

## Simonds High Alumni Newsletter June 2015



## Congrats Class of 2015!

### Contents

Welcome	1
News & Views	2
News & Views	3
News & Views	4
Seabees Home & Away	5
Seabees Home & Away	6
What Happened to	7
Alumni Involved	8
Simonds Now!	9
President's Message	10



**Wishing all the best to our  
future Alumni!!**



I hope your dreams take you...  
to the corners of your smiles,  
to the highest of your hopes,  
to the windows of your opportunities,  
and to the most special places  
your heart has ever known."

### Alumni Committee Contacts:

**Erin McPhee** – erin1@nbnet.nb.ca  
**Jill Eckstone** – jill.eckstone@nbed.nb.ca  
**Judy Chapman** – chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca  
**Caitlin Robertson** –  
Caitlin\_michelle.robertson@unb.ca  
**Colleen Nobles** – colleen\_nobles@hotmail.com  
**Tammy Kilpatrick** – tamkilp@yahoo.ca  
**Cathy Allen** – cathy\_d\_allen@yahoo.ca  
**Kara (Nobles) McCann** – nobles\_kara@hotmail.com  
**Joleen Searle** – joleen.searle@unb.com  
**Mike Vincent** – mav@nb.sympatico.ca  
**Troy Richard** – thrich@rogers.com  
**Chris Bartlett** – gwennsie@hotmail.com

*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!*



### **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. Inside the school, there is a plaque with the name plates honoring those remembered. The approximate cost of a tree is \$150. Four new trees were donated to the grove and were planted in June 2015. The newly donated trees were in memory of Martina Riordon (longtime SHS guidance counsellor), John Chisholm (Class of 1964) and John T. McMillan (Class of 1988 - 2 trees). Last year trees were donated in memory of Robert D. Lee (Simonds principal 1986-1993), Cathy Pikard Cooke (1956-1981), Jack Crawford (Simonds Football 1974), Dave Ross (Simonds Football 1974) and Pat Lee (Simonds Football 1974). These were all 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 was donated for the Class of 1986. A sincere thank you to all those donating trees in memory of their friends and family. 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 in the quad, 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 2016.

### **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](mailto:chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca)



Planting a tree in memory of John Chisholm - Judy Chapman (SHS Alumni), Mary Lee McMillan (friend of the Chisholms), Michele Banks (SHS teacher)



Planting one of two trees in memory of John T. McMillan - Erin McPhee (SHS Alumni President), Mary Lee & Jack McMillan (John's parents)

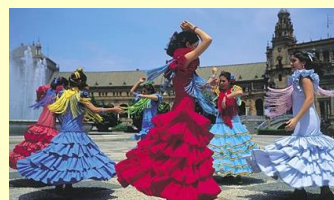


Teachers, Michele Banks & Harold Stewart who did the planting

### **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 European 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](mailto:chapmanb@nbnet.nb.ca) or 847-3241 or on face book for more details.

**Simonds High Wetland Centre of Excellence**

On May 28, 2015, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) dedicated Simonds High School's new Wetland Centre of Excellence, the Simonds Pond, to Donald M. Biddington, who passed away in 2011. Mr. Biddington was passionate about wildlife, nature, conservation and youth education. Present for the commemoration were Mr. Biddington's family, Anglophone School District South, representatives from Saint John City Council and Simonds Team Green Environmental Club coordinated by science / math teacher, Michele Banks. The Wetland Centre of Excellence (WCE) will border the Simonds High campus; it will be the 19<sup>th</sup> WCE site in Canada - four of which are in Atlantic Canada. The initial collaboration with Ducks Unlimited will be a five-year partnership with the school. Commencing this summer, the wetland area will be constructed. An important part of this project will be a trail system within the Simonds High School area. This would allow for mentoring of nearby elementary school students by their high school counterparts who could use hands-on experiences as they guide them through the wetland trail system. This would be amazing for Environmental Science courses at the school!

Ducks Unlimited Canada is a leader in wetland preservation. They provide technical advice and financial support and facilitate coordination with other schools. DUC staff and lead teachers (in this case Michele Banks at Simonds) work together to train students and organize and deliver outdoor projects. The potential for various projects outside is endless. Possible projects are: studies on water quality or species collection or bird banding or species identification, nest box installation, revegetation, etc. Students could be involved in the restoration of the site itself or in helping label the interpretative trails. Students from nearby elementary schools could be invited for field trips. Special event activities could be planned; such events to celebrate could include World Wetlands Day, Earth Day, Migratory Bird Day, etc. There is no limit to the potential for learning that will exist with this site!

