

Simonds High Alumni Newsletter December 2015



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Wow!! What a great year the Alumni has had!! Lots of fundraising, events, involvement with current students, volunteers and so much more! Looking forward to what 2016 has in store. I know it's going to be bigger and better as we continue to grow.

The Simonds Alumni want to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year!

Have a safe and happy holiday!

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There is always something happening in the hive. We never seem to give ourselves enough credit, and with that in mind, this section of our newsletter will highlight those people who make Simonds better!



Old Yearbooks!

Still searching for that special gift for a friend, relative, or even yourself? The Simonds Alumni Committee still has yearbooks from most years (only a few years are sold out). What a memorable gift that would make! Where else can you get such a special gift for \$35 and up (no tax) for yearbooks up to and including 2014? (Newer years may cost slightly more). For more information or to see if your year is still available contact Judy Chapman
chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca

Simonds Memorial Grove

Over the years Simonds has planted trees in memory of several teachers and students who have passed away. Recently, the Simonds Alumni decided to partner with the school Environmental Club, Team Green, plan some improvements to the school grounds. This initiative will take place over a couple of years. As part of this plan, we are hoping to have some more trees donated and planted in our Memorial Grove. We are seeking individuals or grad-class years who wish to donate a tree in memory of one or more individuals. We invite classes who are planning reunions for this or upcoming years to please consider placing a memorial tree in the grove. What a beautiful way in which to remember a classmate/friend/family member. Inside the school, there is a plaque with the name plates honoring those remembered. The approximate cost of a tree is \$150. All recently planted trees were yellow maples. Eventually there will be a backdrop of green climbing vines that will showcase our green and gold school colours. In addition, a beautiful red maple tree, planted in the quad, was donated for the Class of 1986. Thank you to all who donated trees in memory of friends and family.. Please message Judy Chapman (chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca) or any member of the Alumni Committee if you would like to make a donation and be a part of this worthwhile initiative to give back to your school. Next planting of memorial trees will occur in the spring of 2016. If you wish to purchase a tree for this planting, please contact us no later than March 31, 2016 so we may submit our tree order.



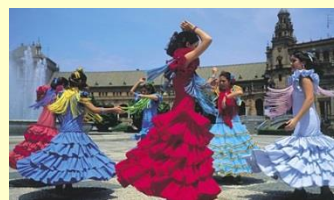
Missing Previous Newsletters?

Are you just reading our Simonds Alumni newsletter for the first time? Or, perhaps you have missed a few of our past issues? Our SHS Alumni newsletter was started in 2012; since then, we have produced 3 - 4 issues each year. If you are seeking past issues...perhaps you want to see pics of people who attended reunions or to get caught up on the news of your Simonds classmates, you will find them posted on the Simonds High School website: <http://web1.nbnet.nb.ca/sites/district8/schools/sh/Pages/default.aspx>. Click on the tab for **Alumni** and enjoy! NOTE: Where possible, several issues have been posted on our Simonds Alumni face book page as well. If you would like the newsletter sent to you directly, please send your name (including maiden name), grad year and email address to the editors: Tammy & Judy (See p.1 for email addresses)

Retired Simonds Staff Member?

Are you a former staff member - teacher, secretary, custodian - from Simonds? If so, we invite you to join us for a monthly lunch date.

The group of retired teachers and other staff members from Simonds usually meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 12:30 PM for lunch and socializing. Our lunch date locations are changed up each month and a great time is had by all! Be sure to email us and attend a few of our get-togethers. We are still an integral part of the Simonds family and enjoy reminiscing and keeping caught up. If you are interested in further details, please contact Cathy MacDonald (ceileenm@nb.sympatico.ca).



