

# Thomson TRADEWINDS

DAVID & MARY THOMSON C.I. ALUMNI NEWSLETTER  
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## Rekindle the Embers - May 25

Following the success of last spring's Alumni Pub Night (see the photos on this page), the planning committee de-

Prince George Pub at the Embers. The site will be familiar to those who attended Thomson's 40th Anniversary

celebrations there. We don't expect the 400 or so who attended that event, which necessitated opening up the whole complex of rooms. So we'll have a

cozy reunion in just the one pub section, with drinks at your expense, but some free food, depending on our numbers.

The Embers is at 781 Warden Ave. on the east side one stop-light south of Eglinton Ave. There is quite a bit of parking by the Pub, but if the lot is full, Wal-Mart across the street should have lots of space, since we won't be starting up until after 8:00 p.m.

Spread the word to fellow alumni and plan to meet and reminisce May 25.



ecided to continue this annual event: a chance to see old friends or new, and to catch up on what's been happening to whom.

So we picked a date, Friday, May 25 (so as not to conflict with the Bye Bye Birdie Reunion - see page five), but needed a new location, since last year's site is no longer a pub! Thanks to our intrepid team of socialites, **Bob and Karen Forrest**, we have made arrangements to take over the



# Behind the Headlines



Steve in 1976

When the Scarborough Mirror ran an article on **Steve Hudson** in the summer of 1999, Newcourt Credit Group Inc., the multi-million-dollar commercial finance company he had founded in 1984 for just \$200,000 of his own money, had recently merged with New Jersey-based CIT Group Inc. Steve was "stepping down" to devote more time to family.

Steve's interest in finance had been sparked by **Wayne Hemington**, his Grade 13 Economics teacher at Thomson in 1975-76. He also has fond memories

of **Charlie Hawkes**, who taught Business Law. After earning a Bachelor of Business Administration from York University in 1981, Steve articulated with Ernst and Young. As Senior Healthcare Consultant he worked with Toronto General Hospital on their financing, including acquisition of the country's first MRI equipment. He found the business intriguing and, when a group of doctors learned of his interest, they challenged him to mortgage his home and they would contribute two dollars for each of his as start-up for a financing company. Originally called Medcan Leasing, it became Newcourt in 1985 after expanding to finance manufacturing ventures around the globe.

Before the 1999 merger, the firm had grown to 5500 employees. One of the first of those had been the office manager who is now Steve's wife.

Sharon and Steve have two sons, Cameron (12) and Matthew (4), with another child on the way this summer.

In the fall of 1999, Sharon and Steve took some time off for travel in the Mediterranean. Steve was able to indulge his interest in antiquities, which had been piqued by **Stan Farrow's** Classical History course in Grade 9 at Thomson. Much to Sharon's dismay, he found an archaeology student to give him a two-day exploration of Troy. Many other "ruins" were part of their autumn odyssey.

Following their return from "dusty Rhodes" (Sharon's phrase), Steve plunged back into the financial fray, founding Dorset Partners, a private equity company investing in Canadian firms "to make them global winners"

## High-flying financier really down-to-earth local boy

Scarborough's Steve Hudson announces departure from leading post he held

**H**igh-flying financier Steve Hudson is stepping down from his position as Chairman and CEO of Newcourt Credit Group Inc. to devote more time to his family.



Steve Hudson is 45 years old and has worked in the financial industry for 20 years. He is a graduate of York University and has a Bachelor of Business Administration. He is also a member of the Ontario Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Canadian Institute of Management Accountants.

Steve Hudson is a graduate of York University and has a Bachelor of Business Administration. He is also a member of the Ontario Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Canadian Institute of Management Accountants. He has worked in the financial industry for 20 years and has held several senior positions. He is currently the Chairman and CEO of Newcourt Credit Group Inc. He is also a member of the Ontario Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Canadian Institute of Management Accountants.



Globetrotting Steve Hudson finds it hard to beat the view of the Toronto waterfront from his offices in the Canada Trust Tower. For visitors he can point out the Olympic venues below.

(Steve's phrase). Shunning the spotlight, Steve, as C.E.O., arranges for typically Canadian behind-the-scenes support of worthy ventures.

But his true passion these days is for his unpaid position as Chair of the 12-person Executive Committee for T.O. Bid 2008, guaranteeing the financing and infrastructure for Toronto's very promising Olympic plans. His office complex in the Canada Trust Tower overlooks the entire waterfront, where he can point to our uniquely compact series of sites. He proudly unveils a copy of the 600-page Bid Book, with architects' detailed plans and committee budgets, a risk-free proposal set to spring into reality the moment we win IOC approval.

And, for Steve, the conjunction is "when", not "if." Although he does not count his days as defensive tackle at Thomson among the world's sports highlights, he is proud of how athletes have been involved in the Toronto planning process. He also notes how awed the IOC team were at Toronto's cultural diversity. We can indeed host the world, he says, because the world is already here!

The Olympic committee is not Steve's only outside interest. He is Co-Chair of the Toronto Community Foundation, which finances charities and projects on the income from investments. He is also on the Board of Directors of the University Health Network (back at the Toronto Hospital, where he began) and CHC Helicopters Corporation.

In March, 2000, he was elected as a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario. There is a certain irony in this well-deserved honour, since it took Steve three tries to pass his original chartered accounting exam back in the '80s.

Steve is the oldest of four Hudson graduates from Thomson. **Craig** is now Chief of Staff at the Stratford General Hospital. **Michael** owns Hudson Motor Cars, a vehicle leasing company in Toronto. And **Todd** has remained with C.I.T., the old Newcourt, as Account Executive. Steve's parents, to whom he says he owes his strong work ethic, have recently moved to Stratford, where Craig can keep a medical eye on them.

Steve's strong sense of family may be put to the test this summer. He is scheduled to be in Moscow on July 13 for the IOC decision. Sharon is scheduled to deliver their newest family member on July 14! We wish Steve the best on both fronts.

*(If you check out the back cover of this edition, you can share Steve's enthusiasm for our Olympic bid. We always invite grads to place "advertisements" for their businesses in Tradewinds, but Steve has outdone himself! Whether you are reading this newsletter in Scarborough or in more distant locales, we invite you to join the celebration and live the dream.)*

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## The Telephone Hour



One of the most memorable scenes from our 1981 production of "Bye Bye Birdie", and a reminder to phone your friends about the 20th anniversary reunion on Saturday, May 5! See page five.

## Do you Yahoo?

*Bob and Karen Forrest have been enjoying Thomson Alumni's latest project, a Yahoo club for chatting or simply looking in on news from old-timers. We asked them to update readers on their creation.*

In February of 2000, a Yahoo club for former Thomson students and staff was formed. Karen was bored on a cold and snowy Saturday and came up with the idea, commenting, "Hey, you never know who is out there that went to Thomson and might like this." So we created the site, which has grown from the two of us to 114 members, as of this writing.

The Alumni in the club range from the early 1960s to the early 1990s. A lot of old friendships have been rekindled. Geographically we span the world, with members in the United States, a couple in England, a couple in Australia, and, of course, coast to coast interest in Canada.

We have pictures posted by members so that you can see how they look today, along with ones from old yearbooks. Feel free to add photos of your own. As well there are pictures from the 1999 40th reunion and from the last Pub Night in May, 2000. Back copies of Tradewinds have been scanned onto the site for you to view or download.

So if you have internet access, come and join the club. There are no fees. All you have to do is make up a username (be as creative as you wish), follow the Yahoo instructions, and you're in! Check the message board and the various other items. You never know whom you may find, or who may find you!!

The web address is:

<http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/dandmthomsoncollegiate>.