Cross-curricular learning is another opportunity this new wetland will offer. Teachers from many different disciplines could collaborate. Other local schools will also have the chance to utilize educational information from this wetlands site. In fact, on the day of the dedication visiting St. Martins Elementary students were treated to a wetland education class given by Simonds Team Green students.

This very exciting project is spear-headed by science / math teacher, Michele Banks. She is a passionate environmentalist who currently sits on various provincial conservation organizations; she has also been involved in conservation projects at the international level. Her M. Ed. thesis focused on outdoor education, green classrooms and nature deficit disorder. Thus, Michele is very excited to work with Simonds Team Green on this wetlands initiative.

The Simonds High campus offers many opportunities for outdoor education and conservation. Former students may remember taking water samples from the nearby brook or going on a Biology field trip through the adjacent woods. This wetlands centre at Simonds will offer inherent opportunities for future students at our school and in the community. Through hands-on experience, generations of Saint John East students will learn about wetlands and conservation as well as the importance of environmental stewardship in communities. A sincere thank you is extended to Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Biddington family, Michele Banks and Simonds High's Team Green for your contribution to this exciting project. As alumni, we will watch with pride as these changes take place. In fact, there will probably be several opportunities for alumni to be partners in this project - assisting with work, providing benches and signage along the trails. etc.



Simonds Team Green (Environmental Club) & teacher, Michele Banks at the commemoration of the Simonds Pond - May 2015



Simonds students working with visiting students from St. Martins Elementary to share a wetlands class.

### Simonds High Scholarship Fund

The Simonds High Scholarship Fund has been in existence for many years. The money from that fund has been used to recognize many excellent Simonds graduates and give them some funds toward their post-secondary education - whether it be a university, community college or another educational institution. Any assistance is appreciated by the students. You may have even been a recipient of this funding. The Simonds Alumni Committee donates money each year to use for scholarships from this fund. Many people donate to the SHS Scholarship fund in memory of a loved one who has passed away; what a great way to "pay-it-forward"! If you wish to donate to this fund and "give back" to your school, you may send your donation to The Simonds High Scholarship Fund, 1490 Hickey Rd., Saint John, NB., E2J 4E7. An income tax receipt will be issued for your donation. Thank you in advance for your support of your school!

### SHOUTING OUT TO THE CLASS OF 1983!

HAPPY 50+/- BIRTHDAY!!!

SAVE August 15th on your calendar  
7:00 p.m. at Rothesay Avenue Billiards

Come and celebrate with all your Birthday Buddies!  
Drinks, Cake, Food!  
DJ, 50/50 Draw, Toonie Toss

Our Famous Photo Booth with LOTS of great new props!

Pool Tournament (\$5 per person) winning team wins pot!

Bring a guest. Bring your spouse. Bring a Date.  
Everyone's welcome (19 or older)!!!

Cost \$10 per person

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**Annual Valentine`s Dance -  
Saturday, February 6, 2016!  
Open to everyone!  
Great DJ and a great time!**

### Upcoming Reunions for 2015

**Class of 2005** - 10-Year reunion to be held at the Bourbon Quarter on Prince William Street on Friday, July 3rd starting at 8 PM. Cost is \$20 per person. For more details, please check the face book group **2005 Grad Class Reunion**.

**Class of 1995:** A 20-year reunion is planned in mid-July. Details will be posted on the face book site **Simonds High Grad '95** site.

**Class of 1990:** A 25-year reunion is planned on August 22 - 23, 2015. For more details on venue, cost, etc., please check the face book page for **Simonds High Class of 1990**.

**Class of 1985:** A 30-year reunion is planned for June 27th at The Ale House beginning at 7PM. More details will be posted on the face book page: **Reunion for the 1985 Graduation class of Simonds High School**. The '80s music is getting cranked and a great crowd is expected.

**Class of 1980:** On July 4, 2015 at 7:30 PM, there will be a 35-year reunion for this class at the Function Junction (private room at the 3-Mile). For more information and to reconnect with your classmates, please check the very active **Simonds Class of 1980** face book page. The registration fee of \$20 per person can be paid by cheque or money order mailed to Susan Carpenter at PO Box 2181, Saint John, NB, E2L 3V1. Alternately, you can pay by e-transfer to [simondsclassof1980@gmail.com](mailto:simondsclassof1980@gmail.com). This event is open to grads and their guests.

