



St. Lawrence College

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The Magazine for Alumni
& Friends of St. Lawrence
College

SUMMER 2012



Game Boys (and Girls)

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ADVENTURE

Goodbye Mr President

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WHITAKER REFLECTS

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PUBLISHING SCHEDULE:

Issue	Copy/Ads Due	Distribution
Winter	October 1	December
Summer	May 1	July

RATES AND TERMS

Rates and specifications are available on request. Full payment is due at time of publishing. Applicable taxes will be applied to all orders.

AD REQUIREMENTS

Voyageur magazine is produced using Adobe CS5 for the Mac.

Preferred format: Mac compatible PDF or EPS files, with "type converted to curves", accompanied by colour hard-copy proof.

PHOTO AND TEXT REQUIREMENTS

When supplying photographs for reproduction in Voyageur, we accept professional quality colour prints or 300dpi TIFF or hi-res JPEG files. Text is preferred in 12-point Times Roman with no indents or highlighting.

On the cover

Carlye Oda, Bachelor of Business Administration student (Class of 2014)
Photo: Bernard Clark. *Cover Story*, p 4.

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Goodbye Mr President

CHRIS WHITAKER SAYS
GOODBYE AFTER
25 YEARS

"Today I feel a little bit like a graduate myself. And although it has taken me much longer than you to graduate, we have much in common, in that we share the benefit of being members of the St. Lawrence community. We have learned much and developed relationships that will stay with us and serve us well in the future."

I include this quote from my address to the 2012 graduating class, as it seems like a fitting way to begin my final column as president in the *Voyageur* magazine. After 25 years at St. Lawrence – the past five as president – it was with mixed emotions that I announced my decision to accept a new challenge at another college in Toronto.

It has been a great journey for me, a guy from Toronto transplanted to eastern Ontario, to have such good fortune to find people, communities

and a fine institution that shared my values and provided opportunities for growth. It is difficult to succinctly summarize my reflections of my time at St. Lawrence, but I can assure you that, like many alumni, I would never have predicted with any accuracy 25 years ago that my career would take the direction it would.

My first job at SLC resulted from a chance look at the job board while attending an evening French class at the Brockville campus. They needed teachers for academic upgrading in the Futures program for at-risk youth. With experience teaching undergraduate university courses, I decided to apply.

It wasn't long after I began the job that I got hooked: this was a place where every day we make a difference in people's lives by providing access and support to educational opportunities.

It took just slightly longer to realize it was a place that would make a difference in my own life too.

You might say my experience in St. Lawrence was a progression from the outside in; from working in our larger community through community outreach to corporate training, to training our staff, directing our Business programs on all campuses, running a campus and becoming VP Academic, to, finally, the central cog: the president's office. It seems logical in hindsight, if not in experience. Like all of our alumni, our careers are almost organic, fed by the ebb and flow of opportunity and timing. I feel lucky to have had both work in my favour.

By the time I came to the President's office then, I had experienced the College in so many of its incarnations. I had moved from working with

troubled adolescents who I hoped would have college in their future, to working with adults who sought to refresh or re-tool for a changing economy, to guiding our academic programs for our full-time students, and being entrusted with helping them fulfill their career goals.

Each of these experiences informed my outlook. I had gained a strong commitment to building and maintaining our ties to our communities through my work with our external partners and I had a deep appreciation for the impact our work has on our students by working alongside our committed staff, faculty and management.

By the time I began to consider becoming SLC's president, the College was deep in the midst of an audit by the province due to our persistent financial difficulties and growing accumulated deficit, and it was my assertion to the Board of Governors of the time that the solution to our challenges lay with the people in the organization. They not only knew the College better than anyone, but their commitment to our success put them in the best position to move us forward. I am forever grateful to our board of governors of the day for choosing me to be the person that would harness that power.

Based on this philosophy and with a commitment to protect our people to every extent possible, we successfully negotiated with the province to accept a deficit management plan that would support growth on all our campuses while achieving specific targets to reduce the College deficit. We had to make some tough decisions, but the impact was spread across the three campuses in recognition that we're all in it together and together we would emerge stronger.

And as they say – the rest is history. We went on to develop a new strategic plan, preserving the best of

what we do and investing in some new areas of focus. We outperformed expectations of our own plan, getting out of debt in half the time forecast, delivering five consecutive years of year-end surpluses, and experienced a period of unprecedented enrolment growth. St. Lawrence has also remained at the top of the College system on provincial key performance

"I am forever proud of our College, the difference we have made, and will continue to make."

indicators, showing our commitment to quality programs and services and a focus on teaching and learning.

It has truly been an honour and privilege to serve as president and CEO of St. Lawrence College. I will close with words from my note to the organization announcing my decision to leave.

I am forever proud of our College, the difference we have made, and will continue to make, for so many students, graduates and our communities in southeastern Ontario and beyond. There is no question what makes this place so great is what I will miss most – the phenomenal staff of St Lawrence College, the thousands of extraordinary students who choose St Lawrence to start or augment their careers here, and of course, the communities who so willingly and generously support our learners and our mission as partners in education. It is comforting to be able to leave with confidence in the strength of this great College and the knowledge that all of you will continue to make such a difference.

Thank you and goodbye! 🍷
– Chris Whitaker

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Oh, the Places You'll Go!

WITH INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NUMBERS RISING, AND GRADUATES ROAMING THE GLOBE, SLC HAS INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION BOTH COMING AND GOING. BY CHRISTOPHER CLARK

JOHN UMUNNA didn't know anything about the person he was working beside all day. But that was OK – the man didn't know who he was either.

Just weeks after arriving from his native Nigeria to study Business Administration at St. Lawrence College in the fall of 2010, Umunna heard about an annual garage sale organized by Empire Life employees to support United Way.

"I hardly knew anyone yet, so I signed up for all kinds of volunteer activities," recalls Umunna. "At the garage sale, I talked on and off all day with someone working beside me. I knew his name was Les, but that was all. We had a great day and afterwards sat down and had a beer together."

It was only then that Umunna learned he had been talking to the president and CEO of Empire Life, Les Herr. "I had no idea who he was, but it's a great lesson about getting out and volunteering. You never know who you'll meet."

Starting his third year of studies in September, Umunna, 24, has worked at Empire Life the last two summers, answering phone calls from insurance agents across the country. He had to prove himself to get the job, but that chance meeting at the garage sale certainly helped him get the chance to do so.

Umunna is one of about 400 international students who will be studying at all three St. Lawrence campuses this coming year, representing more than six per cent of the overall student body.

"We had students from more than 40 countries this past year," says Barry Keefe, director, recruitment and international education, at the College. "We try very hard to have a good mix of students from all over the world."

To make that happen, Keefe and his colleagues have developed relationships with schools and businesses around the globe, spreading the word about what St. Lawrence has to offer with missionary zeal, and enriching campus life for all students in the process.

"The data suggest people looking to leave their homeland for school look first for a country, and then look at programs," Keefe says. As a relatively small college, St. Lawrence must work hard to let would-be students know how much it has to offer.

That's certainly the pattern Umunna followed when deciding where he wanted to study.

The middle child of seven, he knew growing up in Lagos he wanted to attend school abroad. In addition to his native tongue of Igbo – one of 300 Nigerian dialects – he studied English throughout his schooling. He

was admitted to schools in Sweden, Texas and Ontario and then had a decision to make.

"I decided I wanted to come to Canada, but I had admission to Carleton in Ottawa as well as St. Lawrence. I thought I was going to choose Carleton, but then my sister told me I should go to Kingston and check out St. Lawrence."

His sister, Cynthia Egbunonu, was living in Kingston with her husband, Patrick, who is working towards a Masters degree at Queen's. "She was here for two years by the time I arrived, and she encouraged me to come check out the school."

St. Lawrence had him at Hello. "My first impression was very good. It just felt right here," he recalls. "It was more friendly and felt homey. I spoke with some instructors and really liked what they had to say and how welcoming they were."

He lived with his sister and brother-in-law for his first year. He was thankful for their generosity but anxious to move out before second year. He lived in residence last year and plans to do the same this coming year.

For international students who don't have a big sister living in Kingston, the school offers a Home Stay program, which matches students with host families for the school year. Not



Business student John Umunna calls Kingston home after moving from his native Nigeria.

Photo: Bernard Clark

only do they live with a family, they take part in a variety of group activities throughout the year – a day at the beach, a trip to a corn maze or Canada Day celebrations, among others.

“Local families sign up to host students,” Keefe says. “We assess all the applicants, of course. Many do it for several years and host students from all over the world. In some countries, like Russia for example, students may be only 17 when they leave for college. That’s an ideal situation for the student to live with a family.”

There were about a dozen families in the program last year.

Without actively setting out to do so, St. Lawrence has developed an international force of people who are more than happy to talk up the College from the Bahamas to Bahrain and countless places in between. Just as international students over the decades have come to St. Lawrence to study, hundreds of homegrown St. Lawrence graduates have left Canada to work and raise families. And now they are unofficial ambassadors for the school.

