

Simonds High Alumni Newsletter October 2014



WELCOME BACK!

Contents

Welcome	1
News & Views	2
Seabees Home & Away	3
Seabees Home & Away	4
Alumni Dance Advertisement	
What Happened to	6
Reunion Highlights	7
Reunion Highlights	8
Simonds Now!	9
Football Interview	10

I cannot believe how fast time flies. Another summer has come and gone and a new school year has begun!

I would like to say Welcome Back to all the current Seabees and a special Welcome to our new grade 9 students. We are so excited to have you attend one of the best schools in Saint John!

The Simonds Alumni are very excited this year! We have got some great ideas and functions coming up and cannot wait to start our planning and organizing. If you, or someone you know, would like to be a part of this awesome group, please pass on the information or attend one of our meetings to get more involved. The more the merrier!!

We are currently working on a fall dance coming up on Oct. 18th, so please stay tuned for more details in the next couple weeks!!

I know this year, like many others, is going to be a busy one! We want to stay involved as much as we can with students, past and present. We will try and keep everyone as updated as we can with what's going on. Stay tuned and have a great 2014-2015 year!!!

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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 \$25 (no tax)? For more information or to see if your year is still available contact Judy Chapman chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca or anyone on the Alumni!

Simonds Memorial Grove

Over several 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 and couple of local businesses to plan some improvements to the school grounds. This initiative will take place over a couple 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. The approximate cost of a tree is \$129. As determined by funds, some trees will be ordered in early May; planting of these trees in the grove will occur in mid to the end of May. Yellow maples with a backdrop of green climbing vines will showcase our green and gold school colours. Other plans to improve the school grounds include an improved "landscaped" area with flowers and benches in front of C building, improvements to current benches, increased tree wind-block around the sports field and more. 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 2015 so that the roots have an opportunity to develop well prior to winter.



SHS teacher, Michele Banks with SHS Team Green students. =>



Above is a picture of the "football guys" - teammates from the 1974 Simonds High Provincial Championship team. They donated three trees for the Simonds Memorial Grove in memory of three deceased members of their winning team. This picture was taken by one of their memorial trees during their 40th reunion on June 28th, 2014 at the school. Pictures of the teammates around these trees were sent to the wives of those who had been lost. What a wonderful way to remember their friends! The guys, a couple from as far away as Alberta, had a great time reminiscing about their high school and football glory days when they reunited. Like good friends, they did not really have to "catch up"; they just continued on from where they left off! Left to right Steve Mahoney, Charlie Deby, Irvine Greer, Pat Holden, Steve Ryan, Glenn Hurley, Dino Cippola, Pat Hayes, Calvin McKinnon and Wilf Mahoney

Retired Teacher?

There is still a lot to talk about! Why not get together with those you taught with for years?! Here is your chance!

The group of retired teachers from Simonds usually meets on the 2nd Tuesday or Wednesday of each month (days alternate) at 12:30 PM for lunch and socializing. Lots of activities are planned and a great time is had by all. Be sure to call us and attend a few of the events. More information will follow in future newsletters! If you are interested in further details, please contact Cathy MacDonald (ceileenm@nb.sympatico.ca).

Alumni Abroad: Another adult Eurotrip is being organized by Judy Chapman. This trip will be to Spain: Barcelona, Madrid & Sorrento with a possible 2-day extension to Costa del Sol. Judy has lots of travel experience, having organized 17 trips to Europe and 5 trips to New York for Simonds' students; she invites any interested alumni to join our adult travel group. We have enjoyed two adult trips so far – one to London, Paris & Amsterdam, and one to Venice, Florence & Rome. The upcoming trip to Spain will be wonderful also! The departure date will be announced soon for late 2015 or 2016. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Judy at chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca or 847-3241 for more 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.

Michael Fry (2005) completed his undergraduate degree at UNB and then worked there in the Biological Psychology Department. He was accepted into Dalhousie Medicine Saint John beginning in the fall of 2014. He and his wife, Nicole, reside in the Saint John area where Nicole works at Carnaghan Taylor Insurance.

