10th Newsletter

March 23, 2014,

Dear Fellow Classmates ( and teachers ),

We are now only 40 sleeps away from the Reunion. Excitement is mounting as we finalize the preparations and continue to find more classmates and teachers and receive more bios, with more promised.

**CONFIRMATION FORMS**

Although a lot of you have sent in your confirmation forms, still many who had indicated they are coming have not yet done so. We need them for a variety of planning purposes so please send them to me now, even before the April 11th deadline (though I know some of you will be late with this homework just like you were back in high school). Also please try to use the form rather than just write a letter as there are many questions asked and the letters just don’t answer all the questions. Here again is the form, which you can fill out in a reply email to me.

NTCI CLASS OF 1968 REUNION MAY 2ND AND 3RD CONFIRMATION FORM

NAME

MAIDEN NAME

HOME ADDRESS

HOW MANY COMING TO MEMORY MINGLE

HOW MANY COMING TO MAYTIME MELODIES

HOW MANY COMING TO BILL HUMBER HOUSE PARTY

HOW MANY COMING TO DOUG GAMMAGE HOUSE PARTY

HOW MANY GOING TO SATURDAY NIGHT RESTURANT

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER TO SET UP FOR MEMORY MINGLE

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER TO CLEAN UP AFTER MEMORY MINGLE

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER TO WORK AT RECEPTION DESK OF MEMORY MINGLE

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER TO SELL 50/50 TICKETS

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER TO TAKE PICTURES

WILL YOU VOLUNTEER TO TAKE VIDEO

**MAYTIME MELODY TICKETS**

A reminder that if you are going to Maytime Melodies, you must buy your own tickets directly from the school. This can be done by mail (and your tickets will be waiting at the box office for you). The tickets are $10 each and cheques should be made payable to “North Toronto Collegiate Institute “ not the teacher nor the music department. They should be sent right away to

Deborah Pady

c/o Music Department

 North Toronto CI

17 Broadway Avenue

Toronto, ON  M4P 1T7

A block of good seats is being held for us until April 17th, thereafter you can still buy if tickets are available but you might not be sitting with our group. Please remember to wear your NTCI 5 year music pin if you received one and still have it , as I do. It did not matter I was a lousy 3rd clarinet player, they had to give me one.

**2/3, 1/3 DRAW (formerly known as the 50/50 draw)**

As it was decided not to charge for any event and we do have some expenses we are hoping to raise enough money from a voluntary lottery to pay for everything. It was recently decided to be safe, instead of 50/50 , we would have the winner get 1/3 so to ensure that the expenses are being at least close to being covered. Tickets are $5 for 1, $10 for 3 and $20 for 7. Any money left over will be donated to the school. You can buy them beforehand by sending me a cheque to my office at 2039 Robertson Road, Suite 300, Ottawa ON K2H 8R2 or by sending me an e mail money transfer (which should be easier for both of us) to [pascoe5122@rogers.com](mailto:pascoe5122@rogers.com). If you do the money transfer remember to send me the password.

For those of you who are not able to attend the reunion, besides having your bio you might want to participate in the reunion by buying some lottery tickets We will acknowledge you when the draw is made. And remember they make excellent birthday, anniversary, Christmas, or Chanukah gifts.

The draw will be made at the Saturday night restaurant outing. You do not have to be present to win.

**FOOD FOR MEMORY MINGLE**

For Friday night Memory Mingle we are ordering a light dinner. To reduce costs we are asking in town people to make something. What we need is finger food (veggies & dip, fruit, cheese & crackers) as well as baked goods.  Food should come ready to serve and not need utensils.  Leftovers will be transported to house parties. What to make should be coordinated with Carolyn , Ruth and Janet so I suggest you contact Carolyn ([kennedy7704@rogers.com](mailto:kennedy7704@rogers.com)) with what you intend to make or just that you are willing to make something .

**SATURDAY MORNING WALK**

For those of you who are not too hung over from partying Friday night, Doug Campbell, who does this for Heritage Toronto, has volunteered to lead a walk starting at 10:30 am Saturday morning starting at the south west corner of Eglinton Park and finishing at Young and Montgomery.