**Class of 1975:** The 40-year reunion of the '75 SHS class will be on July 25, 2015. Due to a low number of replies, the plan and venue have changed to Chuckles Bar in the Parkway Mall. If you have not registered so far, you may still do so; please send your registration fee to Simonds Class of 1975, c/o Dobson Chrysler Dodge, PO Box 635, Stn. Main, Saint John, NB, E2L 4A5. The cost is \$20 for grads only and \$10 for a non-grad guest. Fees may also be e-transferred to [simondshigh75@gmail.com](mailto:simondshigh75@gmail.com). This event will still be open to spouses / partners. If you decide last minute to attend, you can still register on July 25th at Chuckles between 5 PM and 6 PM. For details, check out their face book page: **Simonds High Grad Class 1975**.

**Class of 1965:** On the weekend of June 26-28, 2015 there will be a special 50-year reunion celebration for this class. There will be a social on the Friday night at Bayside Middle School and a dinner and dance at the Masonic Temple, Germain St on the Saturday night. Other events for Saturday afternoon and Sunday are being finalized. A beautiful website (<http://www.simondshighclassof65.com/>) has been created to keep grads informed of the weekend's events. As well, you can check details by joining the face book group **SIMONDS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF '65 REUNION**. Please help us find the remaining 22 grads from the 200 or so in our class.

### Drama Club Luncheon

In April, the Simonds High Drama Club staged 4 awesome performances of the musical comedy All Shook Up featuring the music of Elvis Presley. The Simonds Alumni was happy to provide them with their dress rehearsal luncheon. We would like to give a shout out to Little Caesars Pizza in the Westmorland Mall for their great prices and service in helping us provide the students with this treat. Members of the SHS Alumni Committee also set up a snack canteen for the audience on all four nights to provide a service to the audience and to earn funds for the alumni. Thanks you to all involved.

### The Freebee Room

For several years Simonds High School has had a Freebee (named after Seabee) Room. It is a room where supplies such as toiletries, non-perishable food items - especially canned goods, teen clothing, prom dresses and school supplies are stored and can be given to Simonds High students in need. In January and in June of this year, a team of volunteers from the SHS Alumni Committee and the Educational Assistants at Simonds worked together to clean and better organize this room. Now, it is easier to assess what needs to be replenished. As well, students going to the Freebee Room can more readily see what is available. **Supplies are always needed.** If you have anything you are willing to donate to the Freebee Room, please contact Brad MacDonald ([brad.macdonald@nbed.nb.ca](mailto:brad.macdonald@nbed.nb.ca)) by email or by phone at 658-5367. Any donations are appreciated.

### SIMONDS FOOTBALL TURNS 45!

Saturday Aug 22 from 1-4 at the Simonds High School field we will be having a Simonds High football alumni meet and greet. We are celebrating 45 years of Simonds football and would like to extend the invitation to anyone who has played at Simonds over those 45 years. There will be a BBQ and refreshments and the opportunity to throw the ball around on the field again with your old and new team mates!!!!

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 (tamkulp@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.

**Ralph Black (1964)** passed away January 2, 2015 after suffering a stroke a couple of weeks earlier. He taught in the Math Department at Simonds from September 1969 until his retirement in June 2000. During that time he had great patience with his students – always wanting the very best for them. He was a “human calculator”, performing mental calculations far faster than students could do on their calculators. During his career as a dedicated teacher, he and his twin brother, Earle devoted countless hours to being yearbook advisors. Thanks to them, the high school highlights for many East Saint Johners were chronicled decade after decade. He sat in the bleachers on numerous cold days trying to get the “perfect shot” for the football game pages of the book. As well, he braved every cold night of the Santa Claus parade to take countless shots of Simonds award-winning floats. Long after his retirement, he continued to support Simonds High School and its students. As well, he was a huge supporter of his St. Martins' church. He followed all things related to the Port of Saint John and took great pictures of many vessels arriving here. In his retirement, he enjoyed chatting with the gang at Burger King. Ralph is survived by his brothers Earle and Donel and many nieces, nephews and cousins. We applaud Ralph for his tireless contribution and loyalty to HIS school!

**Brian Stafford (1964)** passed away on July 23, 2014. He was a gifted teacher at Saint John High School. He had a way of making ordinary experiences seem magical in the classroom. He loved history, travel and cooking. Brian coached many sports during his career; he is well-known for all his work with badminton teams. He was awarded Saint John's Coach of the Year during his peak coaching years. In retirement, he enjoyed spending time with his wife, Linda, walking his dogs and writing novels. In addition to his wife, he is survived by 3 children – Jeni Stafford, David Stafford and Cara McKeown - 6 grandchildren, and a sister, Wendy Post.

