



South Collegiate Alumni Association

Fall 2022

LIONS' PRIDE

Virtus Repulsae Nescia Sordidae



SEPT. 9TH EVENT MARKS BEGINNING OF SOUTH'S CENTENNIAL

by Connie (Woods) Weir ('66)

As noted in last fall's cover story, London South Collegiate came into being in September 1922, following a fire at Central (then called the London Collegiate) in order to accommodate high school students south of the Thames River. That fall, 290 students and 10 teachers moved into a rather dilapidated building on Askin Street, the original Victoria Public School, vacated earlier that year when Victoria moved into a new building facing Wharncliffe. It was to be South's home for almost 6 years.

Although the old school was torn down many years ago, the SCAA felt it was important to acknowledge South's roots. Under the leadership of committee chair, **Barbara Hoover ('72)**, and with the support of the TVDSB and helpful staff at Victoria Public School, like school librarian **Erin McClenaghan ('90)**, a special memorial event was held on the evening of Friday, September 9th.

Close to 75 people – South alumni, former teachers, special guests and a few just interested in local history, began arriving at 5:30 and were greeted with an unexpected sight: a refurbished 1922 Model T Ford. Our thanks to SCAA director **JoEllen Wright ('81)** for making the arrangements with the owner, who kindly parked his prized vintage car in the schoolyard for the evening and allowed attendees to have their picture taken sitting in it. Displayed in Victoria's library, were copies of the 12 *Oracles*, the student newspapers produced between 1922 and 1926, along with the 1927 & 1928 student yearbooks. Also on display were printed copies of 28 photos from South's years at the old school. Two PowerPoint presentations helped tell the story of those first six years, while a short video produced by a group of Fanshawe Contemporary Media students, profiling well-known South benefactor **Matt Giffen ('85)**, could also be viewed.

The formal part of the evening began at 7 pm, when SCAA President, **Pete Telford**, officially welcomed everyone and introduced our guest speakers. **Lori-Ann Pizzolato**, TVDSB Trustee for Wards 1, 11, 12 & 14 since 2018 and current Board Chair, spoke first, followed by former South principal and South alumnus, **Paul Mennill ('62) (staff 1986-89)**, whose father, Del, attended the Old Victoria school in the 1920's. Our third guest speaker was South's new principal, **Margaret Sullivan**, who also happens to be a South alumna, class of 1992. She was joined on stage by TVDSB Superintendent of Student Achievement, **Sheila Powell**, who spoke briefly before turning the mic over to Margaret.

At 7:40, the sound of bagpipes could be heard coming from the schoolyard, our invitation to go outside for the final "act" of the evening. The kilt clad piper, Thomas Helland, son of alumna Erin McClenaghan and grandson of alumnus Thom McClenaghan ('55), provided an inspiring prelude to the most important part of the evening: the official unveiling of the plaque to commemorate South's "birthplace". As attendees watched, the covering, garnet flannel with silver lettering, was slowly removed to reveal the historic plaque.





The Celebration of South's 100th Anniversary Continues!



Mark your calendars now for May 26 - 28, 2023

A wonderful weekend is being planned at South

Friday

Pub Night (7-11pm)

Saturday (9:30am- 4 pm)

Decade Rooms

Musical Entertainment

Sports Activities

Reunion Store

Trivia Contest

Self-Guided School tours
and more

Sunday (10am-2 pm)

Teachers' Brunch

(Ongoing: Decade Rooms, School Tours & Reunion Store)



This centennial crest, funded by an alumnus who wishes to remain anonymous, is being sewn onto the uniforms of South's sports teams.

Registration will begin in January!

Check the website **southalumni.ca** and watch for an e-blast instructing you how to register online or by mail with payment of \$20 per person (e-transfer or cheque)

NOTE: Register early to help us with our planning

AND save \$5.00 off the at-the door-price (\$25)

THE BANNER BELOW NOW PROUDLY HANGS ABOVE THE SCHOOL'S MAIN ENTRANCE



A FEW MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE MAY REUNION...

- ♦ **Decade Rooms:** There will be 7 decade rooms (1920's to 40's, 1950's, 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, 1990's and 2000's). This is where the more than 150 alumni profiles ("100 Years of Lions' Pride" project) will be displayed. The information on these profiles will also be the source for the questions on Saturday's planned "Trivia Quiz".
- ♦ **Reunion Store:** This area will offer not only 100th Souvenir memorabilia, but also **alumni created art, crafts and books**. If you are interested in reserving a sales table to display and sell your work, please let us know (**contact @southalumni.ca**).

