in New York City, returns to London every year to hold a fundraising "party" to support the Canadian Cancer Society. While the theme changes every year, comedy, entertainment and dancing are all always central. This year's event, held on Dec. 16th, was called *Speakeasy: A Roaring 1920's Soiree*. Lil held her first "party" in 2007, in honour of her mom, and says it's "always a treat to come back" to London for the event.

**ANDREW McCLENAGHAN ('97)** whose company, **Echidna Solutions Corp.**, was nominated last year for a Chamber of Commerce *Business Achievement Award* in the small business category, was nominated again this year. (That means that two of the four businesses nominated in this category are run by South grads... pretty impressive) Unfortunately, Andrew didn't win either, but like Lisa, he should be very proud of the success he has achieved. Born in a basement and named after a homely Australian anteater, Echidna Solutions has become "a rising star in London's high-tech sector". ([www.echidna.ca](http://www.echidna.ca))

**CHARLENE (CHUCK) LAZENBY ('99)**, general manager of **The Unity Project**, was shown cutting the ribbon on the organization's newly renovated basement storage area (*The Londoner*, Dec. 9/10). A former resident, back on his feet, advocated to have the work done by a group of volunteers from "Team Depot", a volunteer force with Home Depot., PricewaterhouseCoopers and Citibank. The Unity Project is a transitional housing facility that operates like a large busy household, with residents helping with the cooking, cleaning, reception & peer support.

**MIKE BLOXAM ('01)**, is co-founder and co-owner of **SunTap Technologies Inc.** The company's mission is "to bring quality solar products into the London market to give Londoners the opportunity to use the sun's energy to their advantage, which saves money and helps the environment" ([www.suntaptechnologies.com](http://www.suntaptechnologies.com)). Mike, a graduate of U of Waterloo, has more than five years of experience working in the solar thermal industry. As an avid environmentalist, he is involved with ReForest London and PostCarbon. He is also a volunteer coordinator for the London Food Bank and Secretary of the SCAA.

**DAN KNIGHT ('07)** is a busy guy. Not only is he founder of his own event planning company ([www.day2knightevents.com](http://www.day2knightevents.com)), a Director of the SCAA and Chair of Homecoming, but he is also the **Community Engagement Coordinator** for the Southwest Region of the **Arthritis Society**. Dan has been promoting their **Joints in Motion** fundraiser, where participants raise money and then get a chance to walk, run or trek a marathon in exotic locations. (*The Londoner*, March. 17/11).



# MAIL BOX...



## Letters and e-mails from alumni

### A GREAT ISSUE

You have done it again. A great issue (*Fall 2010*). You have devoted a full page to **Mildred (Smith) Kemp ('26)**. I lived on McKenzie Ave., around the corner from where she lived with her mother on Wortley Rd. Mildred was only a couple of years ahead of me. In addition, I attended Wortley Road PS and the only teacher that I can remember there is Mildred's mother in Grade 3 in 1922, because she was my favourite teacher. Mrs. Smith was like a mother away from home to her grade 3 class.

**Larry Barton ('30),  
St Catharines, ON**

### SCAA APPRECIATED

I have lived in Old South since I was 4 years of age and went to South under "Tish" Graham (principal). With the kindness and help of **Bob Johnston ('56)**, I would very much like to renew my membership in South's Alumni Association. I appreciate the effort it takes to keep it alive and well. I hope to play a small part in helping to keep it active when I feel better.

My husband, Ian, spent only one year at South, but he surely made the most of it. He played in the orchestra and on the football team. We met again taking pictures of the "Big Flood" (spring 1937) down at Thames Park. We also represented South at a dance at (Beal) Tech.

**Aileen (Lyon) Symington ('37)**

### INTERESTING STORIES

I enjoy the newsletter very much. A while ago, there was an interesting story (*Fall*

*2006*, p.4) about **Pat (Guest) Berthiaume ('49)** and **Donalda (Williams) Salter ('49)**. I was in kindergarten with them and through public school at Wortley, then later at South. I took the *Spring 2010* issue to share with my sister **Pat (Rimbault) Walsh ('37)**, now 90 years old, when she was out here visiting. There was an article in that one about **Marie Smibert ('36)** who lived across the street. My other sister, **June (Rimbault) Aitken ('44)**, now 82, is still busy with quilting and such. The house I was born in on Briscoe Street now has a plaque beside the front door and is a designated "heritage house". Who knew...