The pattern started with the very first graduating class in 1969. Since

graduating that year, Kingston native Roger Kavaner has lived throughout the Caribbean and South America; but not before he lived for 17 years in Calgary. A serendipitous trip to Panama prompted him to move there in 1996, and he worked as an import/export consultant.

He focused on a scrap metal business and was spending a lot of time in Guyana, on the north coast of South America. After living there briefly, he worked and lived in Barbados, the Dominican Republic and his current home, Trinidad and Tobago.

“I’ve been here in Trinidad for about 18 months,” says Kavaner, 65. “But my business interests are mostly in Russia and Venezuela, so I’m still in a mobile situation.”

He has fond memories of attending St. Lawrence, and believes it was the right place for him at that time in his life. “I don’t know if I would have managed at university because I wasn’t a good student and probably wouldn’t have been focused,” he suggests. “St. Lawrence was very good because it offered me something else,” which clearly prepared him for an adventurous life of work and travel.

“In that first year, we helped prepare the college for opening. We helped paint buildings,” he says. “My first year classes were in the basement of a nearby high school, and then we moved into the College when it was completed. I didn’t know what I wanted to do when I finished high school, and St. Lawrence was a stepping stone in my life.”

By contrast, Kevin Lalonde knew exactly what he wanted when he enrolled at the Cornwall campus in the early 1980s. He graduated in 1983

from Business Administration, with a Marketing diploma.

“My parents were the major inspiration for me to attend St. Lawrence,” he recalls. His father, Ray Lalonde, was a city council member and was active in the community with minor sports and charitable work. “My father and mother often mentioned the local college and told me it offered the courses required to get into the business world at a very affordable price.”

And get into the business world he did. He spent many years as a senior executive with big retailers like Wal-

“The job (in Saudi Arabia) was a draw, but I also wanted my children to grow up understanding different cultures.”

Mart, Loblaws and Best Buy/Future Shop as well as Procter & Gamble. Today he is president of his own global consulting company, and starting in 2006, he and his family spent nearly five years in the Middle East, living in Bahrain while he worked in Saudi Arabia. There he was COO at Extra, Saudi Arabia, the Best Buy of the Middle East.

“I had always dreamed of seeing the world. In 2006 I was contacted by recruiters for a couple of jobs in the Middle East. The job was a draw, but I also wanted my children to grow up understanding different cultures and thinking about career choices both locally and internationally.”

Lalonde, 50, and his family recently moved back to Canada, settling in Kanata, largely so son Brandon could attend Queen’s while his sister, Chanelle, goes to high school in Kanata. He continues travelling and working in the Middle East, despite a scary incident in 2011 at the height of the Arab Spring.

Confronted by a group of men with machetes and axes, he drove away, only to run into a larger, similarly armed group, from which he had to flee. “I believe they were trying to



Barry Keefe and his team of international recruiters bring the world to SLC.

Photo: Bernard Clark.

scare Westerners so we would leave and hurt local businesses," Lalonde says. "The situation has improved since then, and aside from that one incident, we loved living in Bahrain. While there, we travelled to more than 18 countries in Africa and Asia. It was a great experience."

Holly Marshall graduated from the Brockville campus in 2007 with a Musical Theatre Advanced Diploma and made a beeline for Britain, where she was born and lived until she was eight years old.

"I had always wanted to move back to the UK to travel Europe and get to know my family better. I also wanted to perform in the West End."

Building on her St. Lawrence training, she earned a Masters degree at the Guildford School of Acting in 2010 and signed with an agent. She works for a very understanding IT recruitment firm that gives her time off for auditions as needed. When she lands extended roles in plays or musicals, the office holds her job so she can perform for the run of the show.

"Although I trained in musical theatre, much of my work has been film-based – shorts, full length, training

videos and things like that. I enjoyed St. Lawrence, although we were the first graduating class of that program and I think the courses will get better with time. I know if I hadn't trained at St. Lawrence there's no way I could have gotten into Guildford here."

For St. Lawrence students, those coming from other countries and those who work abroad after graduation, the common element is the opportunities available to them while in school.

Every year, St. Lawrence students travel abroad to study and work, taking advantage of dozens of contacts the school has all around the world.

In the last year or so, students have travelled to Kenya to help build an orphanage; to Mexico to develop their carpentry skills; to Ecuador to help build a playground and to Florida to work at Disney World and earn credits from Florida State University.

For Keefe, the path followed by one particular student typifies the entire international education philosophy at St. Lawrence.


"She is Inuit and came to school from Iqaluit to study marketing," he says. "She explored going to Belgium to

study at a school we have a relationship with, but it didn't work out. Instead, she went to Mexico. When she got back from there, she took advantage of a relationship we have with Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia."

In Australia, she made connections with Aboriginals there, sharing her background as an Inuit in Canada. She was invited to go on an overnight camping expedition and saw someone take down a kangaroo with a boomerang.

"She completed her degree at Griffith," Keefe says. "It's an amazing experience."

Stories like that inspire Keefe and his colleagues to continue expanding the international education program. And the College continues to expand its relationships with other international institutions to increase the opportunities for students and alumni. (See sidebar on p 21: G'Day Grads!)

"We hope to grow the international program each year. We had more than 400 last year. If we had 500 students, that would be good. And if we got to 600, that would be about 10 per cent of the student population," he notes, almost wistfully. 

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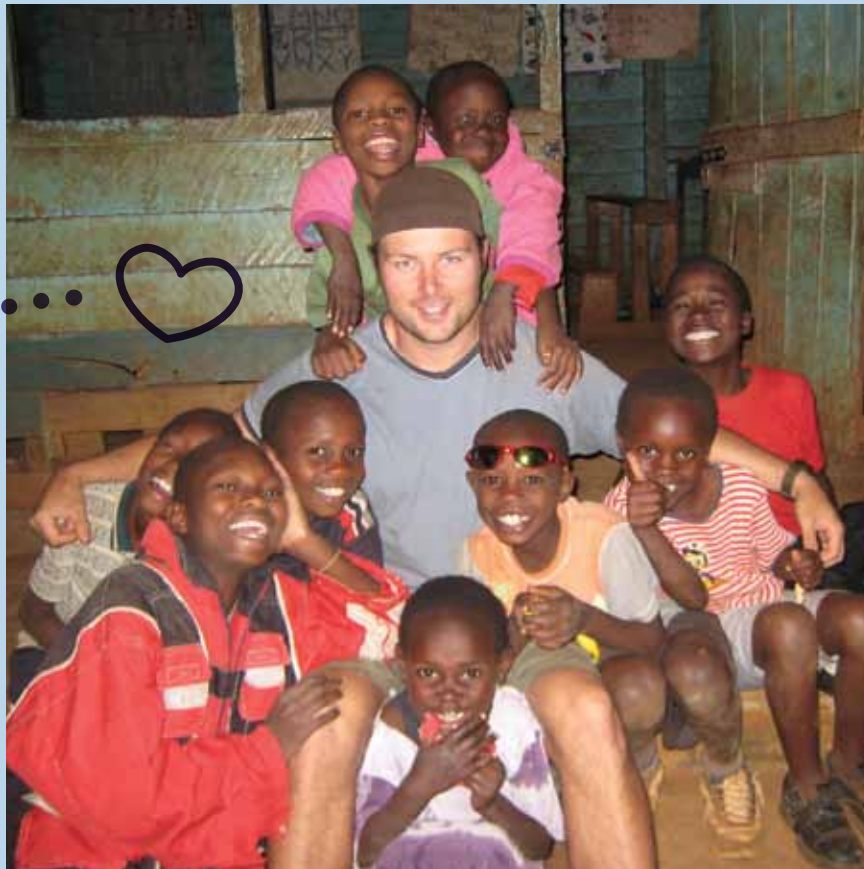
**HOW A POST-GRAD
TRIP TURNED INTO A
LIFELONG PLEDGE.**
BY FRANK ARMSTRONG

WE ALL KNOW PEOPLE who selflessly give their time and money to charities and other noble causes. But few of us know anyone like Dion Brash. At 32 years old, the 2007 Police Foundations graduate is the volunteer founder and president of a charity that houses dozens of once-destitute children in rural Kenya.

With the help of his wife and two friends and the charity they run called Hearts for Change, Dion has raised as much as \$70,000 for the Hosanna Children's Home and is now looking to help African orphanages.

He talks about the work he does as if the 15 to 20 hours he devotes weekly to the charity and the thousands of dollars he has pulled from his own pocket is simply duty. "I pretty much hit the lottery just living here in Canada while these children are in despair—it made sense that we try to help them," says Brash.

Kingston born and bred, Brash didn't become a philanthropist until he took a sociology course during his first year of



Dion Brash, Police Foundations 2007, has raised as much as \$70,000 to help an orphanage in rural Kenya.