SOUTH'S MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILIES (PART 3)

These stories have proven to be very popular with readers, so I am pleased to say that we are now aware of several more families like the ones we have already profiled, families who can boast 3 or more generations of South alumni, certainly enough to be able to continue this feature for another issue or two. **Connie (Woods) Weir (66)**



The Jeffery/Nursey/Ross Family

One of the people who contacted us about her multigenerational family last spring was **Erin (Nursey) Ross ('93)**, who was happy to report that she, along with her husband Ryan and three sons would be moving back to London from BC this past summer. She said her two older boys would be attending South this fall, in grades 11 & 12, while her youngest would be in grade 7 at Mountsfield. (Note: Erin has since reported that their move went well and they are loving their new home in Old South.)

Erin's family has proud roots in Old South dating back two generations to the four Jeffery brothers who attended South in the 1920's and '30's. The oldest, **Joseph E. Jeffery**, who earned the nickname "Captain Joe", following his active service during WWII, graduated from South in 1926 and the following year presided over the first annual Alumni Banquet as Alumni President. After earning his law degree, he joined London Life Insurance, the company that his grandfather had helped to found and went on to serve as both President and Chairman of the Board. Joe's brother, **Alexander (Alec) H. Jeffery ('28)**, Erin's grandfather, was also a lawyer who served for four years (1949-1953) as a federal MP for London in the Liberal Government of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent. Later on, he also served as VP and President of London Life. **Edward A. (Ted) Jeffery ('33)** was Chair of the London Board of Education in the 1960's. He sponsored the *A.E. Jeffery Senior Math Award* which is still presented every year to a graduating South student in his honour. Youngest brother, **Gordon Jeffery ('36)**, served on the Board of London Life but is best known for purchasing and refurbishing the old London East Town Hall as a musical performance centre: Aeolian Hall.

The second generation of South graduates include Erin's mother, **Judith (Jeffery) (Nursey) Blackburn ('63)** and her uncle **Alexander M. Jeffery ('56)**, now deceased. Erin is part of the third generation along with her sister **Alexa (Nursey) Kudar ('91)**, whose husband **Greg ('91)** also attended South. And in the next few years three more members of the family will have joined the ranks of South alumni... the 4th proud generation to do so!



Ross Family (L to R): Nathan, Erin, Nolan, Nigel & Ryan

The Thompson Family

When **Ryan Thompson** started grade 9 this fall, he entered as part of another illustrious 3-generation South family. His older sister **Alyssa Thompson** graduated in 2021, an honours student and alumni award winner. She is now in her second year at Western, studying biological anthropology, working towards a specialty in forensic anthropology. She is also very involved with the rowing team, a high level Varsity sport with a very demanding training schedule.

Ryan and Alyssa's father, **Richard Thompson ('84)**, was a talented athlete with a long list of achievements. A top football player at South, his No. 20 football jersey was retired. He also was the leading London Conference scorer with the South hockey team in 1982-83. Continuing his football career at Mount Allison University, Richard was rookie of the year in 1985, a CIAU All-Canadian in 1988 and an All-Canadian in 1989. Baseball was another sport that Richard excelled at, a star player with the London Majors for 9 seasons (late 80's to 1998). The Majors retired his No. 5 jersey in 2010, and more recently presented him with a golden bat award (2018), honouring him as one of their "all-time greats".



Richard Thompson as a London Major in the 90's

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Richard's sister, Ryan and Alyssa's aunt, **Tracey (Thompson) Gray**, attended her final year of high school at South, graduating in 1979. She now lives in Port Moody B.C. and does display work for The Brick furniture store.

Going back another generation to the first ones in the family to attend South, we find both of their grandmothers and a great aunt. Their paternal grandmother, **Jane (Matthews) Thompson**, graduated in 1954. A talented pianist, she went on to earn an honours Music degree at Western. Her sister, **Marilyn (Matthews) Elgie**, is a 1962 grad, while Ryan and Alyssa's maternal grandmother, **Marilyn (Shaver) McLeod** is a 1956 grad. After studying Home Economics at the Macdonald Institute (now University of Guelph), she taught Family Studies and Math until she had her own family, at which point she switched to supply teaching, often filling in at South.

