



Musings

October/2007

www.malverncollegiate.com

From the Malvern Red and Black Society

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As of November, 2007 I will not seek a third term as President of the Malvern Red & Black Society. I will be leaving the Society's executive. From our founding days in October 2003 through two terms as President, I put my passion and dedication into making this Society a success. Unfortunately,

I am burned out

I am very proud of the successes of our volunteer team. We have achieved outstanding results: archives restoration, newsletters, website, 1950s Reunion, seniors' Tea, the MRBS award, and participation in MCI events. We have established a solid foundation to ensure the Society's future: generous donors, an accurate members' database, by-laws, privacy policy, solid finances, and a fabulous relationship with the MCI administration and our members. People may not realize the work involved completing all of this, but I do.

I will not take credit for what has been a team effort. If anything, I acted as the 'glue' to keep everybody working in unison. I happily took on the unglamorous tasks that were necessary to be done.

My greatest satisfaction?

It was my honour to meet Malvernites of all ages. So many people have happy memories of their MCI days and we have brought the school back into their lives, even in some small way. As well, we have brought the alumni back into the life of MCI.

Now what?

That's up to you. I have continually appealed for volunteers because it is inevitable that our current volunteers would burn out. New MRBS leaders are NOT stepping forward.

Too many members are happy that the MRBS exists, so long as they do not have to lift a finger to do anything.

Please prove me wrong. Our next elections are on November 4TH 1:00PM at the Balmy Beach Club. **The positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Member-At-Large will be open.**

WE NEED LEADERS TO STAND FOR ELECTION

It's quite simple. Volunteer leaders are our lifeblood. If we cannot inject new blood, the MRBS will slowly come to an end.

IT'S TIME TO DECIDE

Sorry to end my farewell address in stark terms. As I said earlier, I have put my passion and dedication into this Society for four years. I have earned the right to address matters in plain terms.

Randy Deffett, Class 1977

Upcoming Events

For details check our website, email us or call our Hotline, 416-393-8683.

November 4th 2007 Gathering of Malvernites: Join us at the Balmy Beach Club from 1:00-4:00pm to connect with old friends and participate in a very critical Annual General Meeting. All Malvernites are invited.

Elections for key Board of Directors positions will be held: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Member-At-Large. If you plan to stand for election, and can inform us in advance, that would be good.

I welcome the chance to discuss this election, and these roles at any time. Email me at redandblack@malverncollegiate.com or phone the Hotline. I will respond promptly. – R. Deffett

Whats New at Malvern

We say good-bye to several teachers this year. Darren Gani has moved out of the country, Leslie Rulff has been promoted and transferred to another school and we have several retirees...Geoff Dawson, Susan Lindell, Pat Salvatore and Larry Smith. We wish them all well in their future endeavours.

We welcome to the staff and the Malvern community: Elizabeth Barsby (Math), Karyn Bugelli (History), Louis Foulidis (Boys Phys Ed), Rita Furgiuele (Moderns), David Goodman (Math), Kate Moss (Science), Fred Piller (Math) and Claudine Tyrell (English). There are also two long term occasional teachers who will be temporarily replacing two teachers who are on a leave of absence: Fiona MacIntyre (Art) and Tetyana Pytlova (Math).

Did You Know?

Malvern Home and School Association (prepared for the 50th, 60th and 75th Reunions)

- 1930 • Approximately 937 students in attendance this year. • staff comprised of 32 teachers and a principal's secretary.
 - 1932 • the 1st Student Council was formed
 - 1935 • Mr. Carl Lehmann, principal for 25 years, retired; Mr. W.E. Hanna appointed principal.
 - 1937 • Between this year and 1952, Malvern students won 14 university scholarships.
 - 1938 • Mr. L.H. Clarke appointed principal.
 - 1939 • From this year until 1945, 1100 graduates and 13 teachers joined the colours. • A large east wing was completed. • First Commercial Department was started.
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To give you all an idea of what life at Malvern Collegiate was like in the early days.....here are some memories of some of the students from the 1930's

Three Generation Malvern Family

Ruth Thorne (nee Wachter) Class of 1930

We are a three-generation Malvern family. I went to Malvern in the twenties, both my daughters, Betty (1955) and Mary Thorne (1958), were students in the fifties, and two of my grandchildren, Victoria and Ruth Campbell, attended in the eighties.

