



Musings

March, 2005

www.malverncollegiate.com

From the Malvern Red and Black Society

Welcome to the first edition of the Malvern Red and Black Society Newsletter. Through these newsletters, we hope to keep you up to date with things that are going on with Malvernites everywhere, adhering to our motto **KEEPING MALVERNITES IN TOUCH**. We will bring you news of what projects and events the MRBS has planned, meeting schedules for the various committees, memories of your fellow classmates and news of things happening at Malvern CI today. This is **YOUR** Society and **YOUR** Newsletter, so feel free to contact us with all your ideas, stories or pictures. We hope that you enjoy this premiere issue and we look forward to hearing from you!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well that was quite a response! After sending out the Launch Announcement, we were overwhelmed by the number of positive responses thanking us for starting this organization. Many of you also sent in the needed permission notice to be included on our MRBS members' list. It has been gratifying to see the regular flow of financial donations being received. I thank each of you for contacting us.

To understand our satisfaction, I will relate back to our initial meeting in November, 2003. Our first action was to approve a motion to start up a society. Great! We were all done except for the details! Well 2,784,061 details later, we are a reality, with an enthusiastic membership. All of this work was done based on one very big hope...that an association would matter to you. Now it is a certainty, Malvernites young and old, present and former, teachers and students, remember their days at M.C.I. with fondness and want to continue that relationship.

I would also like to thank Line Pinard, MCI's principal, and her staff for how warmly they have welcomed the MRBS into the life of the school. We have participated in recent school events and look forward to playing a part in future ones too. We are now working as part of a multi-faceted group to establish a Malvern charitable foundation (more about this later).

Do we have the ingredients to sustain this success? Passion and energy- no problem, my wife can attest to this point. Funding- thanks to your generosity, we have a good start. Volunteers- the people I work with in your Executive and Advisory Council are dynamos of volunteerism. They have limits though and that is where you have to come in. This is your society and we truly need volunteers. Give us whatever time you can- an hour per week or the whole week. Leave a message on the Hotline (416-393-8683) or email us at redandblack@malverncollegiate.com. I will reply and together, we can match your time and interests with activities that will help your MRBS grow into the future.

Best regards,

Randy Deffett (1977), President

Note: If you do not express your permission (via mail or email) we cannot include your name in the class membership lists we are assembling. Please include your full name, maiden name and class year or teacher status. This will be the only information displayed.

What's New at Malvern!

Malvern welcomes a new Principal! As of September, 2004, Line Pinard became principal of MCI, taking over from Nadine Segal who was promoted to Superintendent with the Toronto District School Board. We wish them both success in their new positions!

Three Teachers Retire: Malvern was sorry to lose three of its teachers at the end of the last school year. **Nancy Bellmore** had been a member of the Guidance department for 13 years. **Lou Chiapetta** taught Science at Malvern for 26 years and **Steve Irwin** had spent 23 years in the Music Department. Their hard work and dedication will be missed at Malvern, but we hope that they enjoy their well deserved freedom!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Decade committees are being formed to facilitate communication between alumni from all years and plan projects and events for their decade. To help, please contact the decade coordinators via our website, redandblack@malverncollegiate.com or call our hotline at 416-393-8683.

UP COMING EVENTS

The monthly board meetings of the Malvern Red and Black Society for the first half of 2005 are: **March 9, April 17 and May 11**. If you have any matters that you wish to be presented to the board, please contact Randy Deffett, President through our website at redandblack@malverncollegiate.com

Class of 1980 Reunion

A 25th Reunion is being planned for the Class of 1980 to be held in June of 2005. All graduates of that year are asked to contact Louise Greenaway at 416-423-5931 or lgwillett@hotmail.com for information.

Band Reunion with George McRae

Planning is in the works for a Band Reunion with George McRae on Saturday, April 23, 2005. Location TBA - thinking Kew Beach United Church. All those interested in helping to plan this event or to obtain information, please contact Cynthia Spencer Hucks at jhucks@peterboro.net.

LIMITED NUMBER OF CENTENNIAL SOUVENIRS FOR SALE!

If you didn't have a chance to purchase the fabulous Malvern Centennial Souvenirs at the 100th Reunion, you can still order a select number of items on a first come, first serve basis.

Place your order and you will be notified when your items will be ready for pick up at Malvern. If you live out of town, we can mail them to you and will add the shipping cost to the price of the items you order.

Send your order and we will notify you of the total cost before you send the cheque. Prices include tax.

Please make your cheque payable to: **Malvern Red & Black Society**

And mail to:

Malvern Red & Black Society

c/o Malvern CI,

55 Malvern Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4E 3E4

Make sure to include your name, address and phone number to your order so we can make sure you receive your items, as well as quantity, item, colour and size where applicable.