The Leahy/Koreen Family

Mary Margaret (Leahy) Koreen ('60) graduated from South as did all three of her sons. **John**, the eldest, was Valedictorian when he graduated in 1987. He also shared that he had enjoyed writing for the Oracle, playing his trumpet in the band, running Cross Country and participating in Track and Field during his time at South. Middle son **Peter** graduated in 1989. He now lives in Toronto and is a Business Development Specialist at Abbott, a giftware business (www.abbottcollection.com). The youngest son, **Paul**, a 1992 grad, also lives in Toronto and is the COO at KCI Philanthropy.

John remained in London and continues to reside in Old South. He is an elementary school teacher at Wilfrid Jury P.S. He also served on the SCAA executive a few years ago. Both of John's sons are now South alumni. **Gunnar** graduated in 2017. Like his dad, he enjoyed playing the trumpet at South, as well as being on the Reach for the Top team and playing hockey and soccer. He will be graduating from Wilfrid Laurier University in December with his BA in Archaeology and Film Studies. **Beckett** graduated in 2020 and is now in third year at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson) in Photography. As a South student he ran Cross Country and played soccer.

Mary Margaret and her husband Gary Koreen also continue to live Old South, in her family home on Baseline Road. The Mary Margaret Leahy Koreen Bursary is awarded annually to a deserving South grad for future college or university study.



Gunnar, Mary Margaret & John Koreen

LOOKING FORWARD TO MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT AT THE MAY REUNION!

Do you remember Glee Club? Were you lucky enough to have Vocal Music built into your timetable? Wasn't it great to learn new music, singing together? Then there would be the concerts... Remember how it felt so good to be raising your voice with so many others and filling the auditorium with the glorious harmonies? You truly were given a life-long gift of music appreciation and perhaps went on to join adult choirs and continue the legacy.

On Saturday May 27th, you can have that feeling again. We are planning a choral read-through of some of the music in South's inventory that you may have sung when you were here. Whatever the era, it's guaranteed to be a fun hour of voices in harmony under the direction of **Mr. David Elston**, Music teacher from 1982 to 2003.

For instrumentalists, there are plans to have a small jazz band playing in the cafeteria on Friday evening or during the day on Saturday, under the direction of alumnus and local musician **Ken McLagan ('75)** and featuring South grads and friends. If there is sufficient interest, Ken has offered to hold a reading session for instrumentalists who would like to play through some music with fellow alumni just for fun!

Watch for more details on the SCAA website and in the Spring newsletter. If you are interested in participating, please let us know (contact@southalumni.ca) so that we have an idea of how many we will welcome back to the Music Room.

I'll be there – I hope you will be too!

Sue (Pope) Smythe ('71)



SCHOOL NEWS ... Here and Now



2021-22 Commencement: For the first time since 2019, a formal graduation ceremony took place at Centennial Hall on June 23rd, 2022. 50 students, more than a third of the 137 new grads, earned SCAA sponsored **Alumni Awards** for earning a minimum of 90% in six grade 12 courses. **Tala Habayeb** won the SCAA sponsored **Gold Scholar of the Year Award**, as well as four additional awards. **Samantha Scholtes**, the Silver Scholar of the Year, won five additional awards, including the Old South Community Service Award and the Governor General's Academic Medal. **Gaby Scott**, the Bronze Scholar, won six other awards, including the Carla Mills Cameron Memorial Award, the John Wall Memorial Scholarship and the McTavish Award OSSTF. **Owen Herechuk** and **Marcus Robinson** shared the SCAA sponsored **South Anniversary Award**, voted on by students and given for participation in sports and other extra-curriculars while maintaining a minimum 80% average. There were several other multiple award winning grads, including Valedictorian **Malic Deep** who won four awards, in addition to being a nominee for a Schulich Leader Scholarship. **Lauren Panabaker** won six awards, including the Kate Young Citizenship Award, the Linda Crossley Choreography Award and a Lions' Pride Award.

Administration News: The SCAA is delighted to welcome South alumna **Margaret Sullivan** as South's new principal. Margaret comes to us from Lord Dorchester S.S. **Karen Masson** continues in her role as VP after joining the staff last fall from College Avenue Collegiate in Woodstock.

Sports News: **Stacey Farr**, South teacher/coach (and staff rep on the SCAA Executive) led the Senior Girls' Basketball Team to the AA City Championship with a 55 to 35 win over the Montcalm Cougars in a game played at Fanshawe College on Nov.9th. Congratulations girls! Now it's on to WOSSA and hopefully OFSSAA.