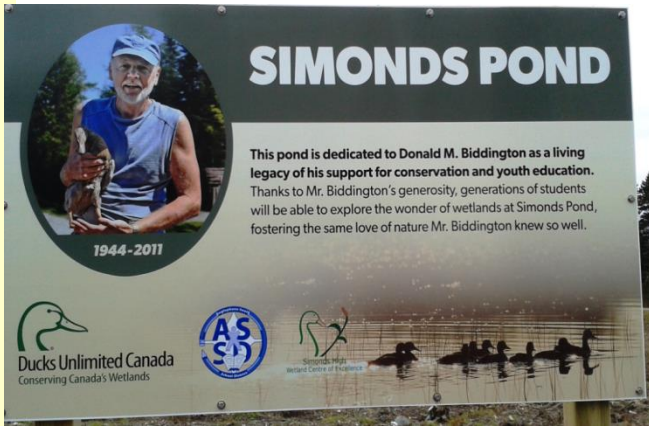
European Travel: Have you dreamed about travelling to Europe, but were daunted by all the planning? Looking for a hassle-free travel experience? Then, you are in luck! Judy Chapman is now planning a new adult tour to Spain for fall 2016. On this 10-day tour, you will visit Seville, Madrid and Barcelona...with the option of taking a 2-night extension to beautiful Costa del Sol with beaches hugging Mediterranean coast. The tour departs on October 14, 2016 (just after the Canadian Thanksgiving) and is with a very reputable world-wide company. Judy has had lots of travel experience, having planned 17 Simonds student tours to Europe and 5 to New York; she has been organizing adult tours since 2013. Judy invites any interested Simonds alumni, their friends and family (you do not **have** to be a Simonds alumnus) to join our adult travel group. If you are interested in this travel opportunity, please contact Judy at chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca or 847-3241 or on face book for more details.

Simonds' Wetland Centre of Excellence Project

The Simonds Pond and Wetland Centre of Excellence project are progressing in an exciting way! FI Science and Math teacher, Michele Banks, is spearheading this project / partnership with Ducks Unlimited. A Wetland Centre of Excellence has been created in a classroom in the school. Team Green students decided to paint each of the four walls of the room to identify one of the four seasons. Don Fowler, an art teacher at the school, has students involved in painting portable murals for each of the seasons. Harold Stewart, construction teacher, is guiding classes in building duck nest boxes and songbird houses. Sandra Allain, FI teacher, and Michele Banks are diligently organizing the WCE room for present and future use. Soon, there will be a web page created by teacher, Jeff Scott, for the wetland centre.

Michele has been busy preparing Team Green members to assume a role of guiding local Elementary students through the wetland in the spring. Many guest speakers have come in to work with the students. Fundy Baykeeper and Marine Conservation Director Matt Abbott spoke to the students re conservation of the entire Bay of Fundy area. Ian Smith of Parks New Brunswick has been training the students on how to use "ice-breakers" to mentor and teach younger students. Katie Scott of Ducks Unlimited has taught the students some wetland games to use in their new role. Mme. Banks has been guiding her Team Green students (and grade 9 science classes) through activities including: tree identification, soil samples, core samples (to determine the age of trees), and critter dipping. This outdoor education and training of students is ongoing.

What is planned so far for 2016 for the Wetland Centre of Excellence Project? In December, the Calithumpians, a theatre group based out of Fredericton, will present an environmental drama to interested classes. Exciting plans are "in the works" on February 10 for World Wetland Day and for April, for Earth Day. In the spring the 527 Air Cadet Squadron will assist in the clean-up of the brook on school property. In addition, JD Irving will be doing some tree planting on site. Meanwhile, the Simonds Pond will continue to fill in naturally as the season's progress. This 5-year partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada will continue to have many more exciting advancements and opportunities ahead. It will change the landscape of the back and side of the Simonds High School property and offer many new opportunities for residents of the community once trails through this wetland are built.



Simonds Wetland Centre of Excellence



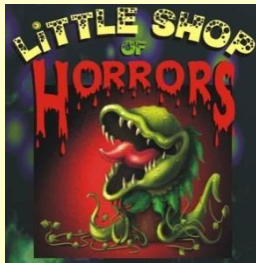
Ian Smith, Parks NB training SHS students and teachers



SHS students critter dipping in brook



Team Green Training



Little Shop of Horrors

Looking for some good fun entertainment for the spring? Simonds High School Drama Club will present the musical Little Shop of Horrors in April. This well-known production is a comedy horror musical about a meek and nerdy florist shop owner who raises Audrey II, a plant that thrives on human blood, develops a soulful R & B voice and has a bit of a potty mouth! It is a fun-filled, yet devilish, musical with 1960s style rock and roll, doo-wop and early Motown songs. Some of the more well-known songs are Suddenly Seymour, Somewhere That's Green and Skid Row (Downtown). This musical appeared off-Broadway, then on Broadway, followed by a movie by the same name in 1986. Stay tuned to our next newsletter for the release of the exact production dates in April.