Joe Sanford (2008) was married to Laurett Nwaonumah in Africa in May 2015. Both Joe and Laurett continue their post secondary studies and are aspiring medical doctors.

Shawn Godwin (2003) and fiancée, MaryLynn Kieu were married on July 5, 2014. They reside in the Saint John area with their beautiful daughter, Mya. Shawn is an Associate Consultant at the Investors Group Financial Services in Saint John, NB.

Corey Stevens (2005), a 2014 graduate of Dalhousie Medical School New Brunswick, is doing his residency at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital in Fredericton, NB.

Jillian (Mott) Train (2004) and **Stephen Train** (2002) were married on August 2, 2014. Jill is a teacher in Anglophone School District South in NB and Stephen operates Port City Pawn Shop in Saint John.

Kerri Lee (Butland) Brooks (2004) and **Joel Brooks** (2004) were married September 6, 2014. Joel is employed at Irving Pulp & Paper and Kerri is a supply teacher for Anglophone School District South in NB.

Heidi (Cunningham) MacLeod (2000) and her husband, Greg, are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Elisa born July 10, 2014. Heidi is a teacher at Simonds High School and Greg works at Point Lepreau; they reside in Grand Bay, NB.

Teresa Lynn Munn (1973), wife of Mercer Munn passed away on May 8, 2014. Terry was an animal lover and a welcoming innkeeper, operating A Tanner's Home Inn in the centre of Saint John.

Kaylin (Carlson) Proctor (2007) and **David Proctor** (2006) were married on May 24, 2014 in Rothesay, NB. Kaylin is an orthopaedic nurse at the Saint John Regional Hospital and David works at Sitel. They make their home in Saint John.

Paula (Dalton) Yeo (2000) and her husband, Sherman have a new addition, a baby girl, to their family. Anna Jane, born May 3, 2014 will be well looked after by big brother, Dalton. Paula, a teacher at Simonds High School and Sherman, who works at Moosehead Brewery, live in the Saint John area.

Laura (Campbell) Cormier (1999) and Paul Cormier were married on May 17, 2014. They are the proud parents of a beautiful daughter, Aubree.

Shelby (Moore) Reid (2009) and Jon Reid were married on May 17, 2014. Shelby is a cardiac care nurse at the Saint John Regional Hospital.

Maria Boyle (2011), a 2014 graduate of the University of New Brunswick is currently a student at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto.

Joleen Searle (2005) and **Adam Elder** (2005) are enjoying their new son, Gaige, born September 9, 2014. Joleen works at UNBSJ in the Promise Partnership program and Adam works in carpentry for Hickey Bros. in Saint John.

Mike (Coug) Couglan (2001) and his wife, Star were thrilled to welcome their new daughter, Coral, in July 2014. Both Mike and Star work at Wyndham Worldwide and live in the Saint John area. Mike is also a ring announcer at XWA Pro Wrestling.

Amy (Hickey) Westfield (2005) and her husband, Kirk, are celebrating the arrival of their new son, Emmett. Amy is an emergency room nurse at the Saint John Regional Hospital and Kirk is a paramedic. The happy family resides in Musquash, NB.

Aaron Mason (2014) passed away on his late mother's birthday, September 10, 2014, after a courageous battle with cancer. In spite of his health struggles, Aaron had the great accomplishment of receiving his diploma this June.

Ashley LaRocque (2005) and Jeff Horgan have a new daughter, Brooke, born May 24, 2014. Ashley is a nurse at the Horizon Health Network in Saint John and Jeff is a mechanic.

Niki (Doiron) Comeau (2004) and husband, Anthony, have a daughter, Victoria, born in June 2014. Niki is a teacher at Simonds High School.

Lisa (Harlow) Carvell (2003) was married on September 20, 2014 to Matt Carvell. Lisa, an Irving Oil employee, is considered to be one of the most accomplished players in the history of Canadian female football. She has received several awards for her dedication and leadership in the football community. Lisa and Matt reside in Quispamsis, NB.

Craig Josselyn (1999) and his wife, Jennifer, welcomed a baby girl, Aria, in July 2014. Craig works in IT at CAA while Jennifer is a social worker. They live in the Saint John area.