75th Anniversary Award Winner: Sarah Jaremko

This year the 75th Anniversary Award was presented to **Sarah Jaremko**, a long time teacher at South. This award is given annually to a staff member who has contributed significantly to making South a quality school. Every year the SCAA asks the staff for nominations, and at the SCAA executive meeting in early June Sarah was unanimously voted the most deserving candidate for such an honour. Sarah has been a staff member teaching primarily English, and Latin since 1992 and is a South graduate herself, class of 1987. She was the Staff Advisor for the South Students Council for many years, putting countless hours into organizing events that create the atmosphere South students come to love and expect. She has been known by her students and colleagues to make up an excuse to bring in baked goods almost every day. Sarah has since retired, but given her love for South, has come back to supply teach at the school. This goes to further show her affection for South and commitment to helping those within its community. As her co-workers said, she has given so much of her heart and soul to South.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our thanks to Sarah's son, **Nick ('20)**, a current SCAA director who not only agreed to speak on behalf of the Association at the Commencement ceremony last June, but also agreed to present the award to his mother and do the write-up above.

As Nick makes clear in his last sentence, the nominations submitted for Sarah painted a glowing portrait of a superb teacher, one who gave so much of herself over her 30-year teaching career at South. In the words of one of her colleagues: *Sarah epitomizes exactly what it is that makes South a quality school... Students who were lucky enough to get Sarah as a teacher knew that they would enjoy engaging lessons, rigorous programming, with the added bonus of homemade treats... She ran a Latin Club... packed thousands of Easter Eggs for hunts and arranged hundreds of Spirit Days... led and organized assemblies... Sarah is certainly most deserving of this special honour."*



Sarah Jaremko (Staff, 1992-2022) holds the 75th Anniversary plaque with son Nic

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS....



BARBARA (GALBRAITH) DEAN ('58) was featured in a *Windsor Star* story about the grand opening of the Zekelman Pickleball Courts at Lacasse Park on June 9, 2022. Dean is credited with introducing pickleball to the region in 2009 when she started a league at the Riverside Sport Centre and was acknowledged with a bouquet of flowers during the event. A combination of tennis, badminton and table tennis, pickleball is considered the fastest growing sport in Ontario. Pickleball Canada estimates 1 million people now play the sport in Canada, triple the number from two years ago.



CLASS GATHERINGS BEING PLANNED FOR THE MAY REUNION WEEKEND

Since no large "all inclusive" event is being planned for Saturday evening May 27th, alumni have been encouraged to organize smaller gatherings for their year, or in some cases two years. Here is what we know about to date:

A Double Year Reunion for the Class of 67 & 68

Anne Beattie-Stokes ('67) and **Alison Ferguson ('68)** would like to remind grads about their DOUBLE YEAR Reunion Celebration at Highland Golf Club on Sat. May 27th /2023. Alumni from years 1967 and 1968 are invited to a dinner and dance at this lovely venue. Please pass this information on to any graduates who may not have received this notice or have new contact information. Please contact Anne at revanne@sympatico.ca (for class of '67) or Alison at alison.ferguson1@gmail.com (for class of '68).

Class of "71 Keen to Celebrate South's 100th!

Our 50th reunion at Highland in 2021 was a wonderful trip down memory lane with 43 peers and 12 retired teachers. We consider ourselves fortunate to have a reason to gather again this May. The SCI Pub Night on Friday will be a rare opportunity to see the seniors we idolized and who motivated us to embrace all that South had to offer. Then on Saturday night our class will convene at the Byron-Springbank Legion Hall at 6PM for happy hour, followed by a buffet dinner at 7. There is free parking beside the legion and additional space at the nearby Metro strip mall. The banquet room is spacious, complete with private bar service, and era music will provide ambiance throughout the evening. Check out our website at southclass1971.com, set up by **Penny Lennox**, for reunion pics, memorabilia, current profiles, and a moving "In Memoriam" prepared by **John Hay**. Further details of plans and registration for class activities will appear in early 2023. Hope to see you there! **Cathy (Osborne) Rice, Class Rep**



Are there any other years planning a class get together? If so, let us know, so details can be Included in future alumni emails, as well as on our website and Facebook and Instagram pages.

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The Ferguson/Timmerman Family

The last family being profiled in this issue did not come to my attention until our anniversary event at Victoria Public School in September. **Josephine (Jody) (Ferguson) Timmerman ('76)** was one of the alumni in attendance that evening and we got to chatting when she was examining the photos from the 1920's on display. She was delighted to see several photos of her father **Robert (Bob) Ferguson ('23)** and told me that he had become a doctor like his father and grandfather before him, graduating in Medicine from Western in 1931. Two of her father's siblings had also attended South at the old Victoria School: her aunt **Norma**, also a 1923 grad, and her uncle **John (Jack)**, a 1925 grad. Bob's youngest sibling, **Donald**, graduated in 1938.