Police Foundations. Professor Lidia Dorosz lit a flame in him that convinced him it was his moral duty to help others.

Dorozs says she's not surprised that Brash has given so much upon realizing how much the orphanage children needed help. "This was never a young man that could ignore the vulnerable amongst us," Dorosz says.

Brash did his first real volunteering while in college. He knew he wanted to help children, so he became a mentor to children at risk for the Youth Diversion Program in Kingston.

When he graduated, he set out to travel, but his was not the tourist route. He wanted to make a difference in his travels and he wanted to help children. After some research, he chose to volunteer for three months at the Hosanna Children's Home in rural Kenya.

When he arrived, the small one-story home was overflowing with 40 children, children who had been abandoned or traumatized, who barely received enough

food to live. There was no running water or electricity and the landlords were threatening to shut the place because the mother and son who ran it owed the equivalent of \$2,000 Canadian in back rent.

Brash, a computer networking specialist who works from home, had no savings, but he had a line of credit in Canada. Without a second thought, Brash withdrew the \$2,000.

Within days, he withdrew another \$1,000. It's a small amount for most Canadians, but it paid for the construction of a hygienic washing area and four new roofed outhouses to replace the crumbling outdoor stalls.

"In Canada, I could have spent that money on a TV, but there I was able to do so much for those kids," Brash says. "I realized at that point how spoiled I was and how much of a difference I could make."

When his three-month volunteer stint ended, Brash promised the children that he would take care of them for the rest of his life.

In 2012, he and his wife, former St. Lawrence College ESL instructor Jenny Caldwell, and two friends launched Hearts for Change, which Brash and Caldwell run from the basement of their home.

Every cent they raise goes to the orphanage. Brash even pays for bank charges and the golf balls used at the first annual charity golf tournament that was held in September 2011.

Since Brash returned home, he figures he, his wife, and Hearts for Change have raised more than \$70,000 for the orphanage. They also bought land for Hosanna Children's Home in 2009, which is now a bigger, better compound, housing upwards of 70 children.

Nonetheless, the home still relies on Hearts for Change for over 80 per cent of its core funding and it still lacks basic amenities, such as running water and decent beds, so fundraising is ongoing.

Dion and Jenny returned to Kenya this past December and were able to see the new home for the first time. They were amazed at how much more space the children have. "There's enough room for them to play now," Dion noted. The area is much safer and greener than their previous home. It exceeded their expectations. "It feels incredible to have been a part in their move, knowing that a bigger home ultimately means helping more children get away from terrible situations and begin to have hope for a better life," Dion says.

Hearts for Change is currently preparing for their Second Annual Kingston to Kenya Golf Tournament, sponsored by Mary Murphy of Re/Max. The tournament raised \$10,000 last year and they hope it is even more successful this year. It will be held at the Westbrook Golf Club on Saturday, September 8th. If you are interested in coming out or being involved in any way, please contact Dion at dion@heartsforchange.ca. Hearts for Change also offers the opportunity to sponsor an orphan at Hosanna Children's Home. For more information, visit <http://www.heartsforchange.ca>. 🌊



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GAME BOYS (AND GIRLS)

GAME DEVELOPMENT GRADS ENTER A RAPIDLY GROWING INDUSTRY. BY KHADIJAH VAKILY

IN A SOCIETY becoming increasingly dependent on technology for amusement and convenience, the entertainment industry has long had an influence on our daily life. However, the breakdown for consumers may come as a surprise.

According to a 2011 study cited by The Economist, the gaming industry is a multi-billion-dollar force that has surpassed music and is three-fifths the size of the film industry. In countries like Britain, video games have outsold films to become the largest source of entertainment. With 58 per cent of Canadians identifying themselves as gamers, (Entertainment Software Asso-

ciation of Canada) it makes sense for post-secondary institutions to capitalize on this growing source of revenue.

The Game Development Technician program is relatively new at the St. Lawrence College (SLC) Cornwall campus and provides students with a background in game development skills, software-design methodology and programming. Nevertheless, many of the program's first graduates have found success in securing a job related to their completed studies.

Kyle Carruthers is a software developer at St. Clair Interactive Communications in Toronto. The company's main focus is developing touchscreen

self-serve kiosks, often found in grocery stores and malls. Though he's not directly working in the gaming field, his studies at SLC have contributed towards his chosen profession.

"Even if you go to school for video games, you're still doing programming that can easily translate to a lot of other closely related fields. The main thing we worked in was C#, a programming language, and that's primarily what I work with now," said Carruthers. "Once you know how to program, it's pretty easy to translate between programming languages."

For Jason Myers, his present occupation is a dream come true. Myers is a release and build specialist at Ubisoft Montreal. Ubisoft Montreal is one of the world's biggest independent studios, and has developed games from internationally-renowned franchises such as Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell, Assassin's Creed and Prince of Persia. After Lindsey Lachance, the program's first female graduate, was hired at Ubisoft, she passed on a good reference for Myers, who was subsequently hired. From there, several other graduates followed in quick succession, with a total of five former SLC students now working at Ubisoft Montreal.

"Every day, I still walk in with that 'new-guy-smile' on my face," said Myers. "There's so much knowledge and talent here, there's always something to learn."

The journey was not without its challenges. For most graduates, they were unemployed for months before getting hired.

For those living in Cornwall, the opportunities for finding a job in gaming or programming are quite slim. Calvin Morrow is a web developer at Jtec Distribution, developing sites for organizations like the Cornwall Public Library.

He wanted to stay in Cornwall due to the low cost of living, but admitted it was challenging to find a job in the city.

"When (Jtec) gave me a call I was really excited," said Morrow. "They

● **"Every day, I still walk in with that 'new-guy-smile' on my face."**

James Myers (Game Development Technician 2011) is living his dream at Ubisoft.

Opposite: Calvin Morrow (Game Development Technician 2011) found work close to home in Cornwall. Photos: Khadijah Vakily





were looking for a junior programmer, and that was perfect for me because now I'm getting lots of experience."

"We were really worried that we weren't going to find jobs," said Caruthers, who relocated to the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) after graduation. "I applied everywhere, but once I moved I started focusing more on the GTA."

Myers commutes daily to from Cornwall to Montreal, often reaching home at 7:00pm. Prior to working at Ubisoft, he co-founded video game company, Unemployment Studios, with fellow graduate Cory McMackin, creating an iPhone game to keep themselves busy.

According to the graduates, not only did teachers provide them with core skills needed to succeed in their industry, but they also went above and beyond the call of duty.

Gordon MacKay, the program coordinator, set up a volunteer-programming group that ran for several months after graduation, building sample games and (*cont'd, p 26*)



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IMC grad takes learning on the fast track

BY JIM CLARKE

“RETURN TO RE-LEARN” is a common occurrence for SLC grads. Many have come back to the college to continue their education, or to launch new careers. But for Integrated Marketing Communications grad Caley Weese, her return to ‘school’ quite literally has her on the fast track.

Having completed her second season at the controls of a pro late model at Brighton Speedway Park, Weese is about embark on one of the most exciting adventures of her young career. The 25 year-old racer from Carrying Place has been accepted to participate in the RACE 101 program, based in North Carolina. The elite

driver development tutoring regularly selects between 15 and 20 drivers from a variety of asphalt and dirt speedways across North America. A year in length, the school requires drivers to be part of a trio of three-day weekend sessions during the off-season, while completing on-line courses during the season at their respective speedways.

“Since I started racing in 2003, my goal has been to pursue motor-sports full-time,” says Weese, who works as a marketing co-ordinator for McDougall Insurance and Financial in Belleville. “This program has so many valuable aspects – including a super late model ride in the PASS touring series for the highest graduating student – that can open a number of doors to help achieve what I’m looking for.”

With on-track seat-time scheduled for the legendary Hickory Motor Speedway, the RACE 101 classroom sessions include workshops on racecar

chassis set-up, as well as media relations, team marketing and promotion. With a number of best appearing car awards and a solid advertising



program already part of her racing resume, Weese is looking forward to the chance to take every aspect of her team’s performance to the next level.

“I’m so lucky to have the opportunity to be part of a training session that has already impacted so many famous drivers over the years,” says the racer known as ‘the skirt in the dirt’. “Main instructor Tony Blanchard – a NASCAR and ARCA crew chief – worked with Sprint Cup Series driver Joey Logano from a very early age and helped his progression through the ranks and eventually land the Home Depot ride with Joe Gibbs Racing. I don’t know if that’s the same type of result that I can hope for, but I’m going in with an open mind, hoping to learn as much as I can. This is the opportunity of a lifetime and I can’t wait to get started.”

True to her IMC background, Weese has formed her own team and has lined up a large and diverse group of sponsors whose logos are artfully displayed on her vehicle – helping her capture numerous ‘best appearing’ awards.