Treats for Teachers
On behalf of the Simonds High Alumni, Christmas treats for the teachers were delivered to the school in December. We thank the teachers for their hard work and wish them a Merry Christmas and a well-deserved holiday!

Simonds Alumni Committee Needs YOU

Everyone who went to Simonds High School is automatically a member of our alumni. We also include all teachers, secretarial staff, custodial staff, etc. We are all part of the Simonds family. Our SHS Alumni Committee meets approximately once a month from September until June. Our aim is to provide some activities for alumni and to produce a newsletter to keep alumni in touch with each other and abreast of current happenings with alumni activities, class reunions and events at the school. We also are working on creating a better liaison with the school for former grads. We invite you to join us on the committee; we need your assistance and ideas. If you cannot commit to regular meetings, perhaps you would be willing to be on our call / email list and donate an hour or two to some event or project - perhaps an hour to decorate for an alumni dance or to assist with some project we are doing in collaboration with the school. If you are willing to be on our call / email help list, please send your name, telephone number and preferred email address to Erin McPhee at erin1@nbnet.nb.ca. Even if you do not live in Saint John and surrounding area, you could contribute by sending an email or doing an enquiry for us. Thank you for your help and for giving back to your alumni and your school.

The Good Ol' Alumni Hockey Game!

The SHS Alumni are planning what they hope will become an annual event for late March 2016. There will be a hockey game between the current Simonds High hockey team and the Simonds Oldies, an alumni group of great hockey players. The Stu Hurley Arena event will kick off with a family skate, followed by the hockey game and then a social gathering.

Simonds High School Seabees have just returned to the Southern Interscholastic Hockey Conference boys' AAA division this season after a four year absence. The team has been doing quite well and there is a lot of school pride in the team. The alumni team is avidly looking for players for their team. There have been lots of excellent hockey players pass through the walls of Simonds High! You need not have been a member of the school hockey team; we are just looking for hockey players who are willing to come out to play and have fun. If you are a Simonds alumnus and interested in playing in this hockey game, please contact Chris Bartlett at gwennsie@hotmail.com. We are really excited to get this event going! Proceeds from this event will be donated to a needy cause in our community.

Simonds Beer Mugs

For the Countdown to Christmas sale which the alumni hosted in November, we had a small order of beer mugs made. The mugs looked very classy with the school crest and "alumni" engraved on them. Several of the mugs were sold at the sale. Afterwards, details on ordering the remaining mugs were posted on our face book page. Well...they sold out in a matter of minutes! We plan to place another larger order of these mugs early in the new year and will be taking orders for them. The cost is only \$10. They make great gifts...and are great for personal use too! If you are interested in a mug, please contact Kara (Nobles) McCann at kara.a.mccann@gmail.com or send her a message on face book. Payments can be made by interac e-transfer at simondsalumni@gmail.com. Kara will arrange pick-up with you directly.

**Valentine's Dance**

Our annual Valentine's Dance will be held on Saturday, February 6th from 8PM - midnight in the Simonds High School cafeteria. Music will be by the very popular DJ, Chris (Frick) Wetmore of Alpha One Studios. Chris had the dance floor full at our dance last February! There was music for people of all ages and musical tastes. Dance tickets are only \$10 and bar prices are inexpensive. Tickets will be available starting in mid-January at The Power Store on Loch Lomond Rd, at the school office or from any member of the alumni committee (see front page please). Tickets may also be purchased by interac e-transfer to simondsalumni@gmail.com; then your tickets will be held for you at the door. This dance is open to anyone over 19. (You do not have to be a Simonds alumnus to attend!) This is a great date night opportunity! People come out as couples, singles, groups of friends, etc. and just have a fun time! We invite you to join us! Come on out and get your dance on!

Simonds Alumni Clothing

There have been several requests by email and on our alumni face book page for Simonds alumni clothing. We are in the process of setting up an online store that will sell hoodies, sweat pants, ball caps and other items you have requested. The good news is that you will be able to personalize your clothing any way you wish. Stay tuned for the spring edition of our newsletter for more exciting details.