Find out what the park was prior to 1922, see the oldest house in North Toronto, see where John Montgomery of Montgomery's Tavern, lived, what Castlefield Av. was named for, & other historical facts.

**FINDING CLASSMATES**

You will note from the enclosed up to date database that there are a number of classmates’ e-mail addresses listed for the first time . That is because I just recently went though all of the names individually or whom we have no address for and tried to find them on Facebook , LinkedIn and Canada 411. That resulted in some more findings and some of those classmates gave me e-mail addresses that I could not find. Yes I got a lot of wrong numbers phoning similar names using Canada 411, but in one case I reached someone’s father and in another a brother who were able to give me the classmates numbers. For very common names I don’t have the time to phone everyone listed. In some cases I found people on Facebook and sent them a Facebook e -mail but they have not checked their Facebook e-mail or don’t recognize my request to be a friend. You can help by picking some friends you really want to see and calling everyone with that name using Canada 411 and trying inviting them to be a friend and sending a message on Facebook if they are listed ( you can filter on Facebook by seeing if they said they went to NTCI which some have done ). Contact possible siblings to find people especially women who may have taken their husband’s last name. You don’t want it on your conscience that you did not look for your best friends. I promise after May 2nd no more harassing from me to find people.

**HOMEWORK ASSIGNMEMT**

1. Send back confirmation form if you have not done so.
2. Send in bio if you have not done so.
3. Order Maytime Melody tickets if you are going to the show and have not done so.
4. Contact Ruth Rosen Levkoe ([ruthleahlevkoe@yahoo.ca](mailto:ruthleahlevkoe@yahoo.ca)) with jpeg photos from our years.
5. Contact Carolyn Born Kennedy ([kennedy7704@rogers.com](mailto:kennedy7704@rogers.com)) about bringing food to Memory Mingle.
6. Buy 2/3,1/3 Lottery tickets from me ( [pascoe5122@rogers.com](mailto:pascoe5122@rogers.com))
7. FIND SOMEONE WE HAVE NOT FOUND YET
8. Contact friends on database who have not replied yet with their confirmation form or bio and ask them to do so.
9. Make Hotel Reservations the Best Western Roehampton if needed . They are holding some rooms until April 5th at our group rate,. Call 416-487-5101 and tell them it is for the Class of 1968 NTCI Reunion.
10. Visit Reunion Blog <http://ntci68.blogspot.co.uk/?zx=bbbb5ceb75851e64>

**BIOS**

Here are some more interesting bios from classmates. I am looking forward to receiving the remaining ones. Please send them before April 17th as there likely will be only one final newsletter. Don’t you want your classmates to have time to read and study your bio before the Reunion ?

**Doug Campbell**

My family moved to Don Mills at the end of grade 10. I finished high school at DMCI then took business at Ryerson. I spent some time at Revenue Canada before switching to legal publishing (De Boo, Carswell, CLB). I finished off my full time working life at Statscan. Along the way I married (she has since passed away) and had 3 children who now seem to be fully functioning adults- Jordan, Adam & Anelise.

Now I work part-time at a Home Hardware store & spend my leisure time going out to listen to roots musicians in places like Graffitti’s, the Cameron, Hugh’s Room, Castro’s & the Cadillac Lounge.

As my bio seems short compared to others let’s relate an adult life encounter I had with “Bruce ” Snell. When my daughter was 11 (1993) she sang in the Toronto Children’s Chorus (ages 10 to 16). At one of their concerts I ran into Bruce . I told him I had attended NT, then asked if he had a granddaughter in the chorus. No, he was here as his daughter from his second marriage was in the chorus.

