“Together Again in 2010”

That is the motto we will be using for the general reunion for all who attended St Stephen High School. It is planned for July 30 to August 1 (Friday - Sunday), 2010.

Make your plans to revisit your roots, enjoy your old stomping grounds and renew connections with old friends.

Come and see your hometown and enjoy the area and its many attractions.

The Alumni Association has been busy making plans and most chairs have been appointed, and some committees filled or partially filled. We still need lots of workers to make this happen, so if you have the time and the inclination and would like to serve on a committee please let us know, by emailing me.

The last general reunion we had was in 2000 so this will be a much anticipated event. Make your vacation plans and reservations early.

We look forward to welcoming you and being “Together Again.”

30 YEAR REUNION

Hello Fellow Classmate of SSHS ‘79

The following is the agenda for our 30 Year Reunion.

Friday, July 31 – 7-9 pm Registration at Doolys $15.00 per person. After registration gathering at Deanna Richardson’s, 624 Ledge Road

Saturday, Aug. 1 – BBQ 1 p.m. Deanna’s residence. Bring own liquids and lawn chair.

Saturday, Aug. 1 – Arena Beer Fest as a group – buy own ticket.

Sunday, Aug. 2 – Kingsbrae Garden Tour if enough interested (group of 20 or more) $7.50 per person.

PLEASE RESPOND ASAP IF PLANNING TO ATTEND THE REUNION SO WE CAN GET A BALL PARK FIGURE FOR ATTENDANCE.

Sincerely,
Debra McFarlane e-mail: debra@stcroixcourier.ca
Life Officer,
Secretary/Treasurer SSHS Class of ‘79
620, RTE 725, LITTLE RIDGE, NB E3L 5P2

The third annual Meet & Greet will be held at SSHS on August 2, 2009 from 1 - 3 pm so if you are in the area then please plan on attending

Thanks to those of you who sent me articles to use in this newsletter, it was much appreciated. Send me news and pics of your reunion this summer or anything else that would be interesting to the Alumni and I will publish in the fall.

Ken D ‘54
Connecting with old acquaintances

Kaye (Corby) Eagan ‘61 and her husband Bill (Miltown, class of 60) while visiting their son Patrick and family in Dartmouth, connected with Sandra (Pomeroy) Hawrylak ‘59 and her husband John a former teacher at SSHS. Sandra’s sister Pat (Pomeroy) Garcelon ‘57 had mentioned some time ago that the Hawrylaks were living in Dartmouth, only a few blocks from Eagan’s son, as it turned out. So they finally visited with them and had a great evening discussing old times and life’s adventures. Kaye and Sandy were members of the winning SSHS (1959) Basketball Team but hadn’t seen each other for nearly 45 years. John and Bill had joined the Air Force after leaving their teaching careers and found themselves on the same Canadian Forces Staff School Course in Toronto in 1972. Sandra and John will be home this summer for Sandra’s 50th High School Reunion.

Reunion Pot Luck

Class of 1961

The SSHS Class of 1961 started out having periodic reunions, like most classes, mailing out letters, planning special events, etc. Then several years ago, as we were losing classmates and getting older, we wanted to see each other more often than that. Now, we have a Pot Luck Supper every year, with different people hosting. Over the years, David Ganong, Marilyn O’Connor (Dinsmore), Gary Christie, Dale Greenlaw, Ralph Moffatt, Peter Acheson, and I have taken turns. It’s simple, no fuss, but a great way to reconnect. I’ve gotten to know people that I didn’t even know well in school- and learned some of the bad tricks the boys were up to while we girls were being little angels! We have an e-mail list and I run an ad in the paper and we count on people spreading the word to visiting classmates.

We also encourage others from any classes that share our school memories, to join us. Either to come to supper or join us later for a drink. (Oh yes, it’s BYOB!). I was talking to Bill Francis who is working on the 50th Reunion for the class of 1959, and invited them to this year’s supper. Now that class probably doesn’t even remember us little Grade 10 kids but we sure looked up to those “heros” in Grade 12! It’s the same way with all grades—we all looked up to the older ones. Somehow that attitude seems pretty quaint these days!