Seabees Home & Away (or Milestones) is compiled from submissions from our readers who have submitted items by letter, email or phone as well as various public sources.

These submissions will always refer to Simonds' alumni; they will generally be about family milestones (births, deaths, new job opportunities, marriages, moves, appointments, accomplishments, etc). We welcome your information for future newsletters. If possible, please try to include your graduation year with your submission.

Please address any entries to Judy Chapman (chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca) or Tammy Kilpatrick (tamkilp@yahoo.ca). Alternately, entries may be mailed to Simonds High Alumni, 1490 Hickey Road, Saint John, NB, E2J 4E7 or sent as a message through our facebook group, Simonds High School Alumni.

Brad Connell (1994) and wife Krista have a 1-1/2 year old daughter, Lauren.

Cale Stevens (1988) married Amy (O'Keeffe) Stevens on August 15, 2015. Cale works in Process Instrumentation and Control; and has worked many places on both coasts of the country.

Shelley (Holland) Doucet (2001) was recently named Run New Brunswick's female runner of 2015. Shelley was a multi-sport team athlete while a student at Simonds, only participating in cross-country running in her final year. However, in recent years, she has participated in numerous marathons. This year she won Maine's Sugarloaf Marathon and re-qualified for the Boston Marathon by 45 minutes. She was 20 minutes ahead of the 2nd place finisher! In all but one of her races this year, she broke a provincial course record. Shelley had the fastest women's time in every distance in the province including half and full marathons. She is also a Run NB board member and co-race director with husband Evan for a PRO Kids event which helped raise funds for children to play sports. Shelley is a professor of nursing and research chair in UNBSJ's Nursing and Health Sciences departments. She and her husband are parents of two children, Myles and Ava.

Chris (Frick) Wetmore (2003) and wife Erika welcomed son Cooper to their family on November 16, 2015. Cooper, born at home, is younger brother to Bentley and Lincoln. Chris works in HR / Payroll at Costco Saint John. In his spare time, Chris is very busy as a DJ; he is the owner / producer / DJ at Alpha One Studios.

Katharine (Armstrong) Cavan (2004), hubby Justin Cavan and 2-year old daughter Violet welcomed Stella Jo Cavan on September 10, 2015. Katharine works in the accounting department of Dobson Chrysler Dodge Jeep and is a representative for Younique; Justin works for the Saint John Fire Department.

Melissa (Cook) Kyle (2004) and husband, Jason Kyle have been enjoying their son, Jack Michael Murray Kyle who will soon be celebrating his 1st birthday on January 24, 2016. Melissa is an elementary school teacher in the Anglophone South School district in NB; she will be teaching Kindergarten at Bayview School when she returns from her maternity leave.

Ashley LaRocque (2005) and Jeff Hogan were married on October 24, 2015. Ashley is a nurse at the Saint John Regional Hospital and Jeff is a mechanic. They have a sweet 1-1/2 year old daughter, Brooke.

Katie (Lawlor) Tibbetts (2005) and husband, Dan Tibbetts, added to their family on August 11, 2015. Son Liam Michael became younger brother to 2-year old Evan. In addition to being a busy mom, Katie owns a home business, Personally Made Designs. Dan works at Irving Oil.

Steve Wilkins (2005) and Corinna (Rina) McFeaters were married in Maine on October 10, 2015. Steve is a UNB graduate in Mechanical Engineering; he is currently completing his PhD. Rina is also working on her post graduate degree in Fredericton where the happy-couple reside.

Jennifer Clements (2009) is teaching Drama and English Communications to Grade 11 students in Ranong, a southern province in Thailand. Jenn earned her TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certificate so she is qualified to teach English in most non-English speaking countries. Now, she is getting experience for her goal to work for WUSC (World University Service of Canada) or the United Nations. She is working hard and enjoying her work as a teacher. In her spare time, she has travelled to some of the islands off Thailand, made a lot of new friends and enjoyed the beautiful beaches the area has to offer.

Emily Clifford (2014) has a new son, Lincoln Kenneth born on December 5, 2015. Mom and baby are doing well.