**Roz Zurkowsky**

After leaving NTCI, much to my parents’ dismay and Miss Vale’s, I chose not to become an English teacher. Instead, I found myself attending the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto. My one act of rebellion. My four years were challenging and interesting. Mary Ann Ward and I continued with our majoretteing at the U of T football games. They certainly were a distraction during my first year of nursing. My fourth year specialization was in Mental Health nursing. I found myself becoming an advocate, basically a pain to my instructresses, as I was constantly focusing on including mental health in all aspects of nursing. With much relief to the faculty and myself, I graduated in 1972. Not much seems to have changed concerning mental health issues as evidenced by Clara Hughes, our great spokesperson for “ Let’s Talk.”

I had a short-lived job at Baycrest. It lasted 3 months. On tendering my resignation, I was offered a Head Nurse position to entice me to stay. Let’s just say, the elderly residents at Baycrest, as much as I loved them, were better off that I left.

Two months later, I began my mental health nursing career, which lasted until 1990. Within 5 years of working in a medical model hierarchy in a hospital, I knew I had to leave nursing. I don’t do well as a doctor’s hand maiden, nor do I do well with simply giving people medication, putting them in 4 point restraints and participating in ECT treatments. I found it necessary to speak to them as people and view them as a whole, not just a label.

In 1977, I applied at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education for their Master’s program. I was accepted into the combined program of Adult Education and Applied Psychology. In 1982 I graduated with a M.Ed. with a specialization in Marriage and Family Therapy. Because I did not have a teaching background I had to take 2 extra courses. I guess I should have listened back in high school, although I have no regrets.

In 1979, I married and 6 months later, we found ourselves pregnant, all while I was taking my Master’s program. We have 2 wonderful sons.

In 1987, I needed to complete my supervised hours to become a Clinical Fellow with the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapists, my governing body.

I did this practicum in Ajax at Family Services where I have continued to work for 26 years as a Family Counsellor.

It seems that I’m known in the Region of Durham as the expert in working with women who were sexually abused as children and women in Domestic Violence situations. I continue to learn from these women on a daily basis and am privileged to be their guide in their journey of healing.

I have also been the Chairperson for the CART (child abuse review team) program at CAS for 15 years. Currently, I spend Mondays at DRIVEN. This is Durham Region’s initiative to help abused women and their children. Both of these programs are extremely rewarding for me.

In my copious spare time, I love to read, sing in the car, see movies and spend time with my beautiful grandbaby Parker, who will be 2 at the end of this month. She is truly a joy and a blessing.

At this point in my life, I can say that I have had a meaningful life and have no regrets.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion. Bless the goddesses for nametags.

**Anne Galbraith (Lowenberg)**

My Dad was transferred to Calgary in 1967. I was the last sibling at home, so I moved with them, with the promise of a bedroom decorated in red and white and a trip to Disneyland. I continued my education here and went on to do two years of business college. Della Street had been my youthful idol and I wanted to be her. It didn't take me long to discover that I didn't want anything to do with criminal law. I soon realized that I enjoyed the prospect of dealing with other people's money and became involved with the banking sector of law. I have been working for the same law firm for 34 years and for many years have been a corporate and banking & finance paralegal, with an emphasis on aviation law (and billable hours). I have been fortunate in that I continue to enjoy my work and have pretty much decided that I'll keep doing it for as long as it's fun. I like the fact that I'm still learning and face new challenges daily.

Being a hopeless romantic, I married an older man at 19. (No, it wasn't a shotgun wedding, just a foolish youthful decision.) Being raised in the Cleaver household, I was a believer in the happily-ever-after syndrome. Once I woke up, I got the hell out of Dodge. (Stupid, young decisions carry an automatic do-over clause, much like the Mulligans I take for many tee-off shots.)

Years later, I married Dave Lowenberg. We have recently celebrated our 35th anniversary. We have two children, a son and a daughter, and three grandchildren. Being a parent is really hard work. It wasn't easing meeting our goal to get them to adulthood with a good education and no criminal record, but we succeeded in both. As a grandparent, my goal is much simpler – have them grow up to feel loved and knowing which fork to use. The hard stuff, I leave to their parents. I haven't been called upon to do a lot of babysitting, because I work a lot more hours than their parents.