**Shauna (Lifford) Brennan (2001)** and husband Joe Brennan announce the arrival of their son, born in February 2015. Shauna and Joe are avid world travelers, having been to many countries such as China, Australia, Italy and Egypt.

**Arthur Pottle** was a physical education and guidance teacher at Simonds Bayside who finished his career in guidance at the School Board Office in Saint John. Prior to this, he was a member of the Devil's Brigade during WWII. In recognition of his great sacrifice during the war as a member of this elite commando, Mr. Pottle has received numerous awards – including one, the Minister's Award for Operational Excellence, in 2013 by the Canadian government. Recently, the United States also recognized the members of this strong top-secret team that never failed on a mission. Mr. Pottle and other Second World War vets received the US Congressional Gold Medal. This special forces' team captured more than 30 000 prisoners, won five US campaign stars and eight Canadian battle honours. (This unit earned their Devil's Brigade nickname from the Nazis who called them “Black Devils”; the members of the unit used to smear their faces with black shoe polish and attack under cover of night.) Art, now in his mid-90s is well and still living in Saint John.

**Melissa (Cook) Kyle (2004)** and her husband Jason Kyle welcomed a son, Jack on January 24, 2015. Jason works for Irving in Saint John, NB and Melissa is a teacher in Anglophone School District South in NB.

**Andrew Eckstone (2009)** will deploy to Korea in mid-June for 9 months. He has served with the US Army since 2012; Andrew is a specialist and part of the cavalry unit. In his capacity with the military, he has traveled to Texas and California.

**Raymond Cormier (1970)** passed away in LaPlace, Louisiana on March 27, 2015. Ray was survived by his wife, Bonnie St. Clair Cormier, sons Joe & Terry, his father Joseph, 3 grandchildren, both Gary and sisters Doris O'Neill, Gloria Boyd and Andrea Baxter.

**Cody LeFrancois (2006)** and his wife, Alyssa welcomed a new son, Zackary born April 12, 2015. Older brother, Zander, now has someone with whom to play hockey! Cody is a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Alyssa works at Oakville Lane Dental Clinic in Quispamsis. They reside in St. Martins.

**Kate-Lynn (Hachey) Holmes (2010)** and Andrew Holmes were married on April 18, 2015. Kate-Lynn is Assistant Branch Manager at Enterprise Rent-a-Car in Saint John while Andrew is employed with Pattison Outdoor Advertising as an Account Executive.

**Anthony Debly (2007)** graduated from UNB in Engineering in 2012. Since then he has worked as an engineer for Debly Enterprises. He was part of a group that worked day and night for several weeks to clear the streets of central Saint John this past winter during a declared State of Emergency after the city received record-breaking amounts of snow! Anthony is currently working toward obtaining his P Eng designation as the next step in his professional career.

**Sarah (McRae) Henneberry (2001)** and Matt Henneberry have a new son, Grant Parker Henneberry, born at the end of April 2015.

**Joe Sanford (2008)** has been accepted to Dalhousie Medical New Brunswick. This fall at the Saint John campus, he will commence working toward his dream of becoming a medical doctor. He obtained his B. Sc. in 2012 and his B.A. in Political Science in 2014. Joe has a young son, Luke, and is married to Laurett Nwaonumah, who also plans to study medicine.

**Lisa (Harlow) Carvell (2003)** and her husband, Matt welcomed son Caden Matthew Carvell on April 10, 2015. Lisa is on maternity leave from her longtime job at Irving Oil. As both mom and dad are huge football fans and players, we expect Caden will be holding a football pretty soon!

**Sarah (Harlow) Manuel (2001)** and **Kevin Manuel (2002)**, her husband, were thrilled to welcome two wonderful little girls into their family in early April. They are excited beyond belief and Sarah is enjoying her time off from nursing on mat leave.

**Charanjit Singh Sandhu (2004)** and his wife, Arvinder Kaur Sandhu, are the proud parents of a son, Prabhbir, born May 12, 2015. Prabhbir is younger brother to Ishmeet. Charanjit is an LWT Engineer / Supervisor at Datalog Technology in Calgary where the happy family reside.

**Stephanie (Driscoll) Woods (2002)** and her husband **Jack Stevens (2006)** celebrated the arrival of their son, Rowan, in the fall of 2014. They live in Moncton where Jack works at Rallye Motors Hyundai.