To learn more about the Race 101 driver development program, follow Caley Weese and the class of 2012 at www.race101.com. Catch-up with Caley by visiting www.weeseracing.com. 🏁



Marianne van Silfhout Gallery

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Photo: Jim Clarke

BST: 40 and Fab

ST. LAWRENCE College has long been a leader in the field of Behavioural Science Technology, and 2012 marked the 40th anniversary of the program's creation. Grads from all three campuses were invited to attend a 40th Celebration Reception as part of the annual Building Behavioural Solutions conference in the spring, and organizers took the opportunity to recognize the two faculty who founded and shaped the program to where it is today: Bill Kirby, and the late Dave McKay. 🏆

Clockwise from top: Bentley McKay and Shelly Bentley (son and spouse of the late Dave McKay) with Bill Kirby (BST 1974), Kim Trudeau-Craig (BST 1995) and Brad Shoniker (BST 1979), Tess Clifford, Katherine Hazelton, Adrienne Nicholls (BST 2001) and Shauna Hoekstra, and Glenna Hunter and Sheelagh Jamieson



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St. Lawrence College

FIND YOUR PASSION AND DON'T BE SCARED

HONORARY DIPLOMA RECIPIENTS TELL STUDENTS TO REACH HIGH. BY STEPHEN PETRICK



IF THERE HAS EVER BEEN an example of someone who works tirelessly to serve virtually every aspect of his community, Jim Brownell is the guy. The former teacher, municipal leader, provincial leader and long-time friend to many in the Cornwall

region received an honorary diploma from St. Lawrence College Cornwall on Friday, June 8.

The College is among the numerous institutions and groups that have benefitted from Brownell's service. He lobbied on behalf of the College during his years as MPP for Stormont-Dundas-Charlottenburgh, helping to secure \$5 million for renovations to the campus. Those renovations, completed in 2011, have transformed the college into a modern campus, equipped for today's – and tomorrow's – learners.

Brownell also helped raise awareness of St. Lawrence College programs through his riding report television program, which aired throughout his tenure as MPP, from 2003 to 2011. His connection to the College dates back a number of years. He estimates that hundreds of students he taught during his elementary school teaching career, which pre-dated his career in politics, have gone on to graduate from SLC. Brownell said he planned on looking through the crowd at the convocation ceremony for past students of his; as he often did when invited to convocation as the area's MPP.

With all these ties to the , the 64-year-old father of two (and grandfather of two) said he is thrilled to receive the honorary diploma from the College. "I'm humbled and honoured," he says. His advice to graduating students is "find something you're passionately interested in. I did that."

"Build on your passions and go out in the world and contribute. You don't always have to contribute with financial gain being the outcome. It could be just personal satisfaction."

NANCY STEVENS (Fine Arts & Photography 1992) offers simple advice for graduating students who hope to make a difference in the world: “If your heart and soul is into something, you have to do it,” says Stevens, the founder of Kenya Help, and the recipient of an honorary diploma at St. Lawrence College’s June 13 convocation ceremony.

The Kingston resident started her charitable organization in 2008 and has since raised thousands of dollars to provide food, education and health care for children in Kenya.

She led a campaign to raise more than \$10,000 earlier this year. That money was spent largely on a school in the village of Ngong, located outside of Nairobi, the capital city of the east African country. Stevens returned from her latest trip to Ngong in March.

To start the charity, Stevens had to silence the doubts in her head over whether a project like this could work. Instead, she attacked her goals with a positive attitude and enthusiasm. “At first I thought I can’t do this, I didn’t go to school for this,” she says. “But you can’t be afraid to take the step forward and help others if that’s what you really want to do. If your heart and soul is into something you should go for it, no matter what the risk.”

The path Stevens took to launching Kenya Help started in the early 1990s when she was a student at St. Lawrence College Kingston herself. After a lengthy career as a photographer, she got the itch to travel and contribute to global issues. She travelled to Africa for the first time in 2005, as a volunteer with a Habitat for Humanity mission that took her through Zambia, Botswana and Tanzania. She was so inspired by the friendly spirit, creativity and passion of the African people, she wanted to go back again and again.

In 2007 she travelled to Uganda and worked on a malaria-prevention project through Buy-A-Net. Then, she visited Kenya for the first time in 2008 as a volunteer with Global Volunteer Network.

These experiences allowed her to learn how an effective charity organization should work. Stevens said every cent Kenya Help raises goes directly to projects that the local Kenyans want. Instead of dictating to them what she thinks should



Nancy Stevens

be done, she asks local people what they need and how it should be built.

“It has taken years of building trust within the village – having them trust me and me trusting them,” she says. “I hire locals, so there’s employment when I come ... It’s about trust and trying to get projects that are sustainable.

When not working on projects in Kenya, Stevens can be found at the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul headquarters, where she works as the Activities and Volunteer Director.

ADVANCING CANADIAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ACE) Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship (ACE) has been helping students get involved with business projects for the past 25 years. The result has not just been a new generation of students trained in how to run effective organizations, but thousands of innovative projects designed to strengthen communities and improve people’s lives.

There may be no better example than one in Kingston, as the ACE-supported St. Lawrence College SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team recently teamed up with the Partners in Mission Food Bank, helping it install solar panels to create a new revenue stream and lead a fundraising campaign to

replace inefficient vehicles.

For its commitment to students and encouraging both economic activity and social consciousness, SLC Kingston is bestowing an honorary diploma on ACE Canada at its June 14 convocation ceremony. It’s an honour that ACE President Amy Harder and ACE founder and chairman Ian Aitken are both happy to receive.

“One of our lines is ‘A head for business and a heart for the community,’” says Harder. “That’s what we’re trying to make the next generation have.”

“We’re not there to tell the students what to do,” Harder says. “We give them the tools and directions to help them achieve their goals. We’re there



Ian Aitken (ACE)

to engage and empower and make sure all the right things are in place.”

ATHLETICS: The Season that Was

**SLC GOES TO NATIONALS IN MORE THAN ONE SPORT...
AND A SHARKS ALUMNI WEEKEND IS IN THE WORKS**



Cornwall Sharks

GOLF: The team played host to the OCAA Provincial Golf Championships at the Cornwall Golf and Country Club in early October. The Sharks used the home course advantage to finish strong in Division II. Local golfer, Adam Kroon, placed 9th overall which was the best finish in Sharks history.

CROSS COUNTRY: The team competed all over the province in preparation for the OCAA Championships hosted by SLC Kingston. Their work paid off when, on a beautiful fall day, every runner crossed the finish line with a personal best time under their belt.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S INDOOR SOCCER: Both teams competed in the local Cornwall Indoor Soccer league, and the extra play not only won the College local accolades – Cassandra Warren, from the women's team, was celebrated as one of the top scorers in the league

– but carried it over to OCAA tournament play, where the women's team made it to the semi-finals in the George Brown Invitational. The women's team also narrowly missed out advancing to the OCAA Championships as they lost a couple of extremely close games at the Regional Tournament.

MEN'S HOCKEY: The team came into the season as the defending provincial champions and they were determined to once again make it to the Challenge Cup. The team successfully earned a bid to the tournament for the second year in a row, and although they did not come home with the gold medal this year, there's hope this new 'trend' will carry forward to next season.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: The women won gold in three of the four tournaments they entered, beating their rival, Humber College, and besting a number of University teams, such as Wilfred Laurier and becoming arguably the best team in OCAA women's hockey this year.

COMING UP IN 2012/13: The hard work and dedication of the Women's Hockey team got more than gold – it made SLC Cornwall a natural choice to host for the first ever Women's Hockey Challenge Cup on March 14th-15th at the Benson Centre. OCAA women's hockey teams will compete all season for points in the women's hockey power rankings. The top ranked schools will then travel to Cornwall to compete for the Championship title. As host, Cornwall will receive an automatic entry. The men's and women's hockey coaches will also be using this monumental event to host the inaugural Sharks Alumni Weekend.

– submitted by Jacquie Cartwright

Brockville Schooners and Riverdogs

GOLF: Our Schooners' first taste of success came from our SLC golf team. This group of young men finally out-scored George Brown College by 24 strokes at the OCAA Provincial Golf Championships. George Brown had previously had our number in the Division II bracket for the past four years.

CROSS COUNTRY: Our women's cross country team captured their first ever team bronze medal, missing silver by three points at the OCAA Cross Country Provincials. The team earned a trip to the CCAA National Championships in Kamloops, British Columbia after their impressive showing at the provincial event, which was hosted by SLC Kingston. Dawn Martin, a BScN student, led this team to an 8th place finish in Kamloops. Martin also closed off her SLC career by placing 9th in Canada as well as helping the Ontario conference win a national gold medal.



MEN'S HOCKEY: Success also continued on the ice with our men's extramural hockey team. With a new coach behind the bench, our Riverdogs had 3 tournament semi-final finishes and qualified for the OCCCR Provincial Championships, another first for the Brockville Campus.

