

Alma College International Alumnae Association

Newsletter 2017

116th Annual Reunion

Message from the President

Donna Robertson (62-66)

Dear Alumnae,

Here we are in 2017, and the 116th year of an annual reunion!! It is an impressive show of determination and loyalty. Of course the fun, joy and friendships make it all worthwhile. Even so we need the 70s and 80s girls to get involved with the organization so that we can carry on for years to come.

The reunion format is not written in stone, bring your thoughts, ideas and energy, we can evolve into whatever works. We continue to make efforts to attract the 70s & 80s girls in greater numbers ... step up, let's make it work!! Talk to your Alma friends, lets do it together!!!

The 2016 Annual Reunion

was wonderful. The new owner of the Alma property spoke about the plans for the property. Although the property is mostly cleaned up, the future plans for it are rather vague. A retirement residence has been mentioned as well as a facility to host events like weddings etc. We will have to wait and see.

Donations: Last year our past president, Lisa Johnson celebrated her 50th birthday. She asked that her friends and family make a donation to the Alma Alumnae in lieu of gifts for her. Many did that and Lisa gave the Alumnae a total of \$1,500.00!! What a great idea, thank you Lisa. Happy belated Birthday.

All donations are greatly appreciated. We hope to build up the Scholarship Fund so that it will continue for many more years.

Purse Party 2017: Last June we asked that everyone bring a used purse or two, filled with useful items for a homeless woman. More than 50 purses were donated and they were delivered to two grateful local shelters. Items included were soap, toothpaste/brush, deodorant, Tampax, pens, notepad, socks, a few dollars, Tim's gift card, etc. If you don't have a purse, you can find one at Goodwill or fill a Ziploc or gift bag. It felt good to contribute, lets do this again and improve on last year's number.



Alma Reunion June 2016

1960s Get Together:

We are hoping to get the 60s girls together again this year on the weekend of September 29th in Mississauga. See back page for details. Our last get together was September 2013 in Toronto. You can respond to the invitation on Facebook on the Alma College page.

Your response is required by June 15th at latest. Any questions? Contact Barb O'Brien or myself. Our contact info is in the newsletter under the list of Executive. Hope you will join us!

Please join us on Facebook at 'Alma College'

Toujours en Avant!
Donna Robertson

Alma College Alumnae Scholarship

Your Generosity Shines

2016 Recipient of \$500

The 2016 recipient of the Alma College Alumnae Scholarship was Hailey Goddeeris, a graduating student from Central Elgin Collegiate Institute. Barb McCallum presented Hailey with her scholarship on Thursday, October 6, 2016.



2017 to be awarded

A graduating student from St. Joseph's Catholic High School will receive the next Alma College Alumnae Scholarship. The award ceremonies take place on Thursday,

June 29, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Your generosity shines. Thank you for your continued generosity through your donations to the scholarship fund. We have had great success fundraising at the annual reunions. Please consider sending in a donation with your registration form or participate in the fundraising (silent auction & 50/50 draw) planned for the upcoming reunion.

The high schools in St. Thomas wait in anticipation to be next in line for the scholarship award that benefits the young women in St. Thomas.

See you June.

For more information, contact: Patricia (Duncan) Meathrell (64-69) at meathrellpn@yahoo.com

Association Contact Information

Help us keep the Alumnae database up to date. Please send update to Joni (Page) Pypka (54-55) at pagegirl@rogers.com or call Joni at 519-681-6900.

Please include your first name, maiden name, surname, current mailing address, phone number, and email information. And remember to include your years at Alma College.

Accounting for 50
= \$500 x 3 years

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In 2016, Chartered Professional Accountant and alumna, Lisa Johnson (85-86) turned 50 and she wanted to do something special to mark the occasion.

Lisa hosted a backyard party and asked her family and friends that instead of golf balls, gift cards and trinkets, she would love if they donated money towards the Alma College Scholarship Fund.

In October 2016, Treasurer Sandra (Irvine) Pearson received a cheque from Lisa in the amount of \$1,500. Every year, the Alumnae Association awards \$500 to a young woman graduating from grade 12 at one of the four high schools in St. Thomas. This generous donation will fund three future scholarships.