Tim Hayes (1986) was recently recognized as having the largest amateur boxing club (Fight for Fitness / KV Golden Gloves) in the province. Tim started his own Amateur Boxing Club and fitness facility six years ago in Quispamsis, NB. It has grown into a business that accommodates women, men and children of all ages. He not only offers boxing, but also has programs for women only, Kickboxing, Muay Thai, Brazilian Jujitsu, and Judo. He is hosting his first ever Boxing Match on Sept. 27th at 7pm at the QPlex. Tim is married to **Lori (Mollins) Hayes** (1987), a well-loved teacher at Simonds High School and they have two girls, Riley (a Grade 12 student at Simonds) and Chloe.

Kristie- Lynn Smith (2010) is a recent graduate of the University of King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia. There, she earned a Bachelor's degree in Journalism (honours), with a double honour in political science. After a successful four week unpaid internship at a small online paper called iPolitics in the spring, Kristie returned to Ottawa to report from Parliament Hill for the foreseeable future.

Amy (Doiron) MacDonald (2001) and her husband, Brad MacDonald have an addition to their family. Son, George Neil MacDonald was born on their 4th wedding anniversary on July 9, 2014! Both Amy and Brad are teachers at Simonds High School and live in Saint John West.

Victoria (MacNeill) Lapointe (1979) passed away on May 29, 2014, a month before the 35th reunion of her class. She is survived by her husband, Gene, 3 daughters and 4 grandchildren. Victoria enjoyed 4-wheeling and ice-fishing with Gene.

Emily (Moran) Brown (2012) and **Halle Brown** (2012) were married in St. Martins on July 12, 2014. They are living in Charlottetown, PEI where she is completing her nursing degree at UPEI and Halle is a working as a security officer after pursuing it at Holland College.

Martina Riordon passed away in a farming accident on her family farm in Pokeshaw, NB on June 19, 2014. She worked as a Family Court Counsellor and for the Dept. of Justice in Bathurst, Fredericton and Saint John before serving about two decades as guidance counsellor at Simonds High School. She retired in 2007, but remained active in several organizations – especially those involving outdoor pursuits and her church. She was awarded a lifetime membership with the Outdoor Enthusiasts Club in Saint John. As well, she was recognized for her care and success in securing scholarships and bursaries for Simonds students. She had an adventurous spirit and loved to learn and travel.

Reg Manzer (2009) and Jenn (Lester) Manzer were married in Saint John on August 8, 2014. They continue to live in Halifax where Reg works in the busy medical lab of a Halifax hospital.

Jeff Driscoll (2012) is a Biology student and member of the Golden Key International Honour Society at UNBSJ. He will be continuing his studies at the University of Birmingham for the winter semester in 2015. Jeff is an avid runner.

Alicia (Thomas) Cyr (2006) married **Justin Cyr** (2007) on June 7, 2014. Alicia works in the Cardiac Care Unit of the Saint John Regional Hospital.

Matt Lamont (2005) completed his Masters degree in Neuroscience in the spring of 2014. He is a teaching assistant at memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland and is engaged to Danika Leger.

Devon (Frigault) Johnstone (2007) and **Justin Johnstone** (2007) were married on May 31, 2014.

Misty Bawn (2002) and her fiancé, Micheal Folkins, have a new son, Milo born in April 2014. Milo has an older sister, Savanna, and older brother, Ben.

Melissa (Malette) Friars (2007) and husband Kyle Friars have a second son, Reed Anthony, born on June 15, 2014.

Jessica (Polley) Richards (2000) and husband, Clifton Richards welcomed a new daughter, Roslyn in the spring of 2014. Roslyn is a baby sister for Zander. Clifton and Jessica recently returned to New Brunswick from living in the North West Territories. Clifton is with the RCMP in Sussex and they make their home in Hampton.

Robert (Bob) Friars passed away August 31, 2014. Husband of Linda Friars and long-time resident of Saint John, Bob worked for many years at Rothesay Paper. He had a passion for travel – Florida, cruises and Nascar races. He is also survived by two daughters, five grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

James Hicks (2003) and fiancée, **Megan Parkhill** (2004) have settled in Quispamsis, NB. with their son, Dylan, and daughter, Rachel. James graduated from Dalhousie school of Dentistry in the spring of 2014 and is presently working at Oakville Lane Dental in Quispamsis.