Air Cadet Reunion

The 527 Simonds Air Cadet Squadron has always enjoyed a great association with Simonds High School, at its original Bayside Drive location and its Hickey Road location. They are planning a 65th Anniversary Reunion in May 2016. If you were a former air cadet, officer or staff member in the squadron, please check out the face book page for the group and their reunion page: face book group page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2313339547/> reunion event face book page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1641655686095508/> Alternately, you can contact Lorna McLean Hargrove by email at bradlorn@nbnet.nb.ca.

Class of 1991

25-year reunion in 2016 - More details will be available soon. Please stay tuned to the Simonds High School Alumni face book page to be redirected.

**OBITUARIES**

Evelyn (Williams) Feicht (Graduate of 1969) passed away on November 26, 2015. Lynn received her Bachelor of Music from Acadia University and Bachelor of Education from UNB Fredericton. She was a gifted music teacher and taught in schools in the Saint John area for many years. She was a member of the choirs at both Park Avenue United Church and Silver Falls Church. Lynn is survived by sons Matthew and Bradley.

Terry (Ted) MacNeill (Graduate of 1977) passed away on November 7, 2015. Terry, a graduate of NBCCSJ, UNBSJ and UNBF, worked for many years at NBCC. He then worked as Executive Director of the Church of St. John and St. Stephen Home Inc. He was past president of the Canadian Mental Health Association, past co-chair of the Saint John Community Suicide Prevention Committee, past Pastoral Council chair of St. Joseph's church, a member of the Knights of Columbus and a member of the St. Andrews Society of Saint John. Terry left behind his wife, Mary Ellen, children Luke, Kate, Jordan and Julie Anna, granddaughter Adelyn, brother Randy and sisters Karen, Janet and Lynn.

Michael Denton (Graduate of 1989) passed away October 13, 2015. Mike loved his job as a carpenter for the City of Saint John. An avid camper, he enjoyed his time spent at Three Bears Campground where he was a big part of the campground family. Mike liked golf, hockey and hanging out with his friends. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, son Kurtis Nicholson, daughters Hilary Nicholson and Marcia Denton, grandson Elliott, brothers Tim, George & Herman and sisters Pamela Noel and Laura Lee Denton.

Brandon Jefferson (Graduate of 2013) died unexpectedly on October 7, 2015 in Fort McMurray, AB where he worked for Aluma Sandblasting. Brandon had a gift for making instant friends and making people laugh. A guitar-player and drummer, music was one of his passions. He received many awards in the army cadets over his 5-year involvement. Brandon, an only child, will be sadly missed by his parents Ken and Natalie.



Nancy Conway

Lives in Halifax, graduated 1992. She is an Implementation Consultant for a global payroll company, building payroll and time and attendance databases for clients. She has 3 daughters, 20, 18, and 17 and is divorced. She has travelled to Florida for cheerleading at ESPN. Her most embarrassing moment in high school was passing out in the hall due to heat stroke. Her favorite teacher was Miss Hughes hands down! Best accomplishment (besides her daughters) was putting herself through school while raising 3 small girls alone. Her favorite memory of high school was the school dances.

Mary-Jane McKay

Lives in Saint John and graduated in 1992. She is an Insurance Advisor and has one daughter, Caitlyn, and just got married in August of this year!
She travelled to Houston Texas in 2001. Her favorite teacher was Mr. Pat Laskey. One of her biggest accomplishment was writing the NB Insurance exam after being out of school for 20 years – “it was a toughie!” Her favorite memory of high school was meeting her BFF, Elana, in Grade 11 Chemistry class.
Mary-Jane is a proud nana of 3 grandchildren - one boy 6, one girl, 18 months and a brand new little girl!

Maria Shaw

Lives in Rothesay and graduated in 1985. She has a son and daughter and is divorced. She enjoyed travelling to New Hampshire for the races. Her favorite teacher was Mr. Noel Horgan. Her biggest accomplishments are her two beautiful children! She has lots of favorite memories of high school. Maria became a grandmother In 2012!!!

Connie Loughery

Lives in Fairfield, she graduated in 1989 and is self-employed. She has 3 children who are also Simonds graduates (Michael, Jeffery & Kristy). Connie just celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary with Ron Loughery, graduate of 1985. She has travelled to British Columbia, Toronto, and the Maritimes. Her favorite teacher was Mr. Noel Horgan. Her biggest accomplishment is her family. Her best memory of high school was how supportive her teachers were.
Connie also has two amazing grandchildren that make her smile every day!!