COMING UP IN 2012/13: A new tournament will showcase all three SLC campuses battling for the Tri-Campus

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Golf Cup at Smugglers Glen on Saturday September 22nd. On January 10th-11th the campus will celebrate the 10th annual St. Lawrence College hockey tournament. Ten extramural hockey teams from across the province will compete between two local rinks to earn SLC gold and valuable OCCR power ranking points.

– submitted by Chris Paul

Kingston Vikings

GOLF: The first big achievement of the 2011/12 year was from golfer Brennan Smith. He placed third at the OCAA provincial championships, which earned him a spot at the national championships in PEI at which he placed 26 out of over 100 competitors. His performance at both of these championships was so strong that he not only received Male Athlete of the Year recognition at the year's SLC Kingston athletics banquet, but he was also nominated and selected to participate in the Canadian College/University championships in BC later in the spring.

CROSS COUNTRY: After battling a knee injury all season, cross country runner Richelle Moore came back in time for the OCAA championships strong enough to earn her a bronze medal on her home turf, as SLC Kingston was the proud host of the 2012 championships at Fort Henry Hill. With an OCAA bronze medal under her belt, Richelle was off to the CCAA championships determined to improve upon her 7th place finish at nationals the year before. In what was surely her strongest performance since being at SLC, Richelle pushed herself all the way to the finish line, earning a personal bronze medal at the CCAA's as well as a gold medal as a part of the overall Ontario women's team. With such accomplished accolades already this year, it was no surprise that Richelle picked up the Female Athlete of the Year award at Kingston's athletic banquet for the second year in a row.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S RUGBY: Giving, arguably, their best seasons respectively in the last three years, both teams fought hard all fall – both earning their way to the bronze medal matches hosted at SLC. On the women's side, while they pushed hard and left it all out on the field, the bronze medal narrowly slipped through their fingers, though not before receiving numerous awards of recognition from the OCAA. Co-Captains Dana Darlington and Rebecca Brown were not only named league all-stars, but Brown was selected as the OCAA women's rugby Player of the Year. First year player Mariah Patrick walked away with the Rookie of the Year award for the OCAA, while third year SLC coach Gary Peacock received OCAA Women's Rugby Coach of the Year honors. On the men's side, while slightly disappointed that they just missed a chance at the gold medal game, they proved how tough and deep their team had become by easily taking the bronze medal match over the Georgian Grizzlies. They also did not walk away empty handed where the OCAA awards were concerned – Alex Shotton and captain Eric Jadowski earned league all-star recognition as well, while Jadowski went on to be named the OCAA DII Men's Rugby Athlete of the Year. Second year coach, Brad Greenwood, was also selected as the DII Men's Rugby Coach of the year, as selected by the other coaches throughout the league.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOCCER: The women's and men's soccer teams both made significant strides in their performances throughout their respective seasons. Bringing in some new recruits, the teams proved to be more competitive and narrowed the gaps significantly against their opponents, often taking the opposition by surprise. Both teams are looking forward to new additions to their teams in the fall, and continuing to improve with their determination to get to playoffs in the 2012 fall season being the motivating factor.



MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

After struggling all year with injuries and numbers, the men's team managed to finish 4th in the east division, earning them a chance to get to playoffs in a qualifier against Fanshawe College. Unfortunately, their small roster proved to be too difficult to compete with the Fanshawe Falcons. With several new recruits on the horizon for the 2012-13 season, the young team looks forward to a strong year ahead. As for the women's team, they admittedly struggled this season, and were unable to make a comeback at the end of the year, despite continuing to gain strength throughout the season. Thanks to new head coach Remy Simpson's tough recruiting efforts, the team looks to be transformed next year with a combination of solid senior players, and fresh new talent.

COMING UP IN 2012/13: SLC Kingston is proud to be hosting a cross country invitational at Fort Henry this fall on Sept. 15th, as well as our 18th annual men's basketball tournament from Oct. 19-21st. The 5th annual women's basketball tournament will be held in the winter term from January 4-6th. Both tournaments will be held at the Kingston campus gymnasium and play host to teams from around the OCAA and Quebec.

– submitted by Kendra Hunter & Samantha Rocheleau

Keep up to date on the latest Vikings, Schooners and Sharks news at the Athletics website: www.slcatletics.com



Master Class: Foundation golf tournament puts the fun in fundraising

AFTER THREE YEARS of on-and-off rain, organizers of this year's Foundation Golf Tournament could practically guarantee a day of sunshine. Why? Because they'd ordered up polar fleece jackets for each participant, and had a big box of rain ponchos on hand for the 19th annual event, held May 24 at Smuggler's Glen near Gananoque. The result? A gorgeous, hot and sunny day of course!

Over 140 golfers spent the day on the links, and raising money to fund unique learning opportunities for SLC students through the Extraordinary Learning Fund. The Fund has helped send students to national conferences and competitions in their fields, humanitarian and learning trips to Africa and South America, and unique student initiatives that take learning out of the classroom. The annual Golf Tournament is one of the major contributors to the fund.

Planning is already underway for the 2013 edition, which is slated for May 23. 🏌️



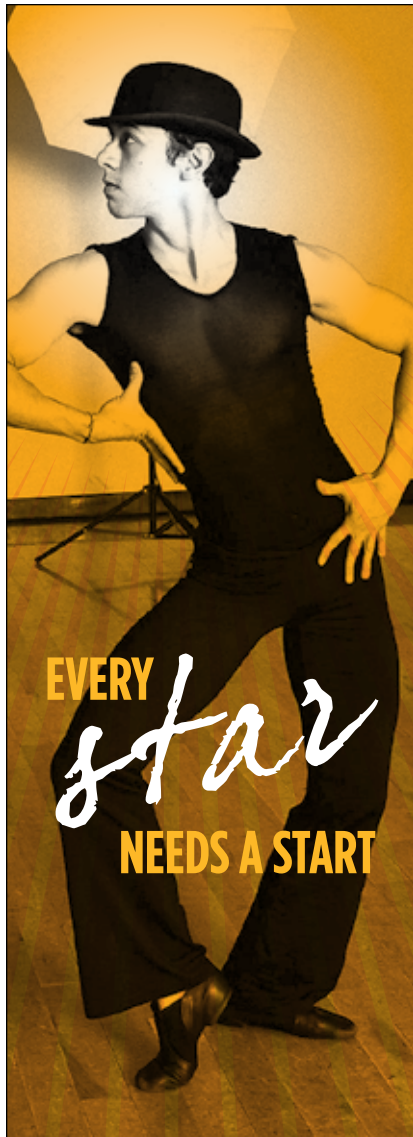
Clockwise from top: A six-club salute, Lorne Weary shows some leg, Trish MacInnes (IMC 1995) and Foundation chair Julie Tompkins (APR 1984), Shawn Geary (Marketing 1990), Sean Burns (Electronics Engineering 2000) and Mike Perry, Eric Davies gets in on the act, while Dean of Applied Science Don Young looks on, and Peter Kingston (left) is this year's recipient of the David Beatty (right) Cup that celebrates the love of the game (and SLC)!



The Sound of Solar: ESET Students Rock Earth Hour



In the photo are our ESET/SEARC students: D.J. Offord (blue pants) and Scott Myers. (Photo: Adegboyega Babasola)



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THEY MAY NOT have been on stage, but the show could not have gone on without them.

On March 31, Kingstonians gathered in Market Square to celebrate Earth Hour, and SLC’s Energy Systems Engineering Technology (ESET) program in collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Applied Research Centre (SEARC) supplied a solar powered off-grid system that ran the sound stage.

A couple of months prior to the event Scott Myers, a second year student in the ESET program and student research assistant with SEARC, worked with Professor Ian Kilborn (ESET) to size and design the solar charged system. The project came together with the help of D.J. Offord and Brian Fryer, both students from ESET and both working with SEARC. Due to their combined efforts “off-grid solar powered” sound and lighting



was provided to two bands that entertained the Earth Hour crowd for an hour and a half.

Prof Hugh McLaren Jr. and research department staffer Ashley Stebbins manned the College’s booth at the event and said numerous visitors mentioned how great it was that the college was part of the Earth Hour event and had the ability and know-how to provide such a system. ☘

– submitted by Adegboyega Babasola

Back to Business at SLC Brockville


IT'S LOOKED for a time like the Class of 2010 would be the last group of graduates from the Business program from Brockville Campus. But starting this September a new group of students will join their ranks.

Brockville campus dean Doug Roughton announced in March that the Brockville campus will offer a two-year Business program once again after it was suspended a number of years ago. "You – the business leaders – told us that we needed a business program. You told us that you needed skilled and knowledgeable graduates to run your businesses. We listened," said Roughton as he addressed members of the Brockville Chamber of Commerce at a "Business After 5" event hosted by the College March 15.

