

Thomson TRADEWINDS

DAVID & MARY THOMSON C.I. ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2004

Announcing Thomson's 45th

Yes, 45 years have passed since Education Minister (later Premier) John Robarts announced that David and Mary Thomson C.I. was officially open. (Well, perhaps it is only 44, since the auditorium wasn't ready until early 1960 - at least the rest of the school was operational in September, 1959.) We didn't know if the milestone merited a party, but you have let us know that it certainly does.

We have reserved the evening of Saturday, October 23 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 614 in Agincourt (map on page 4). Their upstairs hall (smoke-free!) can hold well over 200, so we can handle a good response. There will be some light refreshments during the course of the evening, and the Legion has a reasonably-priced cash bar in the room. The celebrations begin any time after 8:00 p.m.

The admission will be \$20.00 per person, to cover the costs of the hall, food, decorations, etc. A registration form is enclosed with this newsletter. Since we need to know numbers in advance for the food, we are asking you to return the form so that we receive it by October 13 at the latest. We hope that gives you time to contact friends and classmates and round up a group.



Two groups for whom this event is of special significance are the classes of 1964 and 1974. Both have been doing some e-mail correspondence about getting together to celebrate 40 and 30 years, respectively. When we announced our party, they agreed to combine their celebrations with ours. So, if you are from either of those two eras, you have special reason to attend.

And we certainly don't want to overlook staff members. The first question many grads ask is if a certain teacher or teachers are going to be there. Besides, your humble editor doesn't want to be the only staff member present! You can

make this a staff reunion in addition to a school anniversary.

We picked a Saturday to make it easier for out-of-towners to get here. We know many of you preferred an afternoon, so that you could carry on the party over dinner with friends. However, the Legion was not available in the afternoon. You can still arrange for dinner, but it will now have to precede the Legion get-together. Plan to bring year-books and other memorabilia to share old times, while catching up on the intervening years.

As a final incentive, we would like to offer a few door prizes, as we have at past anniversaries. If you have appropriate connections and could arrange for donation of one or more such items (free publicity!), contact **Janet Evans** at janetravel@rogers.com or by phone (416-265-2943 at home and 416-690-4000 at work).

Please note that this event is being organized by your Alumni, rather than through the school. Don't telephone Thomson if you have questions - they're busy enough in the fall! You can check with Janet, or contact your editor, **Stan Farrow** at Stan.Farrow@tel.tdsb.on.ca. See you in October!

Profiles

Braden Houston (1960) and Judy Millar (1961) were both at Thomson when the school opened 45 years ago. They have sent along a very brief summary of their interesting life since then.



Braden in 1961

What fond memories we have of those early Thomson Collegiate days! After all these

years it's nice to read about the meanderings of old friends and acquaintances through the pages of the Tradewinds. We would be delighted to hear from you and can be reached at 2063 Spring Street, Hamilton, New York, 13346 or <bhouston@mail.colgate.edu>.

After graduation from Thomson, Braden played his final year of Junior A hockey with the Toronto Marlboros before continuing his education at the University of New Hampshire. Judy worked in the communications department of IBM at their head office in Don Mills. They were married in August, 1964 (they had first met in the eighth grade at McCowan Road School) and took up permanent residence in the United States.

Upon graduation from the Whittimore School of Business at the University of New Hampshire, Braden was offered a professional contract to play hockey for one year in Johannesburg, South Africa. After an incredible learning experience in that beautiful country, he and Judy moved to Bad Nauheim, Germany, for another year of hockey, in the German league. Following

that season, they took six months to travel and camp throughout eastern and western Europe, including 2,000 miles through what was then the Soviet Union; they left through Finland and drove on to explore the Scandinavian countries.

In the fall of 1969, Braden joined the faculty at Colgate University, a private liberal arts campus with approximately 2800 students. Colgate is located 50 miles south-east of Syracuse in upstate New York. It is nestled in the Chenango Valley in the picturesque town of Hamilton.

Braden coached the men's varsity hockey team at Colgate for six years before moving into athletics administration and is today the senior associate director of athletics and the men's golf coach. Judy also joined Colgate as an administrative assistant to the director of the ALANA Cultural Center, where she worked with the African, Latin,

Asian and Native American students for over 20 years. She retired in 2002.

Braden will be semi-retiring from

Colgate this fall after 35 years of service; he will continue to coach the men's varsity golf team as he has for the past 27 years. Colgate boasts an 18-hole Robert Trent Jones championship golf course ranked among the top ten college courses in the United States.

Judy and Braden travel to Toronto several times a year, as both still have family there. Their daughter, Nandi, 28, was married in June and resides in Columbus, Ohio. She received her degree in communications from Potsdam College and is an account executive with a health care and pharmaceutical advertising firm. Their son, Braden, 32, majored in economics and history at Bucknell University, completed his MA in history at Colgate, and received his MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. He is committed to the research and development of wind energy and is presently with the General Electric Company in the California desert.

The Houstons, now "home alone" with their two Burmese cats, send their warmest regards and best wishes to everyone.



Judy in 1961



The Houstons in February, 2004

Spring Pub Night - 2004

Our 45th Anniversary evening will be a somewhat enlarged version of our regular Pub Nights. Bob Doi reports on the success of our most recent get-together in April. Bob also took the photos.

of regulars ensures that we are always able to fill up several tables. Some small groups stay much to themselves, while others merge in with many tables. Several people

takes great delight in trying to locate fellow pub night attendees to see how much or, in some cases, how little we've aged. Not to mention the wild hair and clothing styles of years gone by. Judging by the hours kept by some of the attendees who arrived around 8:00 and left after midnight, I'd say that most if not all had a terrific evening.

Once again, thanks go out to **Janet Evans** for making the evening's arrangements. Details for future such events can be found in this newsletter, an incentive to maintain your membership, and to invite others to join up. Where possible, we also try to contact Toronto-area Thomsonites by e-mail. Finally, you could check our Yahoo chat site to see what's going on in the lives of those who are part of the party. The full address is:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dandmthomsoncollegiate>

As always, we invite comments and, better still, assistance from our readers, as we make plans for Spring 2005.



Yearbooks are always a source of great interest

Although April 24 was a full month into spring, the weather outside was quite chilly for our Spring Pub Night. Still, about 35 Thomson Alumni and Alumnae shared munchies, drinks and fond memories at Foti's Place Sports and Social Bar. By popular demand, Foti's even allowed us to have our room smoke-free. Even the avid smokers agreed that this made the room much more pleasant for conversation. The Brimley Road - Lawrence Avenue location, right near Thomson and with ample parking, ensured that everyone felt at home near the old stomping grounds.

This marks the seventh consecutive year that a Pub Night has been organized to allow classmates to renew old friendships. A solid core

bring out their yearbooks to each pub night. These are usually highlights of the evening, as everyone



And so are copies of the Tradewinds.