Once our kids left home, we sold the house in the Burbs and bought a condo in the beltline of downtown Calgary. Now, instead of commuting by car for three hours a day, I can walk to work in about 20 minutes. I love it! My husband Dave is the technical manager for Canada for Raybestos Brakes. This has meant him leaving town every Monday morning, and flying back in on Friday afternoons, so a lot of the child rearing fell to me. We're a little afraid to retire in case we find out we don't like each other's company. Our life has been a little idealistic, in that we've never had time to argue, just weekends and holiday time together. We have been able to do some travelling and enjoy a weekend retreat in Sundre that we bought several years ago. Once we do retire, we'll probably spend our summers there. It's only about an hour and a half from Calgary.

Life has been good to me. Me and mine all enjoy good health and each other.

I have many good memories of my time at NTCI and look forward to seeing a lot of familiar faces in May, though I doubt that I will really recognize many. Before and after pictures should help.

See you soon.

**Brian Lauder**

I’m sitting here browsing through the most recent NTCI blog and announcement for the class of 1968 reunion in May. I’m reading through the list of names of former classmates, most of whom I have not seen in over 45 years, and some of whom are deceased. Over the years, I have kept in touch, off and on (more “off” than “on”) with a few former classmates like Nadia Koltun, Warner Clarke and Doug Campbell.

In August of 2012, I retired from the Town of Caledon, where I worked as a planner for about 12 years. On one of my first days there, I was scanning the list of staff, and I came across Nadia Koltun’s name. Hadn’t she been in my class at NTCI? Then one day, a couple of weeks later, I encountered her in the stairwell. We both immediately did a double take, recognizing each other. We worked together professionally throughout that time, but also developed a friendship as well. She was able to fill me in on what some of our previous classmates had done.

When I left high school in 1968, I applied to and was accepted at the School of Architecture at the University of Waterloo. I had always wanted to be an architect, and while this was a fledgling school, it was developing a solid reputation. I soon found out that there was much more to architecture than designing pretty buildings. While on a co-op work stint in Zurich, Switzerland, I decided that my abilities were better suited to the pursuit of English Literature, and switched into the English program at Waterloo. There, I obtained my MA in English Literature.

In the middle of my English studies, I decided to take a year and a half off to travel in Europe. Between jobs teaching ESL in Hamburg and Munich, Germany, I travelled throughout Europe and Asia. I lived on the Greek island of Mykonos for several months, and travelled overland through Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan to India, where I lived for 4 ½ months. This was to ignite the flame of travel, which has stayed with me throughout my life.

Following university, I taught English at Humber College for about 3 years. I eventually channeled my love of architecture into a successful renovation business, which began as providing home modifications for persons with disabilities, a business which I owned and operated for over 10 years. In 1988, I married and moved to Rochester, New York, where I remained for about 10 years. During this time, I obtained my Masters of Library Science (MLS) at SUNY at Buffalo. Following my divorce in 1998, I returned to Ontario where my friends and family were.

I re-married in 2000, and my wife, Sharyn and I bought and renovated a house in Guelph, where we now live, at least for part of the year. Right now, it is hard to say where “home” is. We have two lovely grandchildren on the east coast in Nova Scotia and another in Vancouver. I have developed a very special bond with my step-grandchildren. My wife often says that when she brought up her kids to be independent, it was not her intention for them to live at opposite ends of the country!

It was through Sharyn that I developed a love of all things Italian, despite the fact that I don’t have an ounce of Italian blood in me. Over the last 10 years, we have visited Italy at least once almost every year, and in 2008 we started taking groups of students on art history courses to Florence and Tuscany. That has developed into a small business as tour leaders, taking groups of adults on art and wine trips. This May, we will take a group of adults to the stunning Amalfi Coast.

During the 80’s while living in Toronto, I developed an affinity for wine, and began my own collection. Several years ago, I studied as a sommelier, and now try to convey some of that passion to others through wine tastings, classes, and, of course, art and wine trips to Italy. My mostly Italian collection is thriving.