**Lily (Rimbault) Tetlow ('47), Nanaimo, BC**

### EXCELLENT TEACHERS REMEMBERED

I really enjoy the newsletter and after receiving a copy of it from me, **Susan (Bowen) Sanderson ('56)** also joined the Alumni Association. It's fun to read the names of my teachers from 1956, and to remember what excellent teachers they were.

My husband, who grew up in the B.C. school system, says that I had a much better English and History education than he did. He says that the B.C. Education system has always been a bit too experimental.

As a teacher here, I agree with him; why change that which works so well? It was a fairly direct method, but I still remember memorizing French vocabs for dictés and the vocabulary stuck with me. Eventually I even started French programs at two elementary schools. When I look at my old French tests,

that I have kept, I am amazed at how much French was covered in a short time. Yes, lots of grammar, but that is necessary in all languages if one is going to speak and write sentences. Anyway, maybe I should develop this more and send it to the newsletter. It is a subject dear to my heart. Thank you for all of the work you do for us. I wish I lived closer so that I could help too. I can at least send some monetary support.

**Elizabeth (Williams) Miller ('56), Vancouver, BC**

### GREAT NEWSLETTER

I really enjoy the newsletter. For the first time ever, I received the *Fall 2010* issue as a hard copy in the mail. Usually I just get them by e-mail. I'm happy with the electronic version (although for some reason I didn't get the e-mail notification for the last issue.) Thanks for the great newsletter.

**Cameron Tingley ('72)  
Toronto, ON**

**Editor's Note:** The following are just three of many thank you notes received after commencement last October for the awards presented by the SCAA. If these notes, which are articulate, thoughtful and sincere, are representative of today's generation of South grads, then we have a lot to be proud of.

### THANKS FROM '10 GRADS

I would like you to know that I really appreciate receiving the Alumni Award at Commencement. It is an honour to receive this distinction from Alumni. It

was evident to me at the Homecoming Festivities what a wonderful and proud alumni we have at South. There is no other like it in London.

Thanks again for choosing me as one of the recipients of this award. I am very grateful. I look forward to supporting the *South Alumni Association* in the future. See you at Homecoming!

**Tom Miller ('10)**

(Note: Tom was also the recipient of the Carla Mills Cameron Memorial Bursary)

I would like to personally thank you for your donations which made the alumni Award possible. It is nice to know that our alumni takes the time to acknowledge the accomplishments of the students. I am very excited to join such a committed association.

**Jessica Kamphuis ('10)**

Jessica was also the recipient of the Sarah Pajuk Art Purchase Award)

I am writing this note to thank you for your generous gift of \$50 that I was presented with at commencement this year. I am sorry this note has been so long in coming. I have been busier than I could have imagined, not only with classes, homework and exams, but also with new friends and adjusting to life away from home.

I am very proud to be a part of the community that is the grads of South. I know that the friends I have made at South will be friends for life, regardless of what life holds for each of us in the future. Thanks again for reminding me how lucky I am.

**James Daunt ('10)**

# Generations at South: Discovering Family Connections

by Mike Bloxam ('01)

When I applied to attend *South Secondary School* in 1996, nobody told me that I would be attending the same high school attended by members from three branches of my family tree....

## BLOXAM

Three **Bloxams** attended *London South Collegiate Institute* during the 1940s: **Stanley, Lawrence (Larry)** and **Thelma**, all children of Harry and Mary Bloxam, who were my grandfather's uncle and aunt. Harry owned a farm in what is now Berkshire Village, and the street Bloxam Avenue is named for him where his land used to be. Stanley, Larry and Thelma all attended the now-closed *Brick Street Public School*, before going on to *South*. Their sister Doris died in infancy and brother Bob attended another high school. (Bob Bloxam may be a familiar name to many in the London education system as he was a highly respected principal at *Oakridge Secondary School*, where they have an academic award in his memory.)

**Stanley** died while a student at *South* on January 20, 1944, two days shy of his sixteenth birthday. He was riding his bicycle and was struck by an automobile at the bottom of Winery Hill (where Wharncliffe Road and Baseline Road intersect), with his brother Larry and about six others witnessing the collision.