The list and prices are below.

- ◆ Ladies Golf Shirts \$30.00 each
White (with MCI crest) 1L
Red (with black MCI 1903-2003) 4M, 4L, 2XL
Black (with red MCI 1903-2003) 1L
- ◆ Unisex T-Shirt \$20.00 each (1 Med.)
- ◆ MCI Carryall bags \$5.00 each (4 left)
- ◆ White Teddy Bears \$10.00 each (8 left)
- ◆ Centennial Books \$20.00 each
Includes memories, history of the school,
sports, music, photos and much more.

We are sure that you'll enjoy the good quality and appearance of the items and will have many years of enjoyment from them.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO.....



AN EARLY HISTORY OF MALVERN CI

(From information stated in the 1924 Malvern Muse)

1903 – **Malvern Collegiate** opened its doors in a humble shed situated where **Kimberley Public School** now stands, but in those days the school was known as East **Toronto High School**. The school occupied only 2 rooms in the old house known as **Mary Street** (now **Kimberley**) Public School. Attendance that first year was 42 students with a staff of 2 teachers. The first principal, Mr. F.W. French, chose for the school motto "Victrix Sapientia Fortunae" which freely translated means "It is wisdom that wins success". Prior to this year, students who wished a secondary education had to attend Jarvis Collegiate or Markham High School.

1906 – A new building of 3 rooms was built on Malvern Ave. The student body this year totaled 128, with a staff of 4. The first rugby team was formed. The school colours, chosen in those early days were red, black, red.

1908 - Town of East Toronto amalgamated with City of Toronto.

1909 - School came under the control of Toronto Board of Education. Name changed this year to **Malvern High School**.



East Toronto High School circa 1906

If you were walking through the hallowed halls of Malvern CI during the 1980's when a big red blur wearing hot pink lipstick would swoosh by causing havoc and leaving lipstick stains on every thing from lockers to unsuspecting passers by - that would be **DEANN DEGRUIJTER**, graduate of the class of 1982. Deann was in many of the school plays during her years at MCI. Her characters became legendary and today Deann has a successful stage career and is the mother of two young boys, Willem and Marcus. After graduating MCI, Deann attended George Brown College and received her diploma in Theatre Arts. She has starred in many plays in the Shaw Festival, performed in dinner shows such as Nunsense and has graced many of Toronto's stages in such plays as the Wizard of Oz at the Elgin Theatre and my personal favourite.....MAMA MIA at the Royal Alex! Deann also runs her own production company and does voice-overs in radio and commercials. To think we knew her when!!!!

A REUNION LOVE STORY

Yes you do read stories about fate bringing people together or watch romantic movies where cupid does his thing, but you never think that it can touch you in real life. Well, there is a wonderful love story that came out of the Centennial Reunion.

This is the story of Marcella Hudec (Williamson) and Harry Clyde Wilson who were members of the graduating class of 1949. Their romance actually started when they were both in Kindergarten at Kimberly Public School. Marcella was Harry's first girlfriend that year, but alas it did not last long. They remained friends all through elementary school and although in different classes, ran into each other in the hallway or at dances while attending Malvern. After graduating in 1949, Harry entered the Naval training course while at University and was shipped out during the Festival of Britain. In 1951, Marcella and Harry briefly dated again for about a year and Harry wrote many letters to her while away at sea which Marcella still treasures today. However, while Harry was still away, Marcella met the man who was to become her husband and poor Harry received a "Dear John" letter. If only Marcella had seen him in his naval uniform!

Sadly, Marcella's husband passed away in 1974 and Harry was divorced in 1976. Fate did not step in yet as Marcella attended the 75th Reunion at Malvern but Harry was unable to come. When the Centennial Reunion was approaching, Marcella's brother, Peter Williamson, kept her advised of the activities being planned and happily, Marcella saw Harry's name on the list of attendees. She was excited at the prospect of seeing her old friend and finding out what he had been up to.

On the day of the reunion, Marcella kept an eye out for Harry's name on the sign in sheet so that she could try and spot him as it had been a long time since they had seen each other and she was not quite sure what he would look like. After what seemed a very long wait, Harry's name finally appeared and she went to find him and the sparks began to fly. They rekindled their friendship and by the end of the evening the two old friends had exchanged phone numbers. A year later, in June of 2004 they moved into a condo together and Marcella's three children, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren along with Harry's daughter and three grandchildren are all very happy for them.

We wish them all the best and thank them for sharing their touching story with us!