I remember standing out in front of the war memorial on Armistice Day while the local politicians made endless speeches - - but, at least we got the afternoon off. We had some really great teachers - - the math teacher, Jessie Muirhead, who always said, "ESTIMATE! If you estimate, you won't come up with a really ridiculous answer." and Mr. MacQuarrie, who founded my interest in Latin, an interest which has lasted the rest of my life. My one disappointment was being refused permission to join the rifle club, as it was not open to girls. They suggested that I join the Literary Society instead, but somehow it just didn't have the same ring to it.

(Ruth Wachter was Valedictorian in 1930.)



Malvern Collegiate Staff of 1935

Memories

Norma D. Blaney (Tomkin) 1934-?

I started at Malvern on September 1934, coming from Kimberley Public School. My family lived on Lyall Ave. They lived there from when I was five (1926) until 1953. I also had the honour of being the school nurse in the late forties. I moved to the U.S.A. in September 1950.

I have memories of Glenn Gould practicing, it seemed endlessly, in the auditorium. Now he has a page in a book of famous people

The Prosperity Club

Earle Dillon Class of 1935

Here we are, going to Malvern and living at the Beach during the Depression years. A group of about 14 friends decided that to have a good time at a reasonable cost we should have a club. So we had a meeting and formed the Prosperity Club at the home of Valerie Dunbar on the 28th day of June 1935. We elected Roy Jones President, Janet Stephens Secretary, and Peg Wallace Treasurer. Later, Doug White became President and I Secretary. We lost Doug in 2002 and so have to carry on with only one other original, Val Dunbar.

The Club workings were guided by the spirit of Malvern and our different churches, which resulted in good young Canadians enjoying life all their lives. We had house parties, picnics to Toronto Island, Green River, the Bluffs top and bottom, and corn roasts on the beach. The girls arranged the food and the boys provided transportation and soft drinks. By the way, my mother allowed us to use the 1928 Chev. We would take a collection to buy gas. We also did a lot of walking. Special was the 6 o'clock sail on the Cayuga to Queenston and back at 11 o'clock. It was great dancing from outside the Island over and back. We also visited Balmy Beach Canoe Club for Saturday night dances. Also, the Silver Slipper and the outside dance floor. A yearly event was a visit to the Ex and dance to the big bands. We had a number of old cars; one cost \$25, paid for by three boys and driven all over Toronto and all suburbs. We fixed our flats and did repairs with parts from wreckers. House parties always ended with refreshments by the home parents. We also sang for hours and played games like Spin the Bottle.

Malvern in the 1930s

David M. Hayne 1933-1938

Malvern's popular principal in the early thirties, Carl August King Lehmann, had been born in Muskoka but had received part of his schooling in Germany before enrolling in Honour Science at the University of Toronto. A pioneer in the new art of colour photography, he had come to Malvern as Principal in 1910, when the school had only about a hundred students. The Vice-Principal and Head of the Department of English, Charles W. Horton, who had also come to the school in 1910, had retired one year before Mr Lehmann, in 1934. The departure of both the Principal and Vice-Principal who had directed the school for a quarter of a century marked the end of an era, and a new stage in the history of the school began when the incoming Principal, W.E. Hanna, who for some reason was immediately nicknamed "Gus" by the students, arrived in the fall of 1935. The school then had about a thousand students (in the terminology of those days, Public Schools had "pupils" and High Schools or Collegiates had "students").

The five grades at Malvern were called "forms" and were numbered from 1 to 5. They were grouped by the Ontario Department of Education in three levels: Forms 1 and 2 made up the Lower School, Forms 3 and 4 the Middle School, and Form 5 was the Upper School. The subjects taught were the traditional academic offerings that British schools had taught for almost a century; the curricular experiments and expanded programs of the 1960s were still far in the future.

We moved from classroom to classroom during the day for the various subjects just as secondary school students still do, but we were not allowed to leave the building. If for some reason we had a free period (a "spare") we spent it in a classroom under a teacher's supervision and were expected to study; no conversation was allowed in any classes. The school had an auditorium capable of holding the entire student body, a good-sized gymnasium and a small library, but no swimming pool. There was an impressive cenotaph in front of the school building, commemorating those who had died in the Great War of 1914-8, the only world war we knew.