"I had hoped to receive enough gifts to total one scholarship of \$500. Imagine my excitement as I kept opening my birthday cards and counting the money."
Quote from Lisa Johnson

Alumnae Wall of Fame

Donors of 2016

Ileana (Sudrez) Berthoty
Norma (Marcano) Betancourt
Maria (Caetano) Bonga
Margaret (Congdon) Brown
Judy (Harvey) Burgess
Suzanne (Hood) Campbell
Helen (Wall) Capson
June (Anger) Cooper
Nancy (Mitson) Dickson
Jean (McKellar) Dollar
Mary (Keith) Finkbeiner
Billie (Gough) Grainger
Adair (Kendall) Hanna
Barb (Johnston) Hansen
Judith (Neale) Holtzhauer
Laurie (Shmalz) Hugill
Sharon (McKay) Kirby
Anne (Wasylyk) Koivu
Bernice (Daugherty) Kristoferson
Susan (McClatchie) Mackenzie
Myfanwy Matthews
Barb (Corkill) McCallum
Mary Beth McDonald
Doris (Johnston) McKinley
Dorothy (Woodman) McPherson
Beverley (Bell) Mustard
Laurie (Stewart) Pallett
Suzanne Parkinson
Sandra (Harrington) Peterson
Lesley (Dodwell) Pierce
Patricia (Elliott) Ruhl
Joyce (Murison) Skelding
Ann-Louise Stevens
Jean Verity
Margaret (Webb) Warriner
Diane (McCrary) Wastle
Frances (Miller) Wiseman



Reunion June 2017

Weekend of June 9-11

Friday June 9, 2017

- 4:00 pm Check in at Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London
- 4-6:30 pm Meet in the hospitality suite. Ask the front desk for the room number of the hospitality suite.
- 6:30 pm Group will dine together in the hotel restaurant, Shelly's Tap & Grill (pay as you go).

Saturday June 10, 2017

- 9:00 am Registration & Light Breakfast at Best Western Lamplighter Inn, Chelsea Room
- 10:00 am Annual General Meeting
- 11:00 am Reunion Photos
- 11:45 am Buffet Luncheon – Chelsea Room
Entertainment to follow lunch
- 3:00 pm Social Time: Visit with alumnae in the hospitality suite, shopping at the mall nearby, swimming, hot tub, giggling, general carousing or drive to St. Thomas
- 6:00 pm Dinner at the Mandarin (pay as you go)

Sunday June 11, 2017

- 9:00 am Breakfast at Shelly's Tap & Grill located at Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London (pay as you go)

Accommodations

Best Western Lamplighter Inn
591 Wellington Road,
London, ON

519-681-7151

or 1-888-232-6747

<http://www.lamplighterinn.ca>

Room Rates

Standard Rooms double occupancy is **\$139** plus taxes. A block of rooms is reserved under "Alma College".

Prices in effect until
May 26th, 2017.

We recommend you
book early!

Reunion Fee - \$50

(Includes light breakfast and hot buffet luncheon)

If you are arriving in London by plane, bus, or train, please indicate this on your registration form and we can arrange to meet you.



Alma College Alumnae – In Memoriam

NAME of ALUMNA	RESIDENT CITY	ALMA YEARS	DATE OF DEATH
Donna (Durham) BARTON	Fonthill, ON	1954-56	March 17, 2017
Ann 'Rooney' (Taylor) Graham CALDERISI	Victoria, BC	1961-62	October 7, 2016
Mildred Jean (Knowlton) CHANT	St. Thomas, ON	Unknown	October 2, 2016
Lynda (Knight) CURTIS	North Carolina, USA	1965-68	August 6, 2016
Ruth (Weinstein) FINK	London, ON	1938-40	2013
Mary Louise FRITZ	Toronto, ON	1954-55	August 1, 2016
Mary (Adams) KILBORN	Simcoe, ON	1965-66	February 2, 2017
Patty (Coutts) KIRBY	Burlington, ON	1967-70	January 5, 2017
Allyson (Fawcett) McEACHRAN	Durham, ON	1965-67	April 18, 2016
Anne (Perigoe) MILLER	Cavan, ON	1961-62	Unknown
Camille (Orell) NORTON	St. Thomas, ON	1944-45	August 11, 2016
Margaret OKE		1930s	1996
Joanne POLLOCK	Sarnia, ON	1964-65	March 2, 2017
Donna (Decker) SPENCER	London, ON	1935-36	July 4, 2016
Eleanor (Mitton) STANLEY-PAUL	Toronto, ON	1947-48	October 15, 2016
Ann (Seigel) STEINBERG	Detroit, MI.	1938-39	8-9 years ago
Velma (Williams) STOVER	St. Thomas, ON	1944-45	October 28, 2016
Beth M. (Tufford) VINCE	Toronto, ON	1940s	February, 2017
Mary Lyn (Blackwell) WEIR	Winnipeg, MB	1965-67	Unknown