The Business program is ideal for students seeking a comprehensive business education and the opportunity to study in more than one area of specialization. Students acquire knowledge and practical skill in several key business areas such as account-

ing, marketing, and human resources, preparing them to succeed in a variety of career paths.

Through the generosity of the St. Lawrence College Foundation, five "Brockville Back in Business bursaries" valued at \$1000 each are available for full-time students enrolled in the Business program on the Brockville campus who are residents of Ontario and demonstrate financial need.

The Business program is the first step in a unique opportunity for students and alumni to complete two diplomas and one degree in just five years. Successful completion of the two-year Business program results in an Ontario College Diploma and direct admission into the third year of the Business Administration program on the Cornwall campus. Upon successful completion of the Business Administration program, students are eligible to enter the third year of the Bachelor of Business Administration program on the Kingston campus. 
– Denise Corcoran

Bringing the World to Kingston

WORLD BUSINESS FORUM COMES TO TOWN THIS FALL

LIVE FROM NEW YORK... and direct to you. Sir Richard Branson and friends are coming to Kingston and you're invited!

The World Business Forum returns to Kingston with its second annual broadcast live from New York City, and hosted by St. Lawrence College at the Cineplex Odeon. The event will span two days – October 2 and 3.

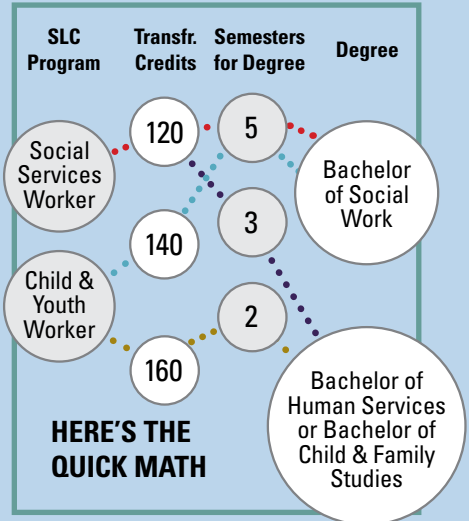
The World Business Form is the leading international symposium for the executive community to debate the most pressing issues of the day. This

year's event will focus on leadership in action. We invite you to be a part of this transformative experience dedicated to building better businesses, better people, and a better world. The World Business Forum offers an opportunity to expand, connect, unite, distribute and multiply ideas within a powerful network of businessmen and women with a belief in the transformative potential of talent, enterprise and endeavor.

Some of the talent from this year's roster includes Jack Welch, former Chairman and CEO of GE, who will lead a conversation on innovation, productivity and competitiveness. Michael Porter, one of the world's most influential business thinkers, will also talk about going from corporate

G'Day Grads!

Working abroad is one thing, but what about getting your degree? In less time? SLC's relationship with Griffiths University in Australia is the fast track to degrees for SSW, CYW and ECE grads of the last five years.




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The university has a relationship with a Canadian firm – KOM Consultants (based in Hamilton, Ontario) – to assist would-be applicants. Website: www.komconsultants.com or telephone (905) 318 8200.

social responsibility to creating shared value. Along with such influential thinkers will be Jim Collins, Ursula Burns, Robert Gates, and Barbara Corcoran from the Shark Tank; and much, much more!

Last year's event – organized by the student group Students in Free Enterprise – brought in 400 attendees. All of those surveyed said that they would return again. Find out more at our website – www.sifeslc.ca.

For more information, contact rtaylor@sifeslc.ca. Tickets go on sale at the end of June. Alumni will receive a special discount, courtesy the St. Lawrence College Alumni Office. 
– submitted by Ryan Taylor, SIFE SLC

Fine Arts Alumni Chapter: Show. Learn. Give Back.

THE FINE ARTS Alumni Chapter has had a busy spring. The group displayed works with the theme “Carousel” during the month of February at the Brockville Arts Centre. This was to tie-in with the 60th anniversary of the Brockville Operatic Society, and their production of “Carousel the Musical”. A second Members Show was held during the month of April 2012 at the Brockville Public Library.

On the continuing education front, members attended a Contemporary

Experimental Drawing workshop by Suzanne Warren Powel on February 25, featuring topics on Monotyping, Collage and Drawing to Music. A number of our members also attended a workshop with Sheila Davis in April. She spoke about her method of painting and gave us useful information about marketing and selling our work.

The Chapter continues its commitment to supporting the students who follow us. Fine Arts grad Zachary Baker received the SLC Fine Arts Alumni award at Convocation in June.

In a new initiative, we have set up a Fine Arts Alumni Student Fund through the St Lawrence College Foundation, with the purpose of supporting the needs of full-time Fine

Arts Students who have made a commitment to their studies, but require extra financial support to realize their potential as artists.

Finally, the call for entries isn’t expected until later this summer, but the Chapter encourages all alumni artists to consider entering their works in the Fifth Annual Alumni Show at the Marianne Van Silfhout Gallery on the Brockville Campus. The theme this year is “As You Like It” and is a superb opportunity for any alumni artist to showcase their work. Watch for the call for submissions in August! 🏹

– submitted by Guy Wales



The current executive members of the Association are:

President, Kathy Lawton
1977-2006 Teacher and Counsellor,
Brockville and Kingston

Vice-President, Al Parkin
1974-2008 Professor of English,
Business, and International Programs,
Kingston (and abroad)

Past President, Bill Kirby
1975-2005 Behavioural Science
Professor, Kingston

Secretary, Anne Breault
1980-2010 Support, Basic & General
Studies, Business, Athletics & Student
Life, Student Services, Kingston

Treasurer/Membership, Clare Rayner
1973-1998 Professor of
Nursing, Kingston

Social Convenor (K), Dick Tindal
1969-1998 Professor of
Government, Kingston

Retirees @ SLC: Reminiscences

THIS IS the first entry in what we hope will be a continuing column from the St. Lawrence College Retirees Association.

Who Are We? Association members are former administration, support staff, and faculty of St. Lawrence College. We represent all three campuses although our members are predominantly from Kingston. While most of us still live near one of the College campuses, some of our members have moved much further away – to other parts of Ontario, the Maritimes, and even California. For more information on our Association, please visit our website at <http://home.sl.on.ca/SLCRetirees>.

Why This Column? We see the *Voyageur* as an excellent vehicle for communicating with some of our members (who are already Alumni, or who have joined as Associate Alumni) and – more importantly – with former students. We hope you will find it interesting to hear about staff that you knew during your St. Lawrence years. We may tell you about some of the adventures and achievements of our members during their “retirement” years, and we invite you to contact us (at the email address below) if there are College staff from your time at St. Lawrence that you would like to hear about. Depending on your response, we may have a recurring section on “Where Are They Now?” or “Whatever Became of?” We are also thinking of a recurring section on “What I Most Recall” (from my time at St. Lawrence), if you will share some of your memories – fond ones, we hope.

We look forward to hearing from you. Your responses will help to determine if this new column becomes an ongoing feature. Please contact Dick Tindal (tcl.kingston@gmail.com). 🏹

CYW Alumni Chapter: Learning never stops.

FOR CHILD & YOUTH Worker professionals, the learning never stops. And thanks to the great conferences put on by students and faculty at SLC this spring, many CYW alumni were able to return to their old school to gain new perspectives.

CYW alumni were out in full force at the annual CYW Conference in March. With a theme of Mental Health, the day included many enlightening discussions of new approaches and techniques to help us in our work. One of our chapter's founding members – Jillian Manning – lead a session that gave students and attendees a glimpse of "a day in the

life" of an addictions counsellor.

Thanks to the following CYW grads for attending: Louanne Moore (1978), Patti Reed (1997), Grant O'Rourke (2010), Jeff Mckerrecher (2009), Matt Griffiths (2004), Kristie Timmins (2006), Ines Lincho (2006) and Teresa Drummond (2009).

Many grads also took in the Building Behavioural Solutions conference this spring as well. This annual conference is organized by the BST and BPsyc students. Thanks to the following CYW grads for attending: Class of 2011 grads Ashley Garrison and Mackenzie Macdonald and another of our chapter's founding members, Laurie Gray (1998).

The Chapter has also launched a LinkedIn sub-group under the umbrella of the larger Alumni Group

on LinkedIn. Join us there and get up-to-date info on upcoming Professional Development opportunities, or simply network with your fellow grads.

And speaking of networking, it's in the very early planning stages, but we're looking for CYW grads who would be interested in volunteering for a panel discussion on CYW career paths for next year's third year students. Contact me at cywalumni@gmail.com if you might be interested in sharing your story. More details will be posted on the LinkedIn Group as we get closer.