MALVERN FOUNDATION BEING FORMED

A group of interested parents, teachers, and alumni along with Principal Line Pinard are in the midst of forming a Foundation for Malvern so that those interested in contributing to the upkeep of the school and the improvement of the daily life of Malvern students will have a medium to do so. Donations will go towards such things as the purchasing of new athletic uniforms and equipment, new instruments for the band, improvements on the school building and in conjunction with the Home and School, scholarships for the graduating class.

Our President, Randy Deffett, has become a member of the Board and will be keeping us informed of the plans the Foundation has and to see how we can best assist and work alongside the Foundation to help benefit all Malvernites.

Coming up in May.....ELECTIONS!

In May, elections for the new Board of Directors of the Red and Black Society will be held. The founding Board has been hard at work fulfilling its mandate that will officially end on May 24th. This is a great opportunity to get involved and help promote that good old Malvern Spirit among all the members of the MRBS. The MRBS is looking for all those eager and willing to take on the responsibilities of each of the offices and attend the monthly meetings to carry on the exciting enterprises of this newly founded society.

As well as, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer there are three Member-at-Large positions. There will be an Annual General Meeting at which you can announce your candidacy and the nominations will take place. All members of the Malvern Red and Black Society are eligible to run for office and vote in the election. Keep an eye out for further details on our website, www.malverncollegiate.com and we look forward to hearing from all those diligent and enthusiastic Malvernites to announce their intentions to run for office on the 2005 Board of Directors.

DORIS MCCARTHY:
SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER AT 2004 THE
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

This year due to damage to the ceiling of the auditorium, the Commencement Ceremony was pushed back from the usual November date and was held on January 7, 2005 to allow for the repairs to be completed. This unfortunate turn of events however allowed the graduating class to have a very special guest speaker, the renowned Canadian painter and Malvern graduate, Doris McCarthy.

Doris McCarthy had been invited to the Centennial Reunion in 2003 but was unable to attend as she was busy showing her house and studio on the Doors Open Toronto tour, which happened to fall on that same day. So it was wonderful for her to be able to return to her old alma mater nearly 80 years after she herself had graced its' hallowed halls. Doris is one of Malvern's most illustrious graduates and the Red and Black Society was happy to assist in honouring her work and her life by suggesting to the Principal that she address the Class of 2004.

Doris McCarthy grew up in the Beaches and attended Malvern Collegiate in the 1920's and was on the Editorial Board of one of the early editions of the Malvern Muse, which is still available to look at in the school library. Her mother was also involved with the school and was the founding secretary of the Malvern Home and School Club, and her handwritten reports are still in existence in the Malvern Archives.

After graduating from Malvern, Doris McCarthy won a scholarship to the Ontario College of Art and studied under Arthur Lismer, a founding member of the Group of Seven. She also studied sculpture with Emmanuel Hahn, who was the sculptor of the Malvern Memorial statue which stands in front of the school. Doris then went on to teach art at Central Technical School for forty years. She bought a house on the Scarborough bluffs in 1939 which was dubbed "Fool's Paradise" by her mother who thought it too extravagant for a young teacher. It will be donated to the Ontario Heritage Foundation upon her death

After World War 2, Doris created a book in memory of the Malvern students who took part in that war. The book is lettered in gold and is a treasured part of Malvern's heritage. Her work has been exhibited in the McMichael Gallery and the Wynick/Tuck Gallery on Richmond Street. The Scarborough College of the University of Toronto has recently opened the Doris McCarthy Art Gallery and Archives. Doris was also honoured with the Order of Canada, presented to her in 1986 by Madame Sauvé.

Doris has always loved nature and has painted in many parts of Canada, including Northern Ontario,

the Gaspé and the Arctic. She still loves to paint and travel and continues to live her life with the same energy and enthusiasm she displayed while a dedicated student enjoying both the academics and extracurricular activities of Malvern Collegiate. Doris' paintings show her love for her country and for her home province of Ontario.

We are proud that she is a Malvernite and happy that she can share her life experiences with the young Malvern graduates of 2004.

A 1940'S STUDENT REMEMBERS!

The call came at 9 a.m. November 11, 2004. "Sonya - Malvern just called. They are having a 'skate' at Ted Reeve Arena today at noon to commemorate the 40's. The students are dressing up in 40's garb. I think we should be represented. You were there in the 40's can you go as the representative of the MRBS?" . It was one of our indefatigable leaders, Dr. Vandra Masemann calling.

So I threw a roll of film into the camera and a roll to spare, got there before noon to meet the advancing crowd and was greeted by a lovely girl who said "Welcome to our skate. You must be somebody's grandmother" I was of course but not to a student this year but I was to a student last year.