Polly Schoonbaert

Lives in Brandon, MB and graduated in 1990. She works at a personal care home. She is married with no children. Polly's favorite place to travel to was Italy. Her favorite teacher was guidance counsellor Mr. McCann. Her biggest accomplishment was “learning how to be the best me possible!” Her favorite memory of high school was hanging out in C building breeze way and just walking around.

Cheryl Scott Livie

Cheryl, of Ajax, ON is a 1966 graduate. She is retired and married with 2 children (5 grandchildren). She has travelled to Australia, Portugal, Mexico, Jamaica and most of Canada. Most embarrassing moment in high school was being caught by the principal at Mispic beach on a school day!! Her greatest accomplishment is raising her kids to be successful adults & great parents. Cheryl's favorite memory of school was winter carnivals. Her wildest adventure was hiking in Australia. Even though she moved from Saint John in 1975, she has kept in close contact with a few friends from her class!

John A Belding

Graduated in 1978 and owns Manchester Construction, Manchester Electric. He has four children,

Suzanne (Beaulieu) McKinney

Lives in Saint John and graduated in 1990. She owns 2 businesses in Saint John - One is A-1 Bookkeeping Services Inc. and the other is Ground Zero Laser Tag. She has 2 children and they both go to Simonds and she has been married for 22 years!
Suzanne owns a vacation home in Florida, so they mostly travel there, but they have taken a few fun excursions - Las Vegas, St Thomas, St Maarten, Bahamas, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi.
Her favorite memory from school is her friends. Her most wild and most crazy adventure ever is being a parent – “but I wouldn't trade it for the world - my kids and my husband are my life - I would do anything for them”.

Joan Bradshaw Shillington

Lives in Saint John and graduated in 1965. Retired from the local school district, she has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and has been married for 47 years to her high school sweetie, Jim who graduated in the same class. She has done extensive travelling on this continent but has yet to travel overseas (on her bucket list). Her favorite teacher was Marg Baltus/Wagner. She loved Simonds so much she spent an additional 7 years there as the school secretary!

“I think I have accomplished a happy life and hope I have helped others along the way”.

Barbara Craft Fox

Lives in Halifax and graduated in 1972. She is a retired dental hygienist. She has three children and is married. She has travelled to Mexico, Scotland, and Punta Cana. Her most embarrassing moment at school was imitating a certain teacher and got caught but teacher said nothing and years later found out she went back to teacher's lounge and shared it with colleagues who just hooted with laughter!
Her favorite teacher was Mrs. Hale. Her biggest accomplishment was receiving her university diploma at 38!!

Class of 1965 - 50-Year Reunion

The Simonds High School Class of 1965 started their planning for their 50-year reunion about a year in advance. Class president, Jim Shillington had several willing volunteers on his active committee. They met regularly, established a nice website (thanks to Bruce Finley) and worked diligently at contacting the grads and organizing a wonderful weekend of events. The reunion took place from July 26-28, 2015. The event kicked off with a Meet & Greet in the cafeteria of Bayside Middle School, which, in 1965 was Simonds High School. The evening commenced with registration, introductions, appetizers, beverages and a beautiful class cake. A wonderful display of memorabilia brought back fond memories of their high school days. A photographer was on hand to take a class picture outside the school auditorium. More than 85 grads were there for the Meet & Greet. Adding in spouses, partners and invited guests (including some former teachers), 135 were in attendance! Grads travelled from many places - from as far away as British Columbia and California - to attend the milestone reunion. Saturday was full of reunion activities! There was a morning bus tour on the Pink Double Decker bus. Heather (Friars) Stillwell and Diane (Steele) Janes fascinated everyone with lots of neat, little-known facts about Saint John. There was lots of chatter and fun on the tour and even a morning coffee break at Lily's Café. This was followed in the afternoon with a Victorian Stroll of sorts (an historic walking tour) of the uptown area with Maridel Green as host and Joan Pierce as guide. The day was topped off with dinner and music at The Masonic Lodge. Jim and Joan (Bradshaw) Shillington were the hosts. Participants could peruse the display of memorabilia prior to the Chinese / Canadian buffet which was catered by Thandi's Restaurant. After dinner, grads could relax, chat, dance or just listen to music from their era and beyond supplied by Hunter Sounds. The weekend finale was lunch (arranged by Corry LeClair and Frank Evans) at The Caves Restaurant in St. Martins. From there, some continued on to visit the Fundy Trail while others relaxed and chatted at the Shillington cottage. This proved to be a nice culmination to a fantastic weekend of reconnecting with fellow classmates and friends.