Jody went on to explain that her father had one child with his first wife, a daughter **Roberta**, born in 1936 and also a South alumna, probably the class of 1954. Several years after his first wife died, he married her mother and had two more children: herself, born when he was 55, and her brother **John Robert**, born two years later, a '78 grad. When Jody told me that her son **Robert Alexander Timmerman** was also a South grad, class of 2011, I knew I had to include her 3-generation story in the newsletter.

BEAU DIXON (1992)

AWARD WINNING ACTOR, PLAYWRIGHT, MUSICIAN, MUSIC DIRECTOR & SOUND DESIGNER

⇒ **ACTOR:** Beau has performed on theatre stages throughout Canada and been listed among Toronto's top ten theatre actors.

⇒ **PLAYWRIGHT:** He has had his plays commissioned, performed and produced across the country. His award-winning play, ***Beneath Springhill: The Maurice Ruddick Story***, (about the Springhill, NS mine disaster) garnered him two Dora Mavor Moore Awards for Best New Play and Best Individual Performance.

⇒ **MUSICIAN:** Born in Detroit, Beau “has music in his roots”. He started taking piano lessons at age six. Age 12, he played for his father's church services after the family moved to London. After high school, he pursued music full time, touring in the US, Canada and Europe. He has recorded three solo albums, and recorded and produced numerous albums for professional recording artists. In 2000, Beau started his own recording studio (Sound Kitchen Studio) in Peterborough, ON. Last summer, he was part of Musical Stage Company's celebrated outdoor cabaret series “**Porchside Songs**”, a member of one of the two dynamite musical duos who toured around the GTA, creating music in the streets.

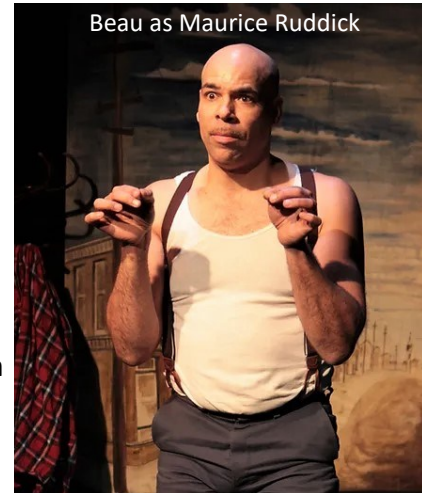
⇒ **MUSIC DIRECTOR:** For the past two summers, Beau has been a curator and music director at the Stratford Festival. After the critical success of 2021's ***Freedom Cabaret: The Spirit and Legacy of Black Music***, he returned in 2022 with a second show celebrating the history of Black music (blues, gospel, reggae, soul & jazz), presented by some of Canada's most talented singers and musicians.

⇒ **SOUND DESIGNER:** He was nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore Award for the production of *Rifles* at the Shaw Festival and Praxis Theatre. He also took on the role of music director for Sheridan College and Lakefield College School.

⇒ **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- ◆ In 2010, Beau co-founded **Firebrand Theatre** (Peterborough), a touring company whose mission is to bring Canadian stories to life for students and educators in elementary, secondary and post-secondary schools throughout Canada.
- ◆ In 2011 he was inducted into Peterborough's **Pathway of Fame** honouring contributions to arts & humanities in the area
- ◆ In February, 2020, he was honoured at the proclamation ceremony for Black History Month in Peterborough.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Beau Dixon is just one of more than 150 alumni who have been nominated for recognition. All their profiles will be displayed at the 100th Reunion Weekend in May.





MAIL BOX...

Letters and e-mails from alumni



NOTES OF APPRECIATION FOR SPRING 2022 ISSUE

You brightened a very elderly lady's day when you sent me the latest version of Lions' Pride. You were right that I would find people and their stories that would be interesting to me. Thank you for all that you do to keep the school spirit rolling along. Warmest regards.

Marion Watson Siegel ('47), Gainesville, Florida

My husband Frank and I both graduated from South in 1952 and enjoy reading Lions' Pride. I wish all of you well. Keep up your good work.

Elaine (Speiran) Hannah ('52), Belwood, ON

I have been enjoying your newsletter for many years through **Ellen (Rice) Jaaku ('62)** who has been kind enough to share her copy. I appreciate all the work you put into it.