In retrospect, NTCI fostered my love of music, and I still remember Bill Schabas and I singing “Now is the Hour (When we Must Say Goodbye)” in front of our Grade 13 class at the end of the school year. There was hardly a dry eye in the room. I have maintained this love of music throughout my life.

Retirement has given me the opportunity to do those things which I really want to do: cycling, skating, going to the gym, reading, and travelling.

### Mike Fletcher

It was in 1966 that I came to Canada at age 16 and started going to NTCI. My father had been asked by Oxfam of England if he wanted to go to Canada for two years, to help either resuscitate Oxfam of Canada or to close it down. Since I was the problem child, it was decided that I should come out to Canada with my parents and finish my education at North Toronto Collegiate Institute. I wound up taking my grade 12 and 13 in Canada,

Following NTCI which was a great experience for me, my first foray into student politics and acting in Romanoff and Juliet, I went on to York University, at that time a brand new university on the northwest fringes of Toronto, Ontario. I had a great time there, and I often say that I majored in extracurricular activities, I wrote for the student newspaper and was active in student politics on a number of levels. Due to a chance meeting with a fellow journalist, I naively joined the staff of a brand new radio station and watched with amazement as an exceptional group of young people took that campus medium from a standing start to an extremely professional station in less than three years. Besides working as News Director, I was also on air and acted as Chairman of the Board. The complete crew was a group of exceptionally talented individuals with whom it has been my privilege to stay in touch for the last 45 years. So I’m used to reunions after many years!

I was also elected as president of the university student council, so it is perhaps not surprising that at the end of all of these activities and such a wide range of student and business experience I did not see the value of going on and completing my degree, one of the few decisions I made that I now somewhat regret.

I always say that becoming an accountant was one of the biggest jokes I played on myself in my life. But I started into the CGA course almost by accident and completed it just because I was stubborn and wanted a qualification. Accounting is an extremely useful skill set and has taken me to many places. But I have found over the years that in many ways accountants live up to their stereotypes! My latest book out later this year, “Better Approximately Right Than Precisely Wrong” takes on the financial measurement system as well as the accounting profession.

The Certified General Accountant’s course requires that your job matches the course of studies that you are undertaking. After I graduated, I joined a brand new company at the start of Pay TV in Canada and was hired, ironically, by the person who had been station manager and my boss at Radio York. The next six years I spent working in a variety of cultural industries in Canada. I started self-employment in 1986 and provided a variety of microcomputer and accounting based services to the cultural industries, ranging from magazine companies to sound recording, to the Directors Guild and other involvement in the film industry.

In 1990, while on the board of the Canadian Magazine Publishers Association, I heard of an opening offered by the Department of Communications of the federal government in Ottawa, The Cultural Industries Development Fund was a new program to provide regular bank loans to cultural industries in the magazine, book publishing, sound recording and film industries, with an occasional venture into the brand new world of multimedia. So I took the job and spent two years in Montreal.

Despite the Federal Business Development Bank’s best efforts to turn me into a banker, I found myself unwilling to restrict myself to that narrow of frame of thought and so moved on to join a high tech company in Ottawa. I continued to work in high-tech until approximately 1997, which was when I first heard of a potential computer problem called the Millennium Bug, or Y2K.

For the next three years of my life, I became a Y2K expert, not as a mainframe problem but I was interested in the impacts of this technological glitch on small and medium enterprises. The next three years were filled with very mixed results. I got to travel the world advising governments as to how to best deal with this situation, while at the same time I was building and promoting a kit for small businesses that I hoped would make my fortune and which in fact, due to the unique and uncertain nature of the Millennium Bug problem, crashed and burned as an expensive lesson in late 1999.

In 2000 I started doing analysis work for federal government departments, particularly Indian Northern Affairs Canada which was involved in large projects with First Nation communities across Canada. Including one that was being done by a company in Nunavut, a territory where I now do a lot of training. Over the last ten years I have done a lot of work with First Nations and Inuit communities. I enjoy the opportunity to go into Canada’s far north and help people, organizations and communities make the transition from a very traditional, nomadic lifestyle to an integration with the traditional commercial economy that is more familiar to those of us working in the southern parts of Canada.