Finally, if you have an idea for an event for CYW grads – social, professional or other – contact us... we're always open to new ideas and volunteers. 🍷

– submitted by Lee Anne Campbell



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- Resumé and cover letter writing
- Job board

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785 Midpark Dr., Ste. 200 Kingston, ON K7M 7G3 613-545-3949	Sharbot Lake 1099 Garrett Street Sharbot Lake, ON K0H 2P0 613-545-3949	

Alumni Echoes

1975

Lynn Heard

Secretary – Medical – C

"I have been employed at the Cornwall Community Hospital, formally Hotel Dieu Hospital, since graduation in the Radiology Department. My schooling allowed me to experience a varied range of diagnostic specialties such as General Radiology, CAT Scanning, Mammography, Ultrasounds and much more. In June 2011 I retired after 37 years. I have seen many changes through the years and am thankful to hang up my badge."

1984

Suzanne Brown-Stevenson

Business Administration – Finance – K

"I am excited to be a part of such a great organization. I have used the services and lifelong learning continuously over the years, very supportive. Proud to say one of my children is an alumni now too and a second one on his way to becoming one!"

Shawna Marshall

Nursing – B

"Attending the nursing program at SLC in Brockville was a wonderful experience but now coming back as an alumna to teach part time is amazing! I never thought I would say, "It's great to be back!"

1985

James St. John

Civil Engineering Technology – K

"SLC was a great place back in the 80's. I accepted a job before graduation and worked in construction until 2001."

1988

Bryon Wilfert

Municipal Administration – K

The Honourable Bryon Wilfert P.C. has joined DCL Equity Partners Non Executive Board. According to a release from the company, Bryon brings 26 years of experience in elected political office both as an Ontario municipal councilor, and Member of Parliament. In addition he brings expertise and critical relationships that

he developed as past President of both the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Canadian Parks/Recreation Association (CPRA). He was generally regarded as being on the fiscally conservative wing of the Liberal Party having served as parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Finance in 2002-03, and was named parliamentary secretary to the Minister of the Environment after the 2004 election. After the election in 2006, Wilfert was appointed to be official opposition critic of Foreign Affairs (Asia-Pacific). In 2011 he was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, Japan's second highest honor, by Emperor Akihito. He holds a Master of Arts, Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education from the University of Toronto, as well as a diploma in municipal administration – Accredited Municipal/Clerk Treasurer (AMCT) from St. Lawrence College.

1993

Janet Carter

Office Administration – K

"I entered St. Lawrence as a mature student. I had achieved my OSSD in 1991 at the age of 40 and decided to continue my education by attending SLC. I enjoyed my two years there and would like to say to everyone that no matter what age, it is never too late to follow one's dream and continue education."

Ronald Bruyere

Social Service Worker – C

"I owe a great deal of gratitude to the staff and students of SLC for the opportunity to learn and develop a sense of purpose. Through my years at SLC I developed a new sense of freedom and accomplishment that led me to think more positive about myself and others. It is with great pride and self worth that SLC has helped me to develop these insights about myself and the world around me. SLC was the stepping stone to my future and I will always appreciate the dedication of the staff and students that I have known and loved. SLC brought me to new heights of awareness and it will

always have a special place in my heart and in my life."

2001

Nadia Colella

Advertising and Public Relations – K

"My fiancé, Mike Fitzgerald, and I would like to announce the safe arrival of our beautiful daughter, Michaela Hope Marie, born on January 22, 2012. She weighed 8lbs 9oz and was 21.5 in."

2008

Amy Malyon

Business – C

"My time at SLC Cornwall was great. The friends I made and the knowledge I received has had a huge positive impact on where I am today. Thanks SLC!"

2009

Bryan Frith

Child & Youth Worker – B

"I graduated in June 2009 from the CYW program in Brockville. Since September 2009 I have been working as a Child Care Counsellor at a one-of-a-kind residential wilderness program for young offenders in Prince George, British Columbia. The help, support, and welcoming atmosphere of the Brockville Campus was a critical component of my success in my current career. So thank you for all of your support."

2010

Ralph Vanderschuit

Computer Networking and Technical Support – K

"I had a great experience at SLC. I made many new friends and learned a lot"

2011

Jennifer Baker

Business Administration – Accounting – C

"St. Lawrence College provides you with an above average education. In my program especially, the teachers provided a challenging experience – for the mind that is. They were very effective in getting the most out of the students. I would like to thank all my Busi-

Alumni Echoes

ness teachers who created an atmosphere in which I could develop my learned skills, from them, and be a productive member of the workforce. It was not an easy choice for me to quit my job and go back to school, but the end result was definitely worth it. I now have a career and not a job. I did dream it and now I am living it. From the bottom of my heart, thank you St. Lawrence College."

The golden touch

CHLOE MCCAULEY is one golden girl. The Esthetician student – now an alumna – brought home the gold medal as the national champ in her category at the National Skills Competition, held in Edmonton May 14 and 15. McCauley had a job offer on the spot from Dermalogica – the world's largest professional skin care company. *Photo: Bernard Clark*



A Special Thanks to our Alumni Volunteers/Speakers

RARELY A DAY GOES BY WHEN SLC ALUMNI ARE NOT ON CAMPUS AND SHARING THEIR EXPERTISE AND TIME WITH THE STUDENTS WHO FOLLOWED THEM. ON BEHALF OF OUR STUDENTS, THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT DURING THE 2011/12 ACADEMIC YEAR:

Advertising – K

Allison Townsend – 2010
Guilherme Bermejo – 2011
Lesley Campbell – 2011
Melissa Kutz – 2011

Advertising – Integrated Marketing Communications – K

Laura Hunt – 2002
Chantal Borst – 2003
Stephanie Quick – 2006
Deborah Bennett – 2011
Ricardo Giuliani – 2011
Sergei Michailov – 2011
Jessica Scott – 2011
Allison Chisholm – 2010
Holly Swaga – 2010
Rodrigo Melo – 2011
Jessika Pilon – 2011
Rachael Thorne – 2011

Behavioural Psych – K

Emma-Jane Ethridge – 2008
Lindsey Noonan – 2008
Tamara Ciccirella – 2010
Dawn Godfrey – 2011
Elizabeth Parkinson – 2012 (also
Personal Support Worker 2004 – B)

Behavioural Science Technology – K

Gordon Boyd – 1976
William Shoniker – 1979
Gerald Bernicky – 1988
Joan Boyd – 1999

Pamela Kloosterman – 2009

Cassandra Murphy – 2010

Business – Marketing – C

Diane Owen – 1984

Bachelor of Business Admin – K

James Robeson – 2009

Business Admin – Human Resources – K

Amanda Hulton – 2002
Thomas Hoppe – 2003
Leanne Deodato – 2006
Adele Anderson – 2008
Michael Vieira 2002

Business Admin – Marketing – K

Thomas Thorne – 1983
Megan Brown – 2008
Heather Caird – 2008
Ryan Kuhn – 2008
Kyle Moore – 2008
Kriss Smith – 2008
Ryan Brand – 2009
Joshua Gunn – 2009
Hollie Peterson – 2009
Alex Bodzasy – 2010
Joshua Dafoe – 2011

Child & Youth Worker – K

Andrew Leggett – 1984
Tanya Heyman – 1991
Sheryl Rathwell – 1995
Brian Wilcock – 1998

Jason Beaubiah – 2003

Child & Youth Worker – B

Kate McRae – 2006 (also Autism &
Behavioural Science 2011)

Civil Engineering Technology – K

Mark Kent – 2004
Al Takala – 2005

Correctional Worker – K

Peter Cory – 2000
Christopher Myers – 1991 (also
Addictions Treatment & Prevention
Worker, 1995)

Early Childhood Education – K

Melissa Waddell – 1999
Kimberley O'Brien – 2004 (also Autism
& Behavioural Science 2003)
Kelsey McNeil – 2011

Early Childhood Education – C

Candice Bilmer – 2004

Early Childhood Education – B

Cheryl St. John – 2007

Energy Systems Engineering Technology – K

Joseph Hendry – 2008

Office Administration – Legal – K

Christine McCallum – 2010

Alumni Echoes

Police Foundations – K

Kelly Fawcett – 2001
John Bongers – 2006
Jeff Bryant – 2006
Ronald Carquez – 2006
Sherrie Edmunds – 2008
Anthony Colangeli – 2009
Patrick Gillespie – 2010
Greg Bylow – 2011
Gabriele Cianciosi – 2011
Micheal Crafter – 2011
Richard Fawcett – 2011
Cassidy Finn – 2011
Marc Laporte – 2011
Shane Peters – 2008, (also Electrician – Construction & Maintenance 2010)

Secretarial Arts – Legal – K

Patience McLeod – 1978 (also Office Management, 1987, Human Resources, 1999 – K)

Social Service Worker – C

Alanna Wall – 2000
Jason Menard – 2006
Christinah Kutama – 2007
Mikhail Honarvar – 2008
Hope Lalonde – 2008
Carolynne Oakes – 2008

Celine Bussiere – 2010
David James – 2010
Ken MacLeod – 2011
Jeffrey Menard – 2011
Kim Wall – 2011
Diane Owen – 2011 (also Office Administration 1992)

Social Service Worker – K

Kim Cox – 2005
Lisa Timms – 2006
Ashley O'Brien – 2008
Sonia Bell – 2009
Michelle Paul – 2009
Justin McCourt – 2010
Nicole Cornell – 2011
Robert Rogers – 2011
Rachael Thorne – 2010, (also Autism & Behavioural Science 2011)

Teacher of Adults – K

Norman Hart – 2005

Veterinary Assistant – K

Shevaun Dawe – 2005
René Baker – 2006

Veterinary Technology

Kimberly Laverty – 2008 – K

SLC Foundation Director Frank Lockington (APR 1983), second from right, was surprised by former Foundation board members (left to right) David Beatty, Peter Kingston and Jim Brown, who joined him at the annual conference of the Canadian Council for Advancement in Education, where he received the Outstanding Achievement Award for his contributions to educational advancement. David, Peter and Jim had nominated Frank for the award.