Two girls came as Rosie the Riveter. Another had a circular skirt and bright lipstick. If she hadn't had skates on I'm sure they would have been saddle shoes. Another in a green satin dress. A quiet young fellow as a soldier in fatigues and a girl in black with a many strand pearl necklace. I retied one Rosie's scarf so her hair wouldn't get caught in the machinery instead of the snood-like fashion she had it tied in, and told her that it should have been cotton, but I really related to the black and pearls. I had that exact outfit in the 40's!

Throughout the hour they even had all 40's music playing. I was tapping and swaying to "Begin the Beguine", thinking back to the tea dances in the auditorium, dropping a tear and getting a catch in my throat at Vera Lynn singing "The White Cliffs of Dover" as all the old memories came flooding back. I was happy that the two rolls of film came out well and I was able to capture lots of the excited skaters and their 1940's costumes.

Mr Langens 10E class hosted the skate and did a great job of it. Next year he hopes to have more time to plan. This year they were offered the ice for that hour on very short notice. Thank you Mr. Langen and 10E for all the old memories.... and thank you for all the new memories made by a vital new generation.

Remembering fondly,

Sonya Munro, 1940's Decade Coordinator (right)



“KEEPING MALVERNITES IN TOUCH”

We already have several stories about Malvernites who have been in touch. We plan to devote a regular column to this subject. After all, it is the main function of the MRBS. All the stories will be printed with permission from the persons involved.

A reconnected patient.

We received an email from **Robin Bush**, who was looking for her father’s doctor from Malvern in the 1940’s, **Dr. Jack Finlay**. He had attended her father, **Bob Hornidge**, during his final illness, and she thought he might be able to help her with some papers her mother needed signed for the Veterans’ pension. We asked our decade coordinators if they had heard of him, and **Sonya Munro**, the ‘40’s coordinator, replied that she knew him in the 1940’s. She had met him at the Reunion, and still knows him today. Because of our stringent privacy rules, we did not release his number to Robin, but he kindly phoned her and spoke with her about her Dad. She wrote to us afterwards to say how very grateful she was to speak to the man who had cared for her Dad in his final illness. Then Dr. Finlay also phoned her sister and spoke to her, a call which she greatly appreciated getting. Sonya also found the 1941 Muse showing graduates Jack Finlay and **Ruth (West) Hornidge**, their mother, on the same page!

Cottage Sweets linger.

We note that in the January 24, 2005 Toronto Star, GTA section (page B5), there was another story about a group of Malvernites from the 1940’s, **“The Cottage Sweets.”** They were a group of girls from Malvern who had worked together in the summer of 1942 at the Neilson’s ice cream factory. Their names are **Mary (Boyd) Zealley, Ruth Sheridan, Joan Wilson, Barbara Evans, Betty Ann (Carrette) Ferguson, and Betty Shaw**. They met regularly over the years and even celebrated their 60th anniversary at the King Edward Hotel in 2002.

We hope that you have enjoyed the first issue of Musings! We would love to hear from all the Perry Whites and Jimmy Olsens out there who can volunteer their time and experience to join the Musings staff and become part of the newsletter team. The MRBS also needs your talents and expertise on other various committees such

The article focuses mainly on the death of Barbara Evans, who had been a head buyer for Simpsons-Sears, on Christmas Eve, 2004 at the home of her niece. It seems that there are only two of them left now - the end of an era.

Tell us your stories.

We know that small groups of Malvernites have met regularly over the years. Some of those friends attended the Centennial Reunion together. We also know that others are planning to meet again. Please let us know any of your news as you keep in touch with other Malvernites. Or you can let us know of anyone you would like to meet again!

’70’s DECADE REUNION PARTY

The Malvern spirit is alive and well and was in evidence on June 5, 2004 when graduates from the 70’s gathered at the Balmy Beach Club for an evening to renew friendships and to raise money for the Malvern Scholarship Fund.

Planning for the event began shortly after the centennial celebrations at Malvern in 2003 and was coordinated by a Committee with representatives from a number of different years in the 70’s. According to the Committee, the objectives of the evening were to create an opportunity for former classmates to meet and re-establish friendships, to share memories, to build a network of former Malvern grads and to raise money for the Malvern Scholarship Fund. The event drew an enthusiastic crowd of 300 people and raised over \$2100.00 for the school. The proceeds from the evening were presented to the school in June and were used to fund awards presented to graduating students at Commencement this past January.

The organizing Committee is currently planning the 2nd Annual 70’s Decade Reunion Party on Saturday June 11, 2005 at the Balmy Beach Club. For more information on the upcoming event contact John Wightman (Class of 75”) at wightmanjohn@hotmail.com or Cheryl Okamoto at cherylokamoto@hotmail.com.

as Finance, Communications (website and technical support), Membership, Archives and many other areas. If you have enthusiasm, dedication and proficiency in any particular sector, please contact us through our website www.malverncollegiate.com and join our exciting organization!