NEWS from St. Thomas Branch

On April 5th, 2016, St. Thomas had its first meeting of the year at the Wayside Inn. We also held our first election in many years.

Pat Meathrell and Sine Herold are Co-Presidents and Jane Ann Tasker and Barb McCallum are staying on as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. We all gave a great vote of thanks to Joyce Skelding for the many years she has been our President. Thank you, Joyce, for your leadership.

On September 12th, 2016, sixteen members enjoyed a wonderful potluck at the home of Jane Ann Tasker. Good friends and good food always make for a great time.

On November 7th, 18 ladies enjoyed a lovely lunch at Pinecroft.

In December, poinsettias were delivered to our shut in members. Also in December, we were invited to join London Branch for their Christmas Party, at the home of Jean Dollar. Thank you for the get together and for the Christmas spirit!

We will be meeting again in March, and then, we will see everyone at the Reunion!

Toujours en avant,

*Co-Presidents,
St. Thomas Branch*

Pat (Duncan) Meathrell (64-69)

Sine (Loudon) Herold (60-65)

Barb McCallum, Secretary.

NEWS from London Branch

Greetings to all from the London Branch of the Alma College Alumnae.

There was a planning meeting at my place early in November 2016. We had a visit later in November at Henley Place, a long term care facility here in London where Alma girl Jill Hollands (58-59) lives.

A Christmas event was held in December at the lovely home of Jean McKellar Dollar (43-50). We feasted on a large selection of appetizers. The St Thomas Branch was invited as usual. It was a grand party

Everyone brought a purse or two containing personal items for My Sisters Place and The Unity Project – homeless shelters. We certainly

got into the Christmas Spirit!

Our next get together will be in March at Congi Chan restaurant in London and another in April at the Green Frog Tea Room / Pinecroft in Aylmer.

We are always looking for Alma girls in the London area to join us!!

Hope to see you all at the June 2017 Reunion here in London.

Best Regards,
President, London Branch
Myfanwy Matthews

Are you a 60s Alma Girl?

A get together for 60s Alma Girls, organized by Barb Christie O'Brien and Donna Robertson. 50s Girls are welcome to join us when they find an organizer for their group. We will be at the Novotel Toronto Mississauga Centre from September 29th to October 1st, 2017.

FRIDAY 29th: We will have dinner together in the Hotel. Before and after dinner the hospitality suite will be available for libation, visiting and snacks.

SATURDAY 30th: Hospitality room is available, SQUARE ONE is just across the street, shop, shop. Dinner will be together, location TBC. More hospitality fun Saturday night.

SUNDAY 1st: Breakfast in hotel.
MEALS: At your expense

ROOMS: \$125 for double
www.novotel.com
To book 1-905-896-1000



Reunion at the Old Mill, Toronto Apr 2016

REGISTRATION: mail or email
\$25 registration fee to Donna @
donnaro@rogers.com

Cheques made out to Donna
25-1786 Attawandaron Rd,
London ON N6G 3N1
519-471-0855

Barb O'Brien email is
kjobrien@sympatico.ca
519-663-9979

This fee will help to pay for cost of hospitality suite itself and for drinks, snacks etc.

CUT OFF: We need your registration fees by June 15th. If we don't have at least 25 - 30 attendee fees by that date, we will cancel the event and return your money.

Not everyone is on Facebook, please let your Alma friends know about this event!!! We are really looking forward to hosting this party. It will be great fun. The last 60s event was 2013 and the first was 2011. So, please plan to attend.

Looking for old friends? Let us know, we may be able to help. See you soon.



60s Gathering at Sauble Beach Sept 2016