Amanda Shepherd (2001) is working toward her Master's degree in History at UNB. Her thesis on D-Day was inspired by her great-uncle who fought at Normandy. Amanda was chosen to be one of 12 Canadians (and the only participant from the Maritimes) who visited the former WW1 and WW2 battlegrounds in Europe on a special 15-day tour this past summer. A special commemoration of D-Day was a highlight of her 15-day tour of Belgium and France. Present at this prestigious ceremony were the Queen, Prince Charles & Camilla, Putin, Obama and many other dignitaries. Besides her studies, Amanda works as a Youth Care Worker at Youth Impact Jeunesse Inc. in Saint John and is an avid Nascar fan!

Karen Vey (1979) is a dental hygienist at the Port Moody Ministry of Health Authority, a position which she has held for 29 years. She is involved in various aspects of health promotion for children under the age of 3. Karen and her husband, Tim Little, reside in Maple Ridge, BC.



FALL HARVEST DANCE

**Saturday, Oct 18th, 2014
9:00pm-1:00am
Simonds High Cafeteria**

**Tickets \$10 each
Available at:
Simonds High School Office
Power Store, 1160 Loch Lomond Rd**



**Sponsored by
Simonds High Alumni
Must be 19yrs or over**

Lori Boucher-Nicol

Living in Concord, NH and graduating in 1987, she is now the CEO of Nichol Household. Lori is married and the proud mom of 2 boys 13 & almost 11. Lori has travelled to Sanibel Island with her boys every February break. One of Lori's most embarrassing moments in high school was calling Mr. Harrison "Mr. Hitler" one day in AP History class!...."we were studying about him I swear!!" Favorite teacher is a tough one, she had a lot.... Ma Hale. Her favorite memory from high school was getting to go to the Terry Fox Center in Ottawa. Her craziest adventure was moving from Alabama to NH in a minivan with her 2 boys, sick dog and mother-in-law while her husband drove the moving van with her father-in-law....

Janet McPhail

Is now living in Kanata, Ontario. Janet graduated in 1992, and is a full-time single mom to a 12.5 year old. She has never married and says she doesn't want to be. Janet and her son went to Vancouver. She was so happy she didn't get lost! Her favorite teacher was Mr. Laskey. Her biggest accomplishment was surviving being a single mom! Her favorite memory of high school was meeting Shelly Peck and Trena Wilson. Janet's craziest adventure was falling down stairs, spraining her ankle then 3 days later getting hit by a car and still attending a wedding that weekend!! Janet and her son have seen every team in the NHL and it only took 7 hockey seasons, but they did it!!

David Tidd

Lives in East Saint John, graduating in 1987 with high honors. David works in Building Maintenance and Renovations. Living with his common-law wife he has a 15 year old son who goes to Simonds, of course, and was taught math by Mrs. Cunningham's daughter, and 13 year old son who attends Bayside. Todd travelled to Stanley, New Brunswick on a hunting trip. His most embarrassing moment was trying to push open a door while he had his head turned, talking and accidentally grabbing a girl by the boob!! Mr. Estey, Carpentry homeroom teacher for two years was his favorite teacher. Besides the birth of his 2 boys, one of his biggest accomplishments was getting an award for volunteering with the local fire dept. Todd's craziest adventure was walking 3 miles in the deep, dark woods, drunk as hell and hearing coyotes following them! Todd worked for a local senator for 17 years and chauffeured her around the province and Nova Scotia and was privy to some interesting political tidbits that are still secret!!

Karen Harding

Graduated in 1987 and is living in Saint John, NB working in Fire Administration with the Saint John Fire Department. Karen is married and she has 5 girls (two daughters ages 11 and 15, three step daughters, one is 10, and twins age 13). Karen has travelled on a cruise, been to Florida, Ontario and New Orleans. Mrs. Smith and Miss Hughes and Mr. Matheson were her favorite teachers, with Art classes being her favorite memory, "they were so much fun!" Her greatest accomplishment is her family. Karen also plays bass guitar in a metal band (Round Four)!!