In the mid-1930s, school uniforms were introduced, although they were not compulsory and they concerned girls rather than boys. Girls whose families could afford uniforms wore black stockings, black pleated skirts above the knee, white blouses and, on occasion, a red and black crested Malvern blazer.

Another innovation under Mr Hanna's principalship (I once said "a new innovation" in his presence and was corrected: "If it is an innovation, it must be new."), was the creation of a student council, although its role in the direction of school activities remained consultative and minimal.

The simplest level of dance activity, the "tea dance" was very popular at Malvern. It was an informal couple of hours of dancing after the end of classes in the afternoon, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., usually in the school auditorium, and often on a Friday if there was no rugby (football) game that day. Students came singly or in groups and wore normal school clothes, blouses or sweaters and skirts for girls and dark pants and white shirts for boys. The music would usually be bakelite "records" (not LPs yet) or a small group of three or four local musicians. Soft drinks like Orange Crush or Ginger Ale might be sold to cover expenses; the one drink never available at tea dances was tea.

What Malvern has meant to me all my life

Margaret J. (Matheson) Davis

Class of 1939

Happy memories – fun – new friends – growing and developing – lifetime interests – expanding my world. I entered Malvern C.I. in September 1933, having turned thirteen the previous June – a real "freshie" We were a group of ten girls who participated in everything. The girls' club was named "The Maids of Malvern. Senior students in fourth and fifth form were helpful and encouraged participation opening many doors for us. We were introduced to the High School Girls' Club at the Y.W.C.A., 21 McGill St. We journeyed one Friday each month to join girls from other high schools in Toronto for

interesting evenings. Started with a swim, followed by dinner in the cafeteria (prune whip was a constant dessert) and an evening programme. Sometimes each school presented a play in competition, or a speaker, or crafts. There were twenty-six high schools in Toronto.

After school, we wandered east on Kingston Rd., dropping some off at each street. Stopped at the Dairy for a milkshake – ten cents. One shake, four glasses and four straws, please. We didn't have much money, but didn't need it. My allowance was twenty-five cents. We were in the midst of a worldwide depression, but we had all we needed – and much more. Our Dads were working, but we were aware of others who weren't so fortunate, and helped as we could. In many ways, they were kinder, gentler times when we cared about each other.

Our teachers were professional, experienced and nourished a love of learning – always available with a listening and encouraging ear. I fondly remember my English teacher, Miss MacGregor, who enthralled me with Wordsworth, Keats, Shelley, and Shakespeare. Often Saturday mornings, a group of us sat on the floor in her bachelor apartment and studied and acted out Shakespeare. Lionel Burke, my Biology teacher, opened my mind to the wonders of flora and fauna in Botany classes, and insight into the world of animal and insect in Zoology. He encouraged us to come to the lab after school to continue our research. To this day, I have a love of and deep interest in gardening, trees and animals.

Yeah Malvern!

Whatever happened to..

BRYAN C. VICKERS .. While at Malvern, Bryan was involved in track and field, football and cross country running. In 1949, he was awarded the Grade 10 Trophy (Jr Hi-Y). Graduating in 1954, he went on to attend the University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario, followed later by two years of graduate study at the University of Natal, South Africa.

Following two years as a teacher at Danforth Technical School, where he co-coached the Bantam Football team to City Champions in 1959. He then moved on to teach at Leaside High School for the next thirty years. His love of travel led him to organize student trips to a variety of American, European, African and South American destinations.

An avid golfer, Bryan has always had a very broad vision and a desire to be involved in a variety of experiences. He has co-authored a history text, taught Driver Education, been a member of several curriculum writing committees, served the Royal Ontario Museum in various capacities, coached tennis and football and worked on a TVO series. His love of tennis and his training as a tennis umpire have led him all over the United States, Canada and Ireland to officiate at all levels from local to international. In 1990, he accepted a four year appointment to the Convention Refugee Determination Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board.

His personal adventures have included white water rafting in Western Canada and Australia, hiking in the Yukon, dog sledding in Northern Ontario, hot air ballooning in Arizona, cycling through Ireland, flying over Victoria Falls in a micro-light and snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef.

Since 1995, his “second career” has led him to escort tours to Europe, the Mediterranean, the South Pacific, Asia, Africa, Central and South America and Antarctica.

Bryan and his wife Elizabeth have two children - Janet, a Doctor and Bruce a Chartered Accountant and partner with Deloitte & Touche.

SOUVENIRS ON SALE!