So to all who remember those from the Class of 1961 (not just graduates- we’re too old for that kind of nonsense), I extend an invitation to our Pot Luck Supper at 383 Frye Road, Gibson Lake, on Sunday Aug. 2, at 4:00 PM. Bring your swimsuit, the waters great! I’m the host this year so you can call me at the cottage at 529-4494 for any more details!

Donna Bresnahan (Jarvis)

The class of 1959 is holding its 50th Reunion August 1, 2009 at St. Timothy’s Hall on Marks St. beginning at 5 pm. We’re hoping for a great attendance so please send us your RSVPs as soon as possible. Cost is $20.00 per person and can be forwarded to Bill Francis at Box 402, St. Stephen, NB E3L 2X2. Bill can be reached at wfran@nb.sympatico.ca if you have any questions!

Fundy Community Foundation Scholarship Fund

Due to the severe downturn in the economy our Endowment Funds held at Fundy Community Foundation did not produce earnings last year. Rather than not present SSHS Alumni Scholarships this year donations were made to a flow through account at FCF which will allows those funds to be readily available to the Scholarship Committee.

Donations were made in memory of Alice (Hyslop) Raymont, Valerie (Knox) Cruickshank, Gary Hay, David Morrow and Carl McCoomb.

Thank you to all those who made the scholarships possible this year.
In Memoriam

Mary Gertrude Anderson ‘32
1914-2009
ANDERSON- At the Charlotte County Hospital, St. Stephen, NB, February 7, 2009 Mary Gertrude Anderson of Lawrence Station, NB. Daughter of the late Percival James and Martha (Armstrong) Anderson.

Valerie Knox Cruickshank ‘55
1938-2009
The death of Valerie Maxwell Knox Cruickshank of Rothesay, NB, wife of Leslie H. Cruickshank, occurred on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at the Saint John Regional Hospital. She was born in St. Stephen, NB on July 25, 1938, to the late William and Frances (Maxwell) Knox.

L. Paul Duchesneau
1937-2009
DUCHESNEAU- At the Charlotte County Hospital, St. Stephen, NB, March 7, 2009, L. Paul Duchesneau of Oak Bay, NB passed away peacefully with his family by his side. He was born July 21, 1937, the oldest son of the late Leo and Mynia (Young) Duchesneau.

Patricia Kathryn Gibson ‘72
1954-2009

Gary Frank Hay ‘68
1948-2009
At his residence, April 2, 2009, Gary Frank Hay of Fredericton, NB. Son of Maxine G. (Moore) Hay and the late Robert F. Hay of St. Stephen, NB.

In Memoriam

Peter D. Hyslop, ‘74
May 1, 1956 – Dec 4, 2008

Edna Jean Johnston ‘48
It is with great sadness the family announces the passing of Edna Jean (Weeks) Johnston, at the home of Randy and Melinda Johnston in Moores Mills, NB, on January 13, 2009.

J. Patrick McBride
1946-2009
MCBRIDE - at his residence, March 9, 2009, James Patrick McBride, of Moores Mills, NB. Son of the late J. George and Elsie M. (Hatt) McBride.

Carl McCoomb ‘54
Peacefully, at Country Terrace Nursing Home, Komoka, ON, on Saturday, April 11, 2009, Carl McCoomb, of London, Ont., in his 74th year. Beloved husband of the late Rosina “Rose” McCoomb.

D. Kirk McGeachy, ‘71

David Roy Morrow ‘78
1960-2009
In Memoriam

Ronald James Pomeroy ‘85
1967-2008
POMEROY-Ronald James Pomeroy of St. Stephen, NB passed away on December 17, 2008.

Alice Marie Raymont, ‘52
Alice Marie Raymont died peacefully on Easter Monday April 13, 2009 at the Charlotte County Hospital in St. Stephen, NB in the company of her daughter and son-in-law. Born March 29, 1935, she was the youngest daughter of the late Wallace and Louise Hyslop of Tower Hill, NB.

Mary Elizabeth Russell ‘34
Mary Elizabeth Russell (McConvey) passed away on March 27, 2009, at St. Stephen Seniors Complex, where she had been residing for the past seven years. She was born Dec. 13, 1915, daughter of George and Nora McConvey.

Mary Jane Snow ‘46
Mary Jane Snow, of Riverview, N.B., passed away Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009 at the Moncton Hospital, Moncton, N.B.,

Kenneth George Stevens ‘63
STEVENS- At the Charlotte County Hospital, St. Stephen, N.B. November 7, 2008 Kenneth George Stevens of St. Stephen, N.B. son of the late K. Albert and Florence (McGuire) Stevens.