Patrick Michael Hayes

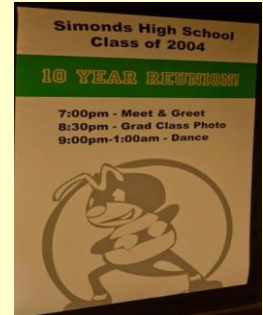
1. Where do you live? 40 minutes west of Edmonton, Alberta, rural setting on Johnny's Lake.
2. Graduate year? 1974
3. What are you doing now? Playing guitar, working out and travelling. Retired 3 years ago. (33 years in the RCMP, then 3 years on contract with Provincial Gov't as the Director of a large Police Information Management project - 100million dollar project)
4. Have any children? Two, our daughter is a school psychologist, married to a member of the RCMP (three grandchildren), and our son is the manager of a radio station, getting married in August.
5. Married? Yes, to a retired school psychologist, coming up on 35 years.
6. Traveled anywhere fun? Around western and northern Europe, Mexico, Australia, plenty in the States. A number of ocean cruises, and a couple of river cruises both in Europe and USA. We now spend two months during the winters in Arizona and southern California.
7. Most embarrassing moment from high school? Can't think of any really...other than when I got turned down by English teacher Miss Kirk when I asked her out on a date, when I was in grade 11. WTF????
8. Favorite teacher? Pretty much liked them all...special mention to Al Jones and John MacNeil and, oh yes, of course...Miss Kirk.
9. Biggest accomplishment since leaving high school? Staying out of jail...getting married to a great gal...and having two amazing kids, grandkids are such a blessing too! Also, I was instrumental in establishing "Project KARE", a 50 person RCMP Task Force in Alberta, formed to investigate High Risk Missing Persons and Homicides. I led this project as the Information and Investigation Coordinator.
10. Favorite memory from school? Playing on the high school football team, hockey team and other team sports.
11. Wildest and most crazy adventure ever? Was part of a cycling relay team with the Houston Police Department. We cycled from Houston, Texas to Fairbanks, Alaska in 21 days, raising money for cancer research. A long ride, over 4000 miles! Lots a country to see!

Ray Donaldson

Graduated in 1976 now living in Creighton, Sk. Ray is a letter carrier who is happily married with two children, a son 26 & daughter 29. Ray has travelled all across Canada, Jamaica & Dominican Republic. His favorite teacher was Mr. Carson. One of his biggest accomplishments was getting married, having two children and living life with his family. His favorite memory of high school was playing football and meeting a huge group of new people! Ray had a crazy adventure hitch hiking across Canada to Vancouver between grade 11 & 12 and riding the train back to Saint John!

2004 Reunion

The 10-year reunion of the Class of 2004 was held on June 21, 2014 at the Lions Auditorium at the Loch Lomond Villa. From 7 - 9 PM, there was a Meet & Greet, followed at 9PM - 1AM by a dance. A fabulous buffet of snacks and a slideshow were prepared. An extensive display of Simonds memorabilia and a funny photo booth were great places for the grads to reconnect and reminisce. Grads came from near and far and a good time was had by all those in attendance. Hope those who could not make it to this reunion will join us for our 20th.

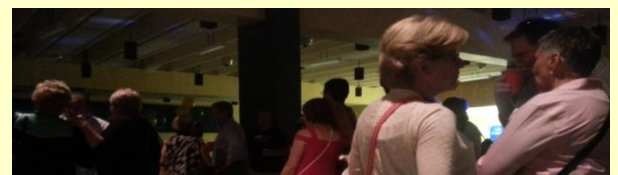


1984 Reunion

The Simonds High School Class of 1984 celebrated their 30-year reunion on August 9th 2014. This was the 4th time in 30 years that the grad class of 1984 had gathered for a reunion. We had a 10-year, 20-year, 25-year and this one, our 30-year reunion .The gathering of the students of 1984 was held at the union hall in Saint John. It was an evening event where various kinds of finger foods were served; there was music and a cash bar. A small entry fee of only \$5 covered the cost of the food and decorations. Sixty graduates came out to see old friends and catch up on old times. It was great to see so many from Saint John who attended, but also to see graduates who traveled from Alberta, New York, Ottawa, Halifax, etc.... Thank you all who attended and helped to make this reunion so

1974 Reunion

The Class of 1974 met on Saturday, June 28 in the Simonds cafeteria for their 40th reunion. Many grads, both local and ones from away, were in attendance; even a few former SHS teachers were there!. The SHS Alumni committee assisted by coordinating the bar for the evening. Several grads had pre- and post-parties. A very good time was had by all.