There are still a few Centennial souvenirs left. Prices have dropped. Buy now, so you won't be disappointed.

Ladies' golf shirts: Red (with black MCI 1903-2003) 5-M 2-L 1-XL \$20.00

Men's' golf shirts : Red (with black MCI 1903-2003) 2-M \$20.00

2 White Teddy Bears \$5.00

3 Pewter Centennial Pins \$5.00 each

Centennial Books \$10.00

5 MCI carryall bags, (Black with red lettering 18"X16") \$5.00 each

Please send your order to the MRBS, c/o Malvern C.I., 55 Malvern Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4E 3E4 ATTN: Donna Halliday or email order to souvenirs@malverncollegiate.com You can view these items online on our website.

DONERS LIST

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June Nurse
Donna (Payne) Pezzack

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Elizabeth (Lewis) Ross
Ted Rowling
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Frances (Leal) Simerson
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Jean (Nixon) Stinson
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Suzanne (Matthews) Sutcliffe
Barry Truscott
Wendy (Lawson) Truscott
Michael Tubbs
Randy Walker
David Watt
Jim Watt
Peter Williamson
Bette (Colville) Witham
Ross Woodward

* deceased

ONWARD **MALVERN FOUNDATION**

Fall 2007

Dear Malvernite,

This letter concerns your old school. We'd like to ask you to join with us to provide the best educational experiences for the kids at Malvern Collegiate Institute today.

The Onward Malvern Foundation exists to fund the extras — academic awards that celebrate excellence at the school and exit scholarships and bursaries that help Malvern graduates go on to the next step of their education.

The Foundation makes grants so that students can attend conferences, tournaments, science fairs and the like. If there are extra needs in the Drama Department, we're there to help, as we are for the Music Department with scores, instruments and uniforms. We're able to fund extra library resources, new athletic uniforms and more.

The Foundation was started by a group of alumni, parents, and friends of the school in 2005. While we are waiting for our own tax receipt status, we are able to offer one from the Toronto Board of Education.

We raised over \$4,000 in our first year and over \$5,500 last year. Some of it was designated (see the reply form), but the majority was donated for "wherever the need is greatest." This money was given to the Athletic Department for the weight training room used by both boys and girls and to the Music Department to help purchase replacement uniforms for the marching band.

We are all supporters of our public school system. We believe very strongly that the basics at Malvern should be funded by the school board. However, the sort of extras that we support can make the difference between an average high school experience and an outstanding one.

Private schools such as Upper Canada and Havergal Colleges charge very expensive tuition fees but did you know that, in addition, they raise hundreds of thousands of dollars each year from their alumni for the same sort of extra needs?

What you give is entirely up to you. Some are able to send \$100, \$500 or even \$1,000, others less. The important thing is that as many people as possible participate. And please note that we are not asking alumni to carry the whole load. Parents, friends and teachers were approached last year too and they responded very well. They'll be approached again this year.

You can designate your gift or tick the box that says 'wherever the need is greatest'. The funds are administered and granted by our Executive, made up of representatives from the Parents Council, Malvern Red & Black Society, teachers and friends of Malvern.

Please use the coupon below to be as generous as you can be.

If you have any questions at all about this Onward Malvern Foundation 2007/8 Annual Appeal, please don't hesitate to give me a ring at 416-691-5105.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Thomas

3 time Malvern past parent,

Malvern Volunteer Basketball coach 1988-

2007

P.S. Please give generously to this Annual Appeal for the Onward Malvern Foundation. Your gift is guaranteed to make as great an educational experience for today's kids as it was for you in your time. And you can support the archives or *Boys of Malvern* monument project as well.

Yes, please find my (our) donation to the Onward Malvern Foundation 2007/8 Annual Appeal.

Enclosed is a cheque for \$_____ made out to the Malvern Collegiate/Onward Malvern Foundation

My (our) name is: _____

I (we) live at: _____

Our son daughter is in grade _____.

The donation is to be used for:

Exit Scholarships and bursaries Athletics Music Archives

Drama *Boys of Malvern* monument project Library Academic Awards

Wherever the need is greatest The Malvern Red & Black Society for Newsletters

Please use the enclosed return envelope to send your donation with this coupon to the Onward Malvern Foundation, c/o Principal's office, Malvern Collegiate Institute, 55 Malvern Avenue, Toronto, ON M4E 3E4.