**Shelley Ann (Mabee) Smith (1985)** passed away unexpectedly at home on June 5, 2015. Shelley worked at Wal Mart (both the eastside and Westside locations in Saint John) for the past 17 years. She will be greatly missed by her husband, Barry Smith, her parents and brothers Will, Kevin, Mark and Pat.

**Megan Ougler (2011)** graduated with her B.A. with Distinction from UNBSJ in May 2015. At spring convocation, she was also awarded the W. H. Harrison Prize for Conversational French. She is currently employed at Stepping Stones Fundy Region INC, a treatment centre for children with autism.

**Derek Clements (2007)**, is currently working towards his doctorate at Dalhousie University, from where he had earned his Bachelor of Science Honours degree in Microbiology. Recently, he received the Canadian Institute of Health Research Doctoral Award and the Frederick Banting and Charles Best CGS Doctoral Research Award. In 2014, he was awarded the Canadian Research Training Program Traineeship Award, the Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute Innovation Grant and the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation PhD Level Scholar Award. He was ranked in the top 1% of the PhD students in Canada! Derek also received the President's Award from Dalhousie University. He has had 10 publications to his name so far with his research. Derek has spent a lot of time doing breast cancer research in the fields of oncolytic immunotherapeutics and viral oncolytics. After completing his PhD, he plans to pursue a career as a researcher in the field of cancer immunology.

**Robyn McLean (2009)** received her Pharmacy degree from Dalhousie University in May 2015. She is currently working as a pharmacist at Lawtons in Saint John West.

**Krystal Binns (2009)** earned her B. Sc. in Biology from Dalhousie University in 2013 and, in 2015, received her M. Sc. in Environmental Management from the University of New Brunswick. She is the Conservation Program Coordinator at the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Federation in Fredericton and a Research Assistant for the Canadian Rivers Institute out of UNB.

**Sara Armstrong/Little (2005)** and her best friend, Tony Adams, were married on June 13, 2015. They have a 1-yr old daughter, Sophie Grace Adams. Tony is an ironworker traveling back & forth to Fort McMurray, Alberta and Sara works at the Saint John Regional Hospital.

**Richard Campbell (1971)**, who obtained his M Ed. in Adult Education in 2002, is considered Canada's Life Story writer; he teaches Guided Autobiography to continuing education students in Hamilton, Ontario. He has written for several newspapers and CBC Radio. At present, Richard runs his own personal historian business, Guided Life Stories and teaches life story writing onboard transatlantic Windstar Cruises. He is co-author (with Dr. Cheryl Svensson) of *Writing Your Legacy - The Step-by-Step Guide to Crafting Your Life Story*, published in May 2015 (available in paperback in July 2015). He is a member of both the Association of Personal Historians and the National Association of Memoir Writers. Richard also has contributed to *Seasons of Caring - Meditations for Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregivers*, published in 2014. Richard lives with his wife and four children in Stoney Creek, Ontario. If you are interested in writing your life story, check out Richard's site at: <http://www.writingyourlifelegacy.com/>

**Stacey (Norwood) Briggs (1991)** is a much-loved Physical Education teacher at Lakewood Heights School in Saint John. She has been active in sports and living and promoting a healthy lifestyle her entire life. That included racing for Canada in rowing at the Pan Am games. She was successfully nominated by her students for the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Model of Health award for 2015. She does everything she can to train students in sports and convince them to be active. Stacey lives with her husband, Scott Briggs in Quispamsis, NB; with their cycling, hiking, running, snowshoeing, etc - both model a very active and healthy lifestyle.

**Ralph Constantine (1965)** passed away unexpectedly on June 4, 2015 in Saint John, NB. He is survived by his wife, Thelma, two sons Joseph and Robert, one brother Fred and two grandchildren.

## PAUL MATHIESON WINS STRATHBUTLER AWARD

Paul Mathieson, retired Simonds High art teacher is the recipient of the 2015 Strathbutler Award. Established by the Sheila Hugh MacKay Foundation, this biennial \$25 000 prize is the richest arts award in New Brunswick! Born in England, Paul immigrated to Canada in 1975 as he was offered a teaching position there. Paul taught art at Simonds for 25 of his 31 years of teaching; thus, he directly impacted hundreds of students. Many of his students cite him as their inspiration and their favourite teacher in high school. He continues to inspire with his involvement in youth-oriented projects in the community. In addition to teaching art, Paul has painted his entire life. He has exhibited his art in local galleries for many years and is currently preparing new paintings for his November one-man show at the new Buckland Merrifield Gallery on Canterbury Street in Saint John. Having retired 9 years ago, Paul paints full time at his studio in his Kingston, NB home. Often he shoots objects and scenes with his digital camera and later paints from these pictures. Paul says he paints "the human condition" in Maritime cities - especially in Saint John. His paintings are well-respected in the world of art. This prestigious art award will be presented to Paul at a gala reception at the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John on September 17, 2015. We congratulate Paul Mathieson on this well-deserved recognition!