Rita Hale (teacher), Kathy (D'Entremont) Page



Dawn (Buckley) Kane, Bob Kane



Sharon (Roberts) Fleming, Dawn (Cooper) Wood



Margaret Dubee, Joan (Bradshaw) Shillington, Heather (Friars) Stillwell



Reunion Committee
 Front Row - Joan (Bradshaw) Shillington, Pat (Scully) Mallory, Tom Nisbet, Marjorie Page, Maridel Green, Harry Corey
 Back Row - Jim Shillington, Jeanette (Allen) Gallant, Mary Lee (Dobson) McMillan, Heather (Friars) Stilwell, Anna (Baxter) Donovan, Rick Hodgson, Rick Page, Eldon Dubee, Corry LeClair, Margaret Dubee, Bruce Finley, Linda Donovan, Ron Donovan, Carol (MacDonald) O'Reilly, Dave Clarke



Mary Lee (Dobson) McMillan, Jean Hodgeson, Rick Hodgson, Jack McMillan

Countdown to Christmas Shopping Expo

On November 14th, Simonds alumni hosted their first Countdown to Christmas Shopping Expo. The intention of this event was to offer a community shopping experience and to serve as a fundraiser for the alumni. The prime location of Silver Falls Church hall (at the intersection of two busy roads) proved to be perfect as many shoppers came out to check out the lovely and diverse products the vendors and craftspeople had for sale. We would like to thank our vendors for creating a lovely shopping market for this event. We would also like to thank the many alumni, Simonds staff and other members of the community who got a big start on their Christmas shopping. We appreciate your support in this project. Due to its success, we hope to host another shopping market again next fall.



The Brag Corner

- Students at Simonds collected clothing and other personal items in their homerooms. These much-appreciated items were delivered to Romero House in Saint John.

- The following note from a teacher at KVHS was sent to Simonds after a swim meet in November:

Good morning;

I just wanted to write and say how wonderful your school was at the swim meet on Friday in Saint John. During the very last race of the day your school was in a relay and there were two special needs students swimming in the race. To watch your entire team line the sides of the pool and cheer on these swimmers made me tear up and I am doing it again now as I write this. After the race these two athletes were so proud of their swim, and on the way to the dressing room each of the teammates congratulated them on how well they had done. They were truly an amazing example of what it is to be teammates, inclusive and such amazing people!!! You should be proud of your coaches and students as they were everything a team should be!

Congratulations to Mark Murchison (science teacher and swim team coach extraordinaire) and his amazing and inclusive team!



You are welcome to The Work Room!

Located across from the main office at Simonds High.

The Work Room is a state-of-the art career resource centre open to all members of the public.

We are here to assist you in all phases of career planning and job search.

The Work Rooms can help you:

- Explore Career Fields
- Internet Access for Job Search and Online Applications
- Resume Writing and Cover Letters • Refine your Interview Skills / Mock Interviews
- Assistance with Student Loan Applications
- Find Job Opportunities
- Fax Machine and Photocopier Service Available

The Work Rooms are open to everyone in the community - FREE OF CHARGE!

8:15am - 4:30pm Monday - Friday.
(Open on in-service days)

Visit us at www.careerthatwork.ca or Give Us

Simonds Preschool

Simonds Preschool is seeking 3-4 yr old children for its preschool program. Preschool runs for 5 weeks each semester (September to January or February to June). The preschoolers come to the school from 9:10-11:10 every day. Students in Early Childhood Services 110 and Child Studies 120 gain experience by taking care of and working with the preschoolers. There is an observation room for parents who wish to stay and watch their child. For parents who may be coming with other young ones, there is also a baby/toddler area that has two rocking chairs, a change table, comfy floor mats, toys and books. If you are interested in more information or in enrolling your child in the Simonds preschool, please contact teacher Cathy Furlong by email at cathleen.furlong@nbed.nb.ca or by phone (658-5356) at the school.