Gaming Grads

(cont'd from p 11)

providing a more in-depth look at different programming aspects.

"It's very similar to the gaming industry structure," said Myers. "They broke it down into teams (with) team leads and had different groups working on different aspects of the project. That, I believe was what helped me get my job, because it's the same thing on a larger scale."

Many companies want to see that potential employees display a passion for the gaming industry through several months of experience, be it work-oriented or volunteer-based.

"Volunteer experience showed that you'd have the enthusiasm for programming to go for that outside of school," said Carruthers.

"They want to make sure you have interest so they don't waste time and money training people who later find out they're not interested in the field," said Myers.

Team-building exercises practiced during classes are only one of the many transferable skills carried over to the workforce.

"I'm really enjoying web development, it's a lot of graphical design, but at the same time you have to program how you want those graphics to interact with the user," said Morrow, comparing the graphical interface and programming of a site's slideshow to manipulating the movements of a game character.

Overall, graduates have impressed their peers with their knowledge of scripting languages and performance, owing much of their success to the college.

"To this day, I keep in touch with my professors, any events that they have to show off different aspects of the course, or any questions from potential students, I'm there," said Myers. "I definitely believe I got my money's worth." ❧

Passings

CHELSEA LYNN TOBIN

BScN – 2010 – Precious child of Fred and Wendy (Foran) Tobin, passed away peacefully in her sleep, at home in Kingston, Saturday May 19, 2012. Cherished best friend and big sister to Courtney and loving fiancée to Kyle Cochrane. Chelsea was born July 18, 1988, in Halifax and was proud of her Atlantic heritage. She graduated with great distinction (2012) from the Masters of Science in Teaching program at SUNY Potsdam. Chelsea was an avid practitioner of martial arts, with black belts in karate and kobudo, She had twice travelled to Japan to represent Canada in martial arts events and instructed numerous children and adults in the Kingston area. Chelsea was a graduate of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School (2006) and received her Bachelor of Applied Arts in Behavioural Psychology from St. Lawrence College (2010). She had recently completed her practice teaching at Bayridge, Cataraqui Woods and Truedell Public Schools, and was eagerly anticipating pursuing her chosen career in education. Chelsea possessed a kind and gentle spirit and a wonderful sense of humour which endeared her to family, friends and acquaintances. She derived immense joy from life's small pleasures such as quirky T-shirts, pets, reading, video games and fuzzy socks. As expressions of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Epilepsy and Seizure Disorder Resource Centre of Southeastern Ontario, in Chelsea's memory.

RUBY ANITA (NEE HEWETT) SHIRTLIFF

Faculty – Peacefully on Tuesday, May 29th, 2012 with her family at the age of 91. Predeceased by her beloved husband Thomas Edward (Ed); predeceased by brother John; survived by brother Robert. Wonderful mother to Ann Sorensen-Nicholson (Greg), Brenda Belanger (Phil). Devoted grandmother to Jason, Jennifer (Hal) and Ryan. Great-grandmother to Shaw and Ellice. Ruby had a wonderful teaching career with St. Lawrence College – teaching was her passion. She has chosen to donate

her body to the Department of Anatomy at Queen's University, foregoing a funeral.

GUY ROBERT BEAUBIEN

Correctional Worker 2002 – After a brief battle with cancer, Guy, age 50, passed away at Brockville General Hospital (Palliative Care Unit) on Wednesday, February 15, 2012. Loving husband of Linda (nee Pratt) for 27 years. Beloved stepfather of Sara and Kirsten Doyle. Son of the late Robert Beaubien. Survived by his mother, Theresa Killen (Bill), sisters Laurie (Pat), Sheree (Robert), Debbie (Alan), and brother Rob (Robyn). Guy spent all his life in the Gananoque area. He graduated from St. Lawrence College and recently started a new career as a Correctional Officer at Joyceville Penitentiary. As per Guy's wishes there was no wake and no funeral service. A celebration of his life was held at the Glen House Resort on Saturday, February 25. As expressions of sympathy, donations can be made to the Brockville Palliative Care Unit Garden Street Site.

MARIE HELEN POLLITT

Faculty – After a lengthy illness, Marie passed on peacefully at Fairmount Home on Friday, January 27, 2012. Beloved wife of 61 years to Bob Pollitt. Loving mother of Rob Pollitt (Catherine) and Jackie St. Pierre, both of Kingston. Marie started her career in photography in Kingston – and worked with Wallace Berry Studios for more than 20 years, joining St. Lawrence College in 1979 – teaching photography in the Fine Arts Program to fashion, arts and business students, for more than 15 years. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations made to the Princess of Wales' Own Regiment Foundation or your charity of choice, would be appreciated by the family.

PAMELA JUNE BRUNETTE (ORR)

Registered Nurse – 2006 – RN- St. Lawrence College – June 21, 1955 – February 6, 2012 – IN THE BEGINNING – There were no records of earthquakes, falling stars, or Northern lights on June 21, 1955, but that was the day I was delivered to Patricia

and Leslie Orr at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston, Ontario. I've lived a good life. I met the love of my life Denis (Brunette) at a young age and we produced two beautiful children. I've forged unbreakable friendships namely Barb and Julie and discovered my natural ability to care for others. Thus, I put myself through college as a mature student and became a registered nurse. I am the quintessence of a mother, putting family first in my life always. I am survived by loving family members – mother Patricia Orr, father Les Orr (Ruby White), Sisters Sandra Orr, Kathy Jessup (Gregory), Michelle Orr, brother Derrick Orr (Jennifer Eves), husband of 35 years Denis, children Tiffany and Tyler, lifelong family friends Barb Chesney and Julie Young. I will also miss my many nieces and nephews and 2 great nephews I love you all and will wait patiently for our reunion. IN THE END – Thank you to all who cared for me; family, friends, the kind and caring staff of Kingston General Hospital, Davies 5, the Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario, Dr. Jeffrey and Jan Giroux for their guidance and compassion through my battle with cancer. Donations can be made to the UHKF Cancer Centre of Southeastern of Ontario or to the Fragile X Foundation of Canada (www.fragilexcanada.ca)

Passings are gathered from area newspapers and the submissions of friends and family. ☞

Wedding Daze

Brooke Miller is at the centre of everyone's Big Day with her business, Runway Bridal in Beileville.

Congratulations on your new business! Did you always know you'd like to be an entrepreneur?

Thank you! I haven't always thought as myself as an entrepreneur, I can remember while I was in college thinking I was going to be wearing a suit and going to work in a high-rise, corporate office in Toronto, but I am very happy where I am now. After working for a couple of small local companies, I learned a lot about the aspects of a small business or a family run business and then my wheels began to turn. When the opportunity to purchase a small business that caters to a niche market came about, I decided I was ready to take the next step to becoming an entrepreneur. It is a big step, but it is a lot of fun, and you learn so much running all aspects of the business.

The wedding business is really more than a business – you're an important part of your client's life for that special day. What's your strategy for keeping your cool in the sometimes chaotic world of weddings?

Each bride is different, some are very excited and outspoken, and some are very quiet and calm. You have to get an understanding of each customer when they come by asking a few simple questions.

What advice have you received that has stuck with you the most, and who gave it to you?


Now that I am in business for myself, and in the retail world, I would have to say that Bill Crowe sticks in my mind! He always used to say "We are in the people business, and by the way we sell goods and services". This definitely applies to my new life and some-

times I need to remind myself that wedding gown shopping is a major experience and these women want to be comfortable and enjoy their time in my shop, no matter what my day has been like.

What subject do you wish you paid more attention to when you were in College?

I would have to say I should have paid more attention, or taken more accounting/bookkeeping related classes. But I am learning quickly and it is good to be challenged every day.

What's the best 'insider tip' you can give a soon-to-be bride or groom?

Go with what you want! Sometimes girls bring in their entourage of family and friends and don't get the reaction they hope for. If you are wearing the dress, you decide if it is the right dress for you! 

Good stuff

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