1979 Reunion

Well, the years come and go so quickly!...And the Simonds Class of 1979 celebrated yet another milestone - 35 years! How can that be? Five years went by so quickly since our 30th reunion. They say that happens when we get older, and, as much as we hate to admit it, it's true!

On June 28, 2014 our class gathered at the Bourbon Quarter / Magnolia Cafe. There was an great turnout of about 100 grads...and guess what...an awesome party broke out! It was so nice to see friends from near and far! Many regulars attended, as well as a few first time "reunioners". A surprise appearance of our new "bestie" / class mascot , Sluggo, was a really big treat! We missed grads who were not able to be with us for health reasons; it was sadder still missing a number of our fellow classmates who we have lost over the years. Miss you! May you rest in peace! Time, schedule and traveling conflicts prevented some from coming. Hope you can make it to our next reunion!

A big thank you goes out to the organizers and a bigger thanks to all the grads who came. It would not have been a successful party without you! A huge shout out to Simonds High School, our teachers and other staff for shaping us into the people we have become!..and then released us into the adult world! The world has never been the same! It's always a special honour to get together with fellow Seabees, and, with Simonds pride continuing, say we hail from Simonds. So, as our friend Mike says "Stay Gold...and Green"!! See you in 5 short years!



Elaine (Buckley) Wilson, Mary Allaby, Paul Bustin and Karen (Blois) Bustin



Eileen (Young) Neil, Bob Ferguson, Cindy (Cole) Hampton, Eric Farrell, Jeff Bishop, Katrina White



Class of 1979's two mascots, Simon and Sluggo Smith (Sluggo is Mike Foley's alter-ego....has his own FB page!)



Katrina White and Kathy (Wisted)



Judy (Macknight) Chapman, Holly (Moore) Mallette, Suzanne (Weston) Brown, Crystal (Partridge) Myles



October, 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Teacher PD	10 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Teacher PD	11
12	13 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Thanksgiving Day	14 Grad Photo - Gr	15	16 9:00 am - 3:30 pm School Picture - R	17	18 9:00 pm - 9:00 pm Alumni Harvest
19	20 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Grad Photos	21 9:00 am Grad Photo 9:00 am Grade 9 Im	22 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Grad Photos	23 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Grad Photos	24 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Grad Photos	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1



Blast from the Past!



BOYS' INTERSCHOLASTIC SOCCER TEAM

FRONT ROW: — (Left to Right) — Carp MacCollum, Reg King, Ken Clark, Ginger Smith, Bob McAllister.

SECOND ROW: — Jim Fortune, Bud McInnis, Bob Fulton, (Captain); Gord Messer, Bob Messer.

THIRD ROW: — Art Pottle, Charlie Hachey, George Oliver, Ferdie Forgey, Don Smith, Brian Harris, Tom Hunter.

Helping Hands is a newly developed group created with the objective of helping those in need. Our group at Simonds High School aims to raise money and awareness for various charities by planning and creating a multitude of fundraising events. Students will be rewarded with both the feeling of self-gratitude as well as the image they will receive from post-secondary education and future employers. All students are welcome. To join please contact Ms. Phillips, Ms. Kneeland, or Mrs. Murphy.

Join the Alumni

Take a moment and be certain you register your email address with simondshighalumni@gmail.com. Be sure to include your full (maiden if applicable) name and the year you graduated. This email and the Simonds High Alumni Facebook page will be the primary way we will communicate information and events with you. Don't delay, send the email and join our Facebook group today and get your name on the list.

Always looking for new members of our Alumni Committee! If you can volunteer some of your time, we would love to have you onboard!