### 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.nbed.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.

### 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](mailto: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.

## Lisa Cliché-Macrae

Currently living in East Saint John, Golden Grove area, graduating in 1988. Lisa works for Dealmine Inc. She is divorced and has a son, 23 and a daughter, 16. She tries every summer for 2-3 weeks to get to Texas to visit her sister, nephew and brother in law. Her most embarrassing moment from high school was her friends tricking her into the Winter Carnival Queen Pageant. Mr. Johnston & Ms. Wheaton were her favorite teachers. Her biggest accomplishment was having her two beautiful children. Her greatest memory from high school was hanging out in the 2nd floor breezeway with all her peeps. Biggest adventures were road trips with friends getting lost and finding their way back!!

## DeeDee Donaldson

Living in Saint John after graduating in 2005, DeeDee works at Rocmaura Nursing home / Integrity Home Health Care . She is with her boyfriend and has 3 kids -2 boys and 1 girl. Most embarrassing moment of high school – “I don't have just one”. Biggest accomplishment was having her children. Favorite memory of high school was hanging in bottom floor B lobby with her crew! Her wildest adventure is life with her kids!

## Florence Cyr Garnett

Living in Saint John, NB after graduating in 1971, Florence works for Nordia. She has been married for 27 years with one child. She travelled to Juniper Lodge on her honeymoon. Her favorite teacher was Miss Senna - grade 11 English Lit. Her biggest accomplishment was giving birth to a 9lb 14-1/2oz baby boy!! Her favorite memory from high school was working in Library. Her wildest adventure was trying to go on vacation in NB with all the construction that goes on and traveling the back roads in our beautiful province. Florence likes to do a lot of crafts for Cathedral CWL, friends, and family - active in church and at home and work ... that's it for now!!

## Michael Adams

Living in Edmonton, AB after graduating 1994, he is employed with the Canadian Armed Forces and is married with 2 boys. Michael has World travelled for work from Afghanistan 3x, Bosnia, Cyprus, most of Europe etc... Most embarrassing moment from high school was the very first day, “didn't know a soul there”. His favorite teacher was Ed Poley. His biggest accomplishment was becoming a soldier and father. His greatest memory of high school was a brawl in the final rugby game against FHS and winning the game as well. Biggest adventure was Ice climbing in the Yukon with German soldiers teaching them cold weather survival.

## Meaghan Flecknell

Meaghan has lived in Saint John since graduating in 2006. She is a registered nurse on Cardiac Surgery. She is not married yet and no children...yet. Meaghan has travelled to England, Scotland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Netherlands, France and Iceland. Her most embarrassing moment was trying out for the hockey team before learning to skate. Her favorite teachers were Mr. Lavoie, Mr. Murchison and Mrs. Chapman. Her biggest accomplishment was having almost (!) completed her Masters of Nursing '16. Her favorite memory of high school was Student Council and her craziest adventure was Amsterdam.

## Chelsea Neill

Now living in Charlottetown, PEI after graduating in 2005, she is a Financial Advisor at Scotia Bank (currently on maternity leave) Chelsea has a 6 month old baby girl (Georgia) and has been married for 3 years. Chelsea has travelled to Cancun, Mexico. Her favorite teachers were Gary Marsh or Alan Dodge. Her biggest accomplishment was becoming a mom!! Her favorite memory of high school was the Student Council or Grad class sleepover and Post-it-ing a friends entire car!!! Adventure?? “Any moment with a few fellow 2005 grads was always and will ways be an adventure!”

## Randy McAdam

Living in Halifax, NS after graduating in 2004, he has been a military member since 2003. He is not married but has a beautiful girlfriend! Randy has travelled above the Arctic Circle 3 times and as far south as Trinidad and everywhere in between!! His most embarrassing moment of high school was almost failing art. And his favorite teachers were Mrs. Wheaton and Mrs. Cunningham. His greatest accomplishment was being promoted to Petty Officer 2nd Class at the age of 26!! Favorite memory of high school was graduating. Wildest adventure? “My entire military career!” Randy once saved a fishing vessel from sinking off the coast of Nova Scotia during extremely rough seas.