Maintaining a Tradition

For several decades, Simonds High School has submitted entries in the Saint John Santa Claus parade. Each of those entries came about after careful planning of themes, artistic drawings, construction and lighting. The very neat thing about Simonds' entries in the parade was that several different departments in the school collaborated to produce the float. The art department did preliminary drawings and a lot of the painting. Students and teachers in construction built the float. Students from several grades got costumes and were on or walked beside it. Cheerleaders were often part of the school entry too. Teachers from different departments organized everything. This year was no exception. The theme was a Disney Christmas. Students were madly seeking costumes of well-known Disney characters including the latest ones (Elsa, Anna and Olaf) from the movie, Frozen. Even Walt Disney himself was portrayed by a student! Many costumed students also walked beside the float; the cheerleaders were part of this year's entry too. Again this year, the Simonds High School float won best float in the parade! In fact, Norman Jackson, Chair of the Saint John Christmas Parade personally called principal, Gary Keating, to let him know this year's entry was also deemed to have the best costumes, best spirit and most enthusiastic participants they have ever seen in the history of the parade. Congratulations to teacher organizer, Cathy Furlong (1981), teacher Harold Stewart, teacher Nancy Ryan-Henderson and all the students who made this lovely float possible! Not only fellow Seabees, but in fact all Saint Johners look forward each year with anticipation to see Simonds' entry in the Santa Claus Parade. Thanks to all for continuing our award-winning tradition in bringing so much joy to our community and so much pride to Simonds alumni.



Remember When...

Each issue, we will include a couple of pics from years gone by at Simonds High School. For this section, we would like you to submit some of your favourite memories in pics from your high school years. Please send your pics to Tammy (Vautour) Kilpatrick at tamkil@yahoo.ca or Judy (MacKnight) Chapman at chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca. The following are a couple of pics of the Simonds Santa Claus Parade entry from 1990! (Thanks to Troy Richard for these pics.) That was the year that football returned to Simonds! Note that the parade was not at night then. Do you remember this?



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We're on the Web!
sh.nbed.nb.ca

Hello fellow Simonds Alumni!!

As the first few small snow storms fall upon us, I would like to take this chance to invite all Alumni out to support our School sports over the winter months. We all know how much snow we had last year...Instead of staring out the window at the blanket of snow, throw on some Green and Gold and come out to watch a game or two of Boys' and Girls' Hockey or Basketball or swimming. In the New Year volleyball and badminton will be starting up as well. Here is the link to the schools event calendar so you can cheer on our current student body and fend off some of those winter blues while you are at it.

<http://web1.nbed.nb.ca/sites/district8/schools/sh/Pages/Events.aspx>

Alternately, if you are on face book, you can check out the school's Happenings in the Hive page

Be sure to put a mark on your calendar to attend our annual **Valentines Dance** in the Cafeteria on February 6th/2016. We have a great DJ for the event and it is always lots of fun catching up with friends and meeting new ones. Grab a group of friends and make a night of it! Tickets available by contacting our alumni committee. The dance is open to anyone (not just Simonds alumni) over the age of 19. Tickets will be available at the school, from alumni committee members, and other locations TBA. (See details on pg 4.)

Our Alumni Committee is always looking for people to join in with our group. Do you have good ideas? Do you like to organize? Do you like to be part of a team? Come on out and join our discussions. 2016 is going to be a year of growth for our committee. Our next meeting is Jan 3rd/2016. If you would like to attend please let us know. We want to position ourselves to be able to contribute to the school in a greater capacity. This could be in the form of scholarships, to helping out with the lunch and breakfast programs offered at the school. Your help is directly impacting the youth in OUR community... The need is great.

We have some big reunions coming up this year!!! If you need help, please let us know. Don't miss your opportunity to get together with friends from 10, 20, 25, 30, 40 50 years ago!! Special bonds are long lasting when you have gone to this school. If you do not have an organizing committee for your year, Please let us know and maybe we can give you some guidance.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New year from my family and loved ones to yours.

Troy RJ Richard
Simonds Alumni President