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



It's hard to believe it is already fall - a time filled with warm days and cooler nights that give rise to beautiful coloured leaves, fall fairs and bounty of harvest. It is not only a time of returning to the routine, but a season of excitement, with back-to-school and new activities, sports, etc. for everyone. At Simonds, fall was all about finding out what teachers you had, who was in your class, what group was sitting in the breezeway this year or what club or sport you might join. Fall at Simonds was always synonymous with FOOTBALL! The school has had a huge football legacy. Football at the school came, died, and then rose again. It still plays a big role in building athletes and enthusiasm for and at the school.

Mike Vincent (1991) returned this season for his 4th year as head coach of the Simonds boys' football team. A former SHS football player himself, Mike has coached football in the East Saint John area for 24 years! Assisting him this year are several men who have been associated a long time with football. Many of these guys (Kevin Clifford, Troy Richard, Rusty Kirkpatrick, Darcy Barker, Peter Rogers, Blennas Noiles, Jake Shillington, Rod Salazar and Will White) got their start in the game on the Simonds field. Each of these guys is dedicated to the sport and spends many hours on the field teaching skills and sharing their passion for the game. Brad MacDonald is the faculty advisor for the team.

The coaches have a summer program to develop skills, but many of the players have come up through the football feeder ranks. Troy (Junior) Richard (1991) has been instrumental in working as a coach of the Minor teams; many of those players feed into the high school football program. The 44 players (18 returners) on this year's team practice every day and have games home or away on the weekends. The team has been rebuilding, but the future looks bright as so many good Bantam players join the SHS team.

Do you remember sitting on the side hill or in a lawn chair or even in your car watching as your Simonds football team played a home game? You were probably sporting your green & gold colours, maybe even had the school colours tattooed or streaked on your face...and you were probably freezing cold!! Those were, and still are, some fun and pretty exciting times! ...and the rivalry was crazy! At present, Simonds is said to have the best game day fan experience in the league! On average they have 300 spectators per game. They have programs, a BBQ, 50/50 draws, lots of music and booths game-side. This year, they also had a very moving experience when graduating team members handed their jerseys over to the new players.

Simonds has spawned some really great football players over the years. Probably the best known was Chris Skinner, who played for Bishops University and later played in the Canadian Football League for 8 years - including when the Edmonton Eskimos won the Grey Cup in 1987. Many SHS players have gone on to play at other levels of ball, or just played for fun. Jake Rose, a 2011 grad, and an offensive end starter this year for Bishops, has returned to his home field each summer to help train new football recruits.

Football at Simonds has sparked the interest of many girls as well. Some excellent female athletes have pursued the game with vigour. Lisa Harlow's (2003) love for football began when she watched games with her dad, Larry Harlow (1975), also a football coach and co-founder of the New Brunswick Women's Football League. Lisa, a gifted athlete, has played the sport with passion for years herself and has worked tirelessly to promote and coach women's football; she is currently the president of Football NB! She was part of the 2010 team that played in the Women's World Tackle Football Championships in Stockholm, Sweden. Lisa has been recognized by many athletic groups for her great contribution to the sport.

We could never have a football article without mentioning Mike Upward, Mr. Football. His years of coaching Simonds football and the love and support he and his wife, Judy, gave the players is unprecedented. Upward Field, our football field is a small symbol to honour their dedication to Simonds football.

The camaraderie and friendships formed between players on such school teams as football lingers long after high school. Players from the 1974 football team returned this June for their 40th class reunion. They celebrated and reminisced about being Provincial Football Champions that year. They have gone into different careers and to different provinces, but their friendships transcended all that; they picked up their friendships just where they left off. They also remembered three of their teammates who have passed away by donating trees in their memory to the Simonds Memorial Grove.

So, excitement and football talent...Simonds has a lot of that! Why not head out to support your school this fall at one of their remaining home games (Sept. 20 against Saint John High, Sept. 27 against Leo Hayes and Oct. 11 against Oromocto)? Bring your friends and family, don your green and gold, bring out your lawn chairs and blankets and sit on the hill. Cheer on your "home" team...and welcome fall with gusto!