Brenda Rolfe ('62), Toronto, ON

I enjoy reading and forwarding the SCI alumni newsletter. The 2022 Spring edition was superb... I forwarded it to my older sister and five former South 'team mates' and friends.

Anne Parnell appreciated receiving the newsletter...the 1935 South Football Team pictured included her father....

Anne forwarded it to her children and grandchildren. Anne and I were classmates from kindergarten at Mountsfield PS to South CI graduation.... Ann Williamson, Cecil Nelson, Dave Thrasher, Gerry Boss, Marilyn Snowden and Murray Simmonds were in that class, too...

The 1959 staff picture brought back many memories of teachers who helped (and tolerated) me during my years at South. I was aware that many fine teachers had long tenures at South CI... I never would have guessed so many spent so many years at one school....to the benefit of students and the South CI community.

It is my hope that many former South students and staff express to you the appreciation that we have for your dedicated leadership efforts. Well Done!

Don Varnell ('64), London, ON

Thank you so much for this! You're very kind to include me in the multi-year teacher list. I appreciate the mention.

This is a great newsletter. The ties amongst the staff and families in the South Community are so numerous and close. (I grew up next door to the parents of all the Haymans who are mentioned in this paper, and did a project on John Hayman and Sons Construction in public school, for example.)

It's a wonderful thing to see all the connections and how people continue to be involved in the happenings at South.

Sarah Jaremko ('87) (Staff, 1992-2022), London, ON

AND FINALLY...

We received a lovely handwritten note from an alumna who just recently joined the ranks of South's "Super Seniors". To my friends... Thank You! I'm so happy for anything to do with South Collegiate. I'll be 90 in October. You keep me young.

Carolyn (Sinasc) Ledgley ('51), London, ON

REACHING OUT

I graduated from South in 1958 and then went on to UWO, graduating with a BA in 1962. I started a teaching career at Port Credit SS in 1963. I taught Math, History & PE for 4 years, then moved to Applewood SS as PE Dept. Head and then VP at Clarkson SS and principal at Chinguacousy SS, Westwood SS & Clarkson SS, followed by 3 years as Headmaster at the Canadian Forces Base in Lahr, Germany. I retired in 2020. I am looking forward to connecting with South graduates from my era.

Gary Ewart ('58), Guelph, ON

IN MEMORIAM

Hugh Seaforth MACKENZIE ('46), Artist, Educator & Friend, died Aug. 1, 2021, age 93. Predeceased by his wife, Dot, and his brother, **Michael ('43)**. He is lovingly remembered by his sister, **Landon Pearson ('47)**, his children, Charles, Mary (Ben) and Patrick (Rowena) and his 4 grandchildren. His formal training began at OCA (1947-50) and continued at Mount Alison University. He began his career as a technical artist, working as a draftsman on the Avro Arrow, and spent much of his professional career as an arts educator at Ontario College of Art from 1968 until 1991. *"Hugh was an excellent teacher... He excited the room with his knowledge and enthusiasm."* From his first exhibition in 1958 until his last in 2019, Hugh was a widely respected artist.

Dr. Allan Meredith LANSING ('47) passed away July 17, 2022, in Louisville, Kentucky. At the top of his class for all four years of medical school at Western, he earned the Honorable G. Ferguson Trophy for Outstanding Performance in Scholarship, Athletics, and College Life when he graduated. While doing his surgical residency at Western, he earned a PhD in Physiology before going to the USA to train as a cardiovascular surgeon. In 1967, he became chief of cardiovascular surgery at the University of Louisville. His many memorable surgical achievements include assisting with the first kidney transplant in the state of Kentucky in 1964 and performing the first coronary artery bypass in Kentucky. Beyond his medical achievements, Dr. Lansing was honoured for many contributions in other areas of community life. *"He will be remembered for a multitude of personal and academic achievements and for helping improve the lives of countless patients... He lived his life with grace, compassion, selflessness and love."* Allan Lansing was predeceased by his wife, Donna, and is survived by his three children, Ann Meredith Lansing, MD, Peter Scott Lansing, MD (Amy), and Michele Lansing Flowers, RN (Kelly), 7 grandchildren & 13 great-grandchildren.