As you can tell from my description, my work experience has not followed the traditional role of an accountant, both in a lack of focus on bookkeeping and auditing, but also in the number of roles I have undertaken and the number of industries in which I have worked. Over the last 40 years I have visited and worked in every province and territory in Canada, approximately half of the US states and another 30 or so countries around the world. I have analyzed everything from airlines to pulp and paper mills, outfitters to retail stores, golf courses to manufacturers, computer service providers to media companies. One of the advantages of having accounting skills is the universal applicability of that skill. Accounting knowledge is not specific to any particular countries and can be used everywhere, and I’ve been able to apply that skill in many different situations all around the world. And while many of my roles have tended to have an accounting function, I have also worked in positions in information technology, marketing, sales, general administration as well as being CEO of my own company for the last 35 years.

My passion now is helping people understand and use the financial information they already have, without math and without bookkeeping. I also offer programs in the Tripe Bottom Line (Profit, People and Planet) as well as how you can transform your organization for the future by taking advantage of the move towards sustainability which will affect our entire economic sphere. I provide keynote addresses, webinars, two-day training sessions and online teleclasses and home study courses. My web site is [www.highspin.com](http://www.highspin.com) and I can be reached at [mike@highspin.com](mailto:mike@highspin.com). My LinkedIn connection is highspinner. I am now based in Smiths Falls, Ontario and my phone number is (613) 205-1179.

**Barry Edington**

I was never an essay writer…so why would I start now!

* After NTCI, I went to York, then George Brown…ending up with a BA and a CYW
* Met the second love of my life (Ave Maria) at GB, marrying her in late 1974
* Just so there’s no confusion, Diane Pitkethly was the first love of my life (Allenby - Grade 2!!!) but she never knew it ☹ – very sad to hear of her passing
* Ave and I did a 2 year stint as live-in counselors at a group home for young offenders in Toronto in the mid 1970’s
* Then to Peel Children’s Aid Society – social worker, court worker, emergency care supervisor (1978 to 1993)
* Moved to Brampton (1979), then Georgetown (1983)
* 2 sons (1981 and 1983) – both doing great – older son lives in Georgetown and works at a chocolate factory (yes, we get freebies – in 10 kg boxes!), while the younger son has followed his heart, and his snowboard, to Vancouver where he works as a fundraiser for the SPCA
* Next - an opportunity to lead – as Executive Director and COO of a large group home organization in Peel (1993 to 2005)
* Followed by a Provincial Manager position with the Canadian Cancer Society (2006 to 2013)
* Now in a blissful semi-retired state doing some contract work in the business development field for a GTA non-profit.
* Community interests and focus have been part of our way of life…lots of volunteer activities – from coaching to literacy to United Way agency leadership to Rotary International (Ave and I are both Rotarians with our local Club…I have been fortunate to have been President of our Club on two separate occasions)
* Dogs (rescue) and golf are our other interests (if only we could get the dogs onto the golf course – finding the wayward balls would be so much easier).
* Ave is a superb golfer – League Silver Medallist for the past two years
* BTW: We renewed our wedding vows in 2008…in Cuba…because Ave found a way to get an upgrade at the resort…**with unlimited golf**…as long as you took advantage of their $50 Wedding Package…which included witnesses, judge, 3-piece Mariachi band, roses, special honeymooner dinner and a photographer. (I truly believe that the resort staff spent more time planning this than we did for the original ceremony in 1974!)
* And, as a final piece of trivia…when you sign up at a password protected web-page you are often asked for a piece of personal information so they can assist you if you forget your password…one of the questions posed to me was “What was the name of your best friend growing up?” Well, I hope to see him in early May, while *not* delivering the Toronto Star on Roselawn.

**Jeff Plewman**

This graduate who I have not been able to get a hold of seems to be a well know recording artist going by “Nash The Slash “

You can check out his very interesting career at <http://www.nashtheslash.com> and on Wikipedia under his name or Nash the Slash . Google him.