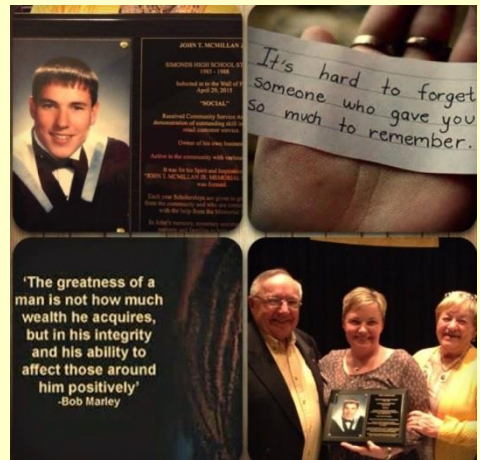
Wall of Fame



Mary Lee McMillan, Cheri McMillan Lumsden, Jack McMillan, Cheryl Robertson, Keary Coyle and Larry Harlow.



Mr. Keating & McMillan Family



Wall of Fame Induction 2015

Throughout the years since Simonds High School first opened its doors in 1950, many graduates have moved on to “make their mark” in our community and afar. Men and women have become Rhodes Scholars, doctors, lawyers, engineers, nurses, dentists, teachers, professional athletes, actors, musicians, tradespeople...The list is endless - with each grad contributing in his or her own way. We are proud of the successes of our alumni and follow them whether they are home or far away.

Approximately every 5 years, Simonds High inducts some of our Simonds family into their Wall of Fame. Any member of our Simonds family who has achieved prominence through outstanding contribution or achievement in their field may be nominated in one of four categories - Academic, Social, Career or Athletic. In January 2015, nominations were submitted for this year’s awards. A committee chose four very worthy inductees - Keary Coyle, Larry Harlow, John T. McMillan Jr. and Cheryl Robertson - who were honoured at a ceremony on April 29, 2015 at the school.

Keary Coyle, a 1976 graduate, started his career at DJ Motors and Loyalist City Towing. Keary progressed to purchasing Saint John Toyota and Lexus as well as several other Saint John businesses. His hard work and success, especially in the automotive business, led to his induction in the Career Category of our Wall of Fame.

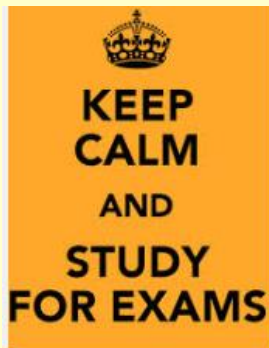
Larry Harlow, also a 1976 grad, has coached many athletes in numerous sports. He was a TSN Runner-Up Coach of the Year and head coach of Canada’s Silver Medal Women’s Football Team. Larry and his daughter, Lisa (Harlow) Carvell have coached the Saint John Storm Women’s Football team and have been great builders of the women’s football movement on the local, provincial, maritime, national and international stages. They have received many awards for their football accomplishments. Larry has been involved in football for over 3 decades - in numerous capacities from coaching to managing to refereeing and administration. Larry was inducted into the Athletic Category of our Wall of Fame.

The award for John T. McMillan Jr. was presented posthumously to his mom, dad and sister. John graduated from Simonds in 1988. After his post-secondary education, he purchased Little John’s Variety Store in Glen Falls. There he employed and mentored many Simonds’ students and cared whole-heartedly for the people in his community. He received a Community Service award for his efforts. When John passed away from leukemia at a young age, he left behind a wife and two young children. The John T. McMillan Jr. Memorial Foundation was created in his memory to focus on health and finding a cure for cancer. It has assisted families coping with cancer and has been involved in other health-related initiatives concerning cancer. As well, it sponsors blood donor clinics, assists Simonds High students with scholarships - giving back to health, school and families in the community John championed. John was inducted into the Social Category of the Wall of Fame.

Cheryl Robertson worked at Simonds High as a guidance counsellor and Vice Principal from 1968 - 1982, being well-respected and thorough in both capacities. From Simonds, Cheryl moved to NBCC - Saint John as Coordinator of Student Services, then Dean and then, Principal. After over 18 years of service there, she assumed a major role in the governing and reforming of NBCC across the province. In the fall of 2014, NBCC launched the Robertson Institute for Community Leadership, named for her. This precedent-setting province-wide program is compulsory for graduation for all NBCC students and equips students with the skills to give back to their community as well as succeeding in their chosen career. Cheryl has received numerous volunteer and work-related awards; some of these include the Order of New Brunswick, the Lieutenant Governor’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Saint John Y’s Red Triangle Award and several awards for her volunteer work with the cancer society, stem cell research and other health fields. As well, she has been appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve 37 Signal Regiment for Saint John, NB and St. John’s, Nfld. Cheryl has been inducted into the Career Category of the Wall of Fame.