**Larry** was in the school orchestra and played second violin (*Oracle*, 1946, p. 29). He graduated in **1949** and went on to join his father at Empire Brass (now EMCO). I met Larry once to get me more information about our family's history and he showed me the family bible, which (barely) survived the flood of 1937. He also shared some fond memories of his days at *South*. Larry passed away on December 27, 2009 in London.

**Thelma (Hauser)** graduated in **1952** and currently lives in Grand Bend.

## NESBITT

The four sons of Trevor and Agnes Nesbitt attended *South* during the 1920s and 1930s: **John (Jack)**, **Edmund (Eddie)** (left *South* in 1931), **Douglas (Doug)**, and **Clayton** (left *South* in 1935). You will find these four men listed in the front foyer of the school on the Active Service Roll, which lists the *South* students who served in the Second World War. Jack, Eddie, and Doug all served in the air force. The family lived on Beaconsfield near the Coves.

**Jack** had attended *South* at its previous location on Wharncliffe Road (now *Victoria Public School*). He was on the rugby team and the boys' athletic executive in 1929 (*Oracle*, 1929, p. 52 & 57). He left the school in 1930 to attend technical school, possibly at Beal. He would later marry his childhood sweetheart, Edith Mellor, and live near the Coves and in Kensal Park. Jack worked at Goodyear Tire and Rubber and died in Sept. 1991.

**Doug** left *South* in 1935. He went on to fly 69 missions in the Second World War over Europe and North Africa. In one instance, he was chased by German *Messerschmitts* over the Mediterranean Sea, and thankfully lost them in the clouds.

## MELLOR

**Edith Mellor** and her brother **Harry** attended *South* starting at the *Victoria Public School* location. Their parents were William and Winifred Mellor, and the family lived on Johnson Street near the Coves.

**Harry** started at *South* in 1924, left in 1928 after grade 12, and returned for two more years 1931. He worked as an accountant, and died young in the early 1950s.

**Edith** was a basketball player for *South*, and was part of one of the first graduating classes of the modern location of the school. She graduated in **1931** before taking one more year of education at "*Tech*" (*H.B. Beal Secondary School*) in home economics. She and her husband, **Jack Nesbitt**, were childhood sweethearts, both having grown up around the corner from each other. Jack and Edith's youngest son, **Craig**, also attended *South* (left in 1961). Their oldest son, Trevor, married Donna Bloxam, my father's oldest sister, and this is how the Bloxams, the Nesbitts, and the Mellors all connect with *South*.

**Author's Note:** I attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Reunion with Edith and Trevor, along with Edith's friend **Kay (Pugh) Smith ('37)** and her husband Al. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the reunion and marvelled at how much the school had changed, yet how the spirit remained the same. Edith passed away on January 17, 2004.

Anyone with a connection to *South* is encouraged to dig into their roots to see who else attended our beloved school. You never know who might be a fellow Lion!



GIRLS' 2ND YEAR BASKETBALL TEAM  
*LSCI Oracle*, 1929, p. 63

Note: Edith Mellor is sitting in the front row at the left



# IN MEMORIAM

**Roy William Stephenson ('46, staff 1984-88)** passed away on Nov. 14, 2010, in Huntsville, ON. Dear husband of Verna and father of Craig, Gary & Karen. Thirty-six years after graduating, Roy returned to *South* as a member of the Science Department. The photo below, from the 1988 Yearbook, shows Roy as the staff adviser for the Stage Crew.

**Elizabeth Smith (staff, 1968-87)** passed away at University Hospital, London, on Jan. 24, 2011 at the age of 84. Elizabeth was a dedicated teacher for over thirty years, nineteen of which were spent as a member of South's English Department. (See photo below) Her students remember her as "kind and

engaging" (**Barry Wells, '72**), a "wonderful English teacher" (**Sandy Ross, '79**). Elizabeth was also a devoted mother and grandmother, who is survived by two of her four children: Jeffery & Kate. An avid nature lover, Elizabeth's happiest times were the wilderness trips she shared with her family.