David Edward RICHARDS ('56) passed away in Ormond Beach, Florida, on Aug. 5, 2022. Predeceased by his first wife, Elizabeth Anne Christie and youngest son Michael Edward Richards. Survived by his wife of 24 years, Martha, three children, two step-children, 9 grandchildren and 4 step-grandchildren. Also survived by his sister **Margo (Richards) Bulmer ('59)** of Collingwood, ON. Dave enjoyed a



successful career in frozen food, highlighted by his tenure as Vice President of Algonquin Mercantile (Hardee Farms). In 1983, he became a founding partner of Strathroy Foods, a leading grower, processor, and packager of frozen vegetables. Given his athleticism and competitive spirit, Dave enjoyed a successful career as a football/basketball player at South and went on to play for the Queen's University football team (1956-1960). Later he developed his skills as a strong skier/golfer and also played squash/tennis. Dave will be remembered for his *"kindness, easy smile and calm nature"*.

Lois Bezeau ('56) passed away March 26th, 2022 in her 85th year. The loving sister of **Joan Clarke ('57)** and **Gloria Bezeau ('63)**, she will also be missed by nieces Susan and Jane, as well as great-nieces, cousins and family friends. Lois's life was centered around her family, church and many musical organizations. She was an outstanding physics teacher, competitive bridge player, dedicated musician and avid traveler.

Yvette Margaret Walton ('56) passed away Dec 27th, 2018, in her 81st year. She started her teaching career in Lakehead, ON, but moved to St. John's, NL in 1965, where she was a professor of Physical Education at Memorial University until she retired. Yvette was a pioneer of women's sports, particularly in Track & Field, Badminton,

and Volleyball. In 1969, she coached the NL Track and Field team in the first Canada Summer Games and in 1994, was inducted into the Newfoundland and Labrador Volleyball Hall of Fame. After retiring, Yvette became involved in the Single Parent Association of Newfoundland (SPAN). She served as Executive Director from 2001-2016 and implemented many helpful programs for single parent families.



John Ellsworth ROGERSON ('62) of Port Franks, passed away at Strathroy General Hospital on Sept. 27, 2022 in his 78th year. Survived by his tap-dancing wife, Ruth Anne Rogerson (O'Farrell) and his children Tamara Lechner (Paul) and Jonathan (Leigh Sheppard). Loving grandfather of seven. Also survived by his brother **Bob Rogerson ('70)** (Karen) and sister **Mary Lynne (Rogerson) Hinton ('62)**. John was an all-round athlete who played tennis, baseball, hockey and football. He was a member/board member of the Highland Country Club and a respected downtown jeweller. A gentleman and a "gentle man", with a unique sense of humour, John's generous spirit led to involvement with charities including the Boys and Girls Club, The Round for a Reason, and Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.



Marilyn (Blair) PLOTZKE ('68) passed away April 16, 2022, surrounded by her family, at the Chatham-Kent Hospice, age 72. Beloved wife of Lutz and loving mother of Carrie Cleghorn of Kitchener, and Kristopher and his wife Michelle of Oakville. Proud grandmother of Milan and Tyler and dear sister of **Don Blair ('67)** and his wife Leslee of London.

Susan (Patterson) CORDELL ('71), of Grand Bend, passed away at South Huron Hospital, Exeter, on Nov. 2, 2022, age 70. Beloved wife of Ross Cordell and dearest mother of Lisa (Michael) Goulet, Jeff (Danielle) Cordell, and Craig (Emilie) Cordell, all of London. Survived also by six grandchildren, brother **Rick Patterson ('74)** (Liz) of London, sister **Anne (Patterson) Goarley ('83)** (Jeff) of Chatham, and brother and sister-in-law, Rob and Nancy Cordell, of London. A proud alumna of Brescia University College, Susan enjoyed many things: cruising, cooking, reading, bicycling, sewing, and dancing. She spent many years working for the Canadian Bible Society and Grand Bend Area Community Health Centre and was a loyal member of her book club, gourmet dinner club, the Grand Bend Horticultural Society, Huron Shores United Church Prayer Shawl Ministry, and St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

STAFF PASSINGS

Paul Boyd Branscombe (staff, 1969-72) passed away peacefully on Nov. 27, 2021, at Rita Angus Retirement Village in Wellington, New Zealand, aged 89 years. Dear husband of Trish. Paul taught History at South for 3 years, before relocating to Wellington in the summer of '72. Well-liked by both staff and students during his time at South, Paul played trumpet in Joe George's 'teachers' band'. Alumnus **Darrell Wells ('71)** has especially fond memories of Paul, who became both a mentor and a friend.

Douglas "Doug" Randall BANKS (staff 1977-1986) passed away Aug. 12, 2022 in Bayfield, ON, in his 93rd year. Predeceased by his wife Marie. Loving father to Randall (Monique) and Carolyn (John) and Grampa to Alexander, David, Caelan and Mackenzie.