Marion Alberta Stewart, ‘47
(nee Downey) Peacefully, in Ottawa, surrounded by family on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 in her 79th year. Beloved wife of the late Keith Stewart.

David Gilmore ‘55
Notes re Australian trip

It is hard to believe that my trip to Australia from January 10 to April 6, 2009, was number 15 since 1973! Each trip was an attempt to see different parts of the country and this year, apart from the usual Tasmania, Melbourne, Sydney triangle it was Northern Queensland’s turn – Tropical Australia. Previously we had been to the cities lining the coast from Brisbane area to Perth. More about that another time, perhaps. I’ve probably seen more of Australia than Canada.

This time we avoided floods (east coast), bush fires (State of Victoria) cyclone (Northern Queensland) but enjoyed a 4.6 earthquake in Melbourne. The epicentre was 1 hour south so only a mild table-shaking was all that happened in the city.

The flight of 2,797 km from Melbourne to Cairns, the gate way to the tropics, was on Virgin Blue, a low cost airline with a great and fun staff and the best way to fly cheaply within the country. Of course, as everywhere, the airport at Cairns was under renovation so walking in the heat and humidity was a good introduction to the area. An hour’s drive north along the Coral Sea brought us to Port Douglas, a resort town where we stayed for the last two weeks of March, hoping to go to the Great Barrier Reef. Alas, the aforementioned cyclone had been though the area and as a result the water was too rough and murky so we were advised not to waste the money in an attempt to see it. Locals said buy a nice post card instead!

All was not lost, far from it.

The drive to port Douglas along the coast also passed through some sugarcane plantations – no sign of cane toads although there was a sign in one of the pubs in Port Douglas advertising “cane toad racing every Wednesday night”. In Oz, if it moves, it can be raced and bet on.

Our resort, Marina Terraces, had 34 units only three of which were occupied. Summer is off-season for tourists. High season begins around Easter when the sun-starved southerners head north for holidays. When offered a choice of eating inside or out at a fish and chip shop, I said, “Outside to see the people go by.” The reply was
“What people?” The city is certainly geared for tourists with many hotels and all the high-end shops you could find in any city many times the size of Port Douglas.

The nearby beach had welcoming signs such as “No swimming – crocodiles” and “Beware of poisonous jelly fish” with pictures of types of jelly fish and what to do if bitten – if you survive that long! A good excuse to sit under the palm trees read and watch kite surfers who apparently did not read the signs.

Northern Queensland is Rainforest Country. Our first exposure to it was at the Rainforest Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary combining wetlands, rainforest and grassland exhibits where native species, some of which are in rehabilitation, are displayed. Although dominated by birds, there are also crocodiles, koalas and boa constrictors; luckily nicely separated.

An interesting daytrip was the Skyrail Cableway journey of 7.5km in the Barron Gorge National Park over the lush canopy of the rainforest from Caravonica Terminal to Kuranda and the return by the Scenic Railway winding along the forest floor through 50 metre-tall Kauri Pine trees some of which are 1,000 years old. The rainforest vegetation is completely different from the rest of Australia – no eucalypts, but large ferns, palms and hundreds of types I don’t know the names of.

No visit to the area is complete without a walk through the rainforest to appreciate the diversity of the flora and fauna, hence off to Mosman Gorge for a 3km walk. Heard some birds but was not attacked by boas or crocs. Also, in spite of being forewarned and forearmed with powerful insect spray, we did not encounter any mosquitoes of the dengue-fever bearing kind or any other. The cyclone must have moved them south where there was an outbreak of the fever earlier in the month.

Port Douglas is lazy, relaxing and beautiful and has become an international destination for the well-heeled. I kept thinking I was on an island as I related the palms and ocean to Cuba, even expecting a language other than English. Sometimes Australian English is! Of course, it is just a city on the coast nestled between the sea and the mountains. Driving inland is an experience with the winding roads hugging the mountain sides and gorges.

The flight back to Sydney, 1,957km, ended that phase of the trip. I often think of Sydney as London with good weather and a harbour. Not quite sure what part of the country I’ll see next year. Planning to go from January 16 to April 8 or so.