**Shirley Valentine (Smith) Boundy ('38)** passed away Jan. 3, 2011, at Parkwood Hospital, London, in her 91st year. Beloved wife of the late Martin Boundy and mother of three sons: Bruce, Ian and Paul. Also survived by three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

**Don William Liddiard ('52)**, age 78, passed away in

Collingwood on July 11, 2010 after a valiant fight with Parkinson's. Beloved husband of **Joan (Wright) ('53)**, loving father of two and grandfather of four. Don's passions were his family, travelling the world, skiing, golfing and fly fishing. He was a true gentleman to all who knew him and will be remembered as a man of great compassion and love.

**Tomothy Paul White ('67)** died suddenly on Jan. 5, 2011, in his 62nd year. He is survived by son, Jonas, three brothers: **Dr. Greg White ('66)** John and Geordie White, and one sister, **Wendy White ('70)**.

**Ron Bolton ('67)** passed away suddenly on January 24,

2011, at the age of 63. Loving brother of Russell, **Randy ('72)**, Fred and Doug. Father of three and grandfather of five.

**Brenda (Clarke) Duncan ('78)** passed away suddenly on January 11, 2011, in Woodstock. Cherished wife of Rev. David Duncan, and mother of Shawna & Heather. Also survived by her brothers, **Grant ('68)**, of Dahlonaga, Georgia and **Stephen ('77)**, of London, and by her sister, **Nancy (Clarke) Lahn ('79)**, of Scarborough. Brenda was a member of the Children's Health Team within the Southwest Community Care Access Centre, known for her nurturing qualities, sunny disposition, love of nature and creativity.



**STAGE CREW, 1988**  
(L to R): Roy Stephenson, Trevor Sadler, Peter Blackwell, Jeremy Theal & Jason Norwood



**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, 1978**  
(L to R): Bill Cockburn, Norm Hargreaves, Ian Underhill, Elizabeth Smith, Betty (Baker) Telford & Tom Crerar

## WHO'S WHERE

Let us know where you are and what you're doing. E-mail your update to [contact@southalumni.ca](mailto:contact@southalumni.ca) or mail to SCAA, 371 Tecumseh Ave. E., London, ON, N6C 1T4.



**Kristen Hales ('88)** has been appointed to be a Deputy Judge of the Small Claims Court for the Southwest Region of Ontario effective January, 2011. She will continue to practice family law with the law firm Stipic, Arpino, Weisman in Windsor, Ontario, in addition to representing children in child protection and custody & access cases for the Office of the Children's Lawyer.

**Kasha Robertson-Soden ('00)**, who earned Computer Animation degrees from Sheridan College and San Francisco University, is currently doing animation work for March Entertainment, an award-winning producer of branded digital content, in Sudbury, ON.



# HOMECOMING 2011

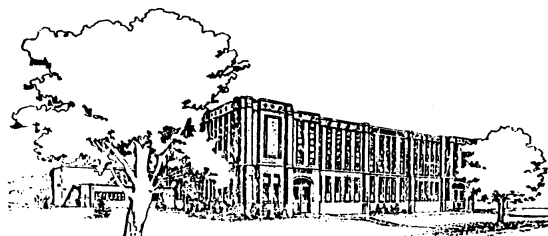
Friday October 7, 2011



After last year's hugely successful event, the South Alumni Association is holding its annual Homecoming on Friday evening again. Be sure to mark the date on your calendars and plan to kick start your Thanksgiving weekend with us!

We are again trying to secure some individual and/or corporate **sponsorships** to help defray the cost of hosting this event. If interested, please contact Homecoming Chair, Dan Knight, at 519-280-8633, or email at [dan@day2knightevents.com](mailto:dan@day2knightevents.com) for more info.

**WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS  
ON THE WEBSITE!**



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## SCAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & 85th REUNION MEETING

**Wed. May 11, 2011  
7:00 PM in Room 102**

This year's AGM is extremely important. Not only will we be electing a new SCAA executive, but also planning for the upcoming 85th Reunion May 24-26, 2013. Please consider joining us. The **South Collegiate Alumni Association** is proud of its accomplishments since it was created in 1998, but our continued success depends on the involvement of you and your fellow grads.

So plan to attend, and bring your friends and all your ideas with you.

**WE NEED YOU !**

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