Doug had a teaching career for over 30 years and served as a Guidance Counsellor to many South students during his time at the school. Active in the church, he was a member of the choir at Centennial United Church for over 50 years. He was also very active in the Masonic Lodge. After retiring, he contributed his time to charitable organizations, notably the William Mercer Wilson Centre and the Scottish Rite Learning Center. He loved travelling, photography and spending time at the cottage.



Passing of Another Proud South Alumnus— George Hayman ('48)



On page 3 in last spring's issue was a story on the Hayman family: "*South's Builders Celebrate 150 Years!*" In that article, we sadly acknowledged the March death of **Bob Hayman ('46)**. Just 3 months later, his brother and life-long business partner, **George Oke Hayman, P.Eng.**, was also gone, passing away on June 10, 2022 in his 92nd year. George served as alumni rep for the Class of 1948 for many years.

Survived by his wife of 67 years, Helen Louise (Smart), his cherished sons, **Peter ('74)**, **Dave ('77)** and **Brian ('80)**, and his daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

George graduated from Engineering and Business at the University of Toronto in 1953 and joined the 4th generation family construction firm, John Hayman and Sons. Passionate about music, theatre, the arts, and humanitarian activities, George was described as "*a Renaissance man*". His love of the piano was sustained throughout his life, and he played on many occasions, "*sometimes even when asked*". Volunteering in the community was also important and he served with Mission Services, Boy Scouts, and shared his talents at the piano with the Cancer Clinic and retirement homes. George served on the University of Toronto Board of Governors, was Past President of the London and District Construction Association and an Honorary Member of Highland Country Club. He especially enjoyed times with family at the cottage on the Severn River.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that **Dr. Frederick Banting**, the Nobel prize winning doctor known the world over for discovering insulin, addressed the staff and students of South Collegiate on October 31st, 1923? South principal T.S.H. ("Tish") Graham had met him in 1910, when they were both Arts undergrads at Victoria College (University of Toronto) and they developed a close friendship. Following Dr. Banting's service during WWI, he came to London where he set up practice at 442 Adelaide St. (now the Banting Museum). Although he only stayed for a year before returning to Toronto so he could access the university laboratories, it was an opportunity for him to reconnect with his friend "Tish". So, when he was asked to come to South in the fall of 1923 to speak to the students, he obliged. Not surprisingly, the students demonstrated their enormous pride and enthusiasm by giving Dr. Banting a huge ovation.



UPDATE ON SCAA ACTIVITIES

COMMEMORATIVE GIFT FOR SOUTH'S 100TH:

As mentioned previously, the SCAA wants to commemorate South's 100th with something permanent, something that will be a lasting legacy at our Tecumseh Ave. home. Our initial plan was to create a much improved outdoor classroom in the area beside the mural, in front of the principal's office. That would have required removing a magnolia tree, but unfortunately, we could not get the required permission to do that. Our new plan involves something which we consider equally important and that is replacing the badly deteriorating Lion sign atop the stone pedestal at the front of the school. That plan is now moving forward and hopefully will be completed in time for the May Reunion.

SOUTH'S MUSIC DEPARTMENT:

The Music Department is alive and well under the instruction of new music teacher, **Sarah Hoy!** The school year is off to a great start with a band and choir up and running and working towards a lineup of performances, including Christmas in the Village on **Sat. December 3, 2-2:30PM**. The tradition of Coffee Houses has also been reinstated with our first one of the year filling the Atrium with an audience of 75+ and a wide range of performances. Our next Coffee House takes place **November 30, 6:30-7:30PM**. Sarah said they would love to see alumni in the audience!



COMMEMORATIVE VIDEOS:

Those of you who attended our September event at Victoria public School would have had the opportunity to view the first video produced for us by students in Fanshawe's Contemporary Media program. This video featured an interview with South benefactor, Matt Giffen ('85). We understand that they are hoping to produce two or three more such videos. The SCAA wants to extend a huge thank you to everyone involved in this project at Fanshawe for helping to mark our 100th Anniversary in such a special way.



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SCAA PRESIDENT: Pete Telford

EDITOR & GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Connie Weir

SCAA
c/o South Collegiate Institute
371 Tecumseh Avenue East
London, Ontario
N6C 1T4

Tel. (519) 452-2860
Fax (519) 452-2879

E-mail: contact@southalumni.ca

Website: www.southalumni.ca

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