Following the induction and speeches by the inductees in the Simonds theatre, a reception hosted by the Simonds Alumni was held in the school library. We congratulate our four new inductees into the Simonds High School Wall of Fame. Well-done and well-deserved! Your impressive and varied accomplishments make us proud.





June, 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 7:00 pm - 7:00 pm Simonds Got Talen	2	3 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Grad Spaghetti Su	4	5	6
7	8 9:00 am Period 2 Ex 1:00 pm Period 3 Ex	9 9:00 am - 9:00 am Period 4 Exam	10 9:00 am - 9:00 am Period 5 Exam	11 9:00 am - 9:00 am Period 6 Exam	12	13
14 4:00 pm - 4:00 pm Baccalaureate Ser	15	16	17	18 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Grad Rehearsal	19 8:00 am Summer Sch 9:00 am Last Day for 8:00 pm Prom	20
21 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Graduation	22 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Summer School Re	23	24	25	26 Reunion - Class of 1965 (Bayside Mid 7:00 pm Reunion -	27
28 Reunion - Class	29	30	1 Canada Day	2	3	4 Reunion - Cla



**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](http://www.careerthatwork.ca) or Give Us a Call! - 506.643.7422

**Retiring from Simonds...**

This June there will be five members of the Simonds family who are retiring. Four members of the teaching staff and one of the office staff will be leaving the hive. Each of the four teachers has taught elsewhere for a varied number of years, but Simonds was their last (and hopefully, best, stop). The teachers who will retire (accompanied by the year in which they arrived at Simonds) are: Debbie Adams (1997), Gerard Leger (2001), Maurice Leger (1997) and Brenda MacPherson (1991). The office staff person retiring, Jeanne (Savoie) Godwin is well-known to many of us. Jeanne has been in the office at Simonds since 1979 - through the tenure of several administrators. Considering their years working elsewhere, there are a lot of years of experience among those five retirees! The Simonds Alumni sincerely thank each of these fine people for their contribution - both curricular and extra-curricular - to Simonds High School. Our best wishes to you for a happy and healthy retirement!

**Join the Alumni**

Take a moment and be certain you register your email address with [simondshighalumni@gmail.com](mailto: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!

Simonds High School  
1490 Hickey Road  
Saint John, NB  
E2J 4E7

Phone:  
(506) 658-5367

Fax:  
(506) 658-4641



**We're on the Web!**  
[sh.nbed.nb.ca](http://sh.nbed.nb.ca)

Fellow Seabees...It's the time of year when people stop to reflect on the past year or so, and I am no different. I look at our small group of loyal volunteers who keep SHS Alumni going.

In the fall, we sponsored a dance, made a donation to the Simonds Helping Hands Group for a needy family and sold Christmas ornaments. Since January, the alumni have sponsored our annual Valentine's Dance, provided supper for the students involved in the SHS musical, held a fundraising canteen at the musical, assisted with the Freebee Store, prepared the Wall of Fame reception, delivered treats to the SHS staff for Teacher Appreciation Week and produced two newsletters. Also, ongoing is the sale of old yearbooks and the sale of trees for the Memorial Grove. In addition, we have been assessing the needs and costs of repairing old grad composites.

At this time of year we think of graduations, more alumni, and the two scholarships we now give every year. None of this, not one thing would be in existence without our handful of people that work on behalf of our alumni. I personally want to thank them all for their time and energy.

Next year we have plans to add to the Memorial Grove and of course our Annual Valentine Dance. Thinking ahead, we could be doing a lot of things for the school but limited funds and very limited people restrict this greatly. New graduates are just starting life, but older graduates know the value of helping their community and their school alumni. A reminder to all those having reunions any extra funds can be donated to the Simonds High Alumni. It all goes back into Simonds in different ways (see paragraph 2 above).

My hope for Simonds Alumni is that we have many people listed to be called upon for help or just to receive the newsletter. I hope everyone bleeds green & gold - even if it's just a little - to help with our school, to keep it strong and viable. Simonds has over 60 years of graduates to call alumni, and years of staff and teachers. May the halls of Simonds BECKON YOU!!

Green & Gold Forever,

Erin McPhee  
SHS Alumni President