



Message from the President

Donna Robertson (62-66)

Dear Alumnae,

In 2018 the Alumnae Executive was quite busy as you will see below.

Alma Property Development:

www.StThomasTimesJournal.com

Patriot Properties from Toronto presented their plan to the City for apartments to be built on the Alma property. Michael Loewith, President, made a presentation at the Annual Reunion in June 2018. We were impressed with the design and particularly with the attention to remembering our Alma. A few alumnae have expressed their wish to have the facade of Alma replicated. Many others are in support of Patriot Properties proceeding with their plan based on the current design. There was an Ontario Municipal Board ruling years ago before Alma was destroyed. The majority were not in favour of a pretend Alma facade. The issue continues to be debated in St Thomas. Hopefully construction will begin this summer. You can google to read about the process to date.

Alma College Scholarship Fund:

www.lcf.on.ca

Diane Silva, representative of the London Community Foundation, spoke at the June Reunion about the advantages of having our fund be within their Foundation. Donations to the Foundation means that our donors can receive tax receipts and the money will be invested. After the presentation, alumnae discussed the idea of moving the scholarship donations to LCF. It was requested that the Executive investigate the Elgin St. Thomas Community Foundation before a decision was made. The Executive made a comparison between the two funds and proceeded with transferring almost \$9,000 to LCF.

Since we gave the LCF our money last summer, we have sent out a special request to alumnae for donations. Thank you so much for your generous gifts to date. We are now at about \$17,000. We have the opportunity to provide a

\$1,000 per year scholarship, if we can raise enough funds to reach \$25,000. This scholarship amount of \$1,000 will be given out in perpetuity. What better way to have Alma remembered? Donors giving \$500 or more will receive the book "All The Girls Have Gone", a history of Alma. In the meantime, we continue to give an annual \$500 Scholarship.

The Foundation will also accept stocks, investments, and you can leave a donation in your will. Gifts of any size are so welcome!! Details on how to donate are in this newsletter.

Facebook:

The best source for Alma College activities and friends is Facebook. If you aren't on Facebook, you are missing out. I know some prefer not to belong. It isn't necessary to spend a lot of time on our Facebook page but it would be great to just check in once in a while. We have changed the name of our official Alumnae page as the other page removed 4 Alumnae members. Our Facebook page is now: **Alma College International Alumnae Association** - please join us!!

We also still maintain a website: AlmaCollege.20m.com - thank you Lisa Johnson. You can find up to date Reunion information there and the Registration Form.

Elgin County Archives and Museum:

Last fall the Archives and Museum received a bequest from the estate of someone from Aylmer who had a long-time association with Alma College. We don't know who it was. They bequeathed \$50,000 to the Archives and \$10,000 to the Elgin Museum. Very generous! Hopefully we will be involved in whatever projects this money is spent on. Any thoughts on project ideas?

We very much appreciate your support.

Donna Robertson, 62-66
donnaro@rogers.com

Branch Reports

London and St. Thomas

St. Thomas Branch Report

We had a lunch meeting on April 9, 2018 at The Bistro on Talbot St. There were 29 in attendance from St. Thomas and London.

During the meeting on April 9, Mary Lou (Callaghan) McCuaig (62-64) asked us if we would attend The St. Thomas Antique group's meeting on October 2, 2018 at the Military Museum in St. Thomas, bring some memorabilia, and talk about the life and history of Alma. The meeting was well attended, very well received, and enjoyed by all.

Jane Ann (Macdonald) Tasker (64-68) hosted the potluck dinner on August 27, 2018. There were 14 who attended, and a good time was had by all. As usual, the food was delicious.

On November 12, we had a lunch meeting at The Bistro in St. Thomas. There were 23 in attendance including 4 from London.

The St. Thomas branch has 30 members at this time. Our next lunch meeting will be April 24, 2019 at The Bistro in St. Thomas.

Sine (Loudon) Herold, 60-65
Co-President, St. Thomas Branch

London Branch Report

The Alma College/London Branch has had an active fall. In August, a small group met and enjoyed a



Lovely Alma get together in Tucson. Kay Greenhough Roach 55-58, Suzanne Hood Campbell 59-64, Billie (Suzannes Mom, 102 yrs old) Barb Christie O'Brien 64-65, Laurie Schmalz Hugill 60-63.

miniature golf tournament followed by lunch at the Waltzing Weasel Restaurant, on Adelaide Street. The mini golf was so much fun, in September, two groups had fun playing miniature golf at the Tin Cup, with lunch at East Side Mario's. October saw us together again for a tour of St. Peters Basilica in downtown London, followed by lunch at the Tasting Room.

In December, we had a good turnout for our Christmas luncheon at the Crossings Restaurant on Hyde Park Road, with great food, prizes, draws and favours with lots of laughter. Everyone paid their Alumnae dues for the coming year.

We are a mixture of many different years, and during the meal, we enjoyed getting to know each other better, and telling stories and memories of our years at Alma. We also discussed the future for the Alma site, that we have been hearing about on T.V. and reading in the newspaper.

We will not be getting together during the winter months, but we are looking forward to more activities in the spring. If you have not been contacted, and want to be part of our branch activities, please call me at (519) 673-3560, or contact me at bd.mckinley@bell.net

Doris (Johnston) McKinley, 57-58
President, London Branch



Alma Alumnae London Branch Christmas gathering at Crossings Restaurant in London

Alma College Alumnae - In Memoriam

We take a moment to remember our alumnae

Alumna name	Resident City	Years at Alma	Date of Death
Leona (Johnston) ARMSTRONG	Brussels, ON		August 4, 2018
Sheila (Smith) BEALE	Brentwood Bay, BC	1943-46	October 27, 2018
Carolyn (Lee) DAVIES	Arnprior, ON	1961-63	March, 2017
Elizabeth (Claus) MANNING	St. Thomas, ON		September 16, 2018
Norma (Frederickson) McLEOD	Mt. Brydges, ON	1965-69	January 7, 2019
Cathy (Hamilton) HAMMOND	Barrie, ON	1979-81	August 13, 2018
John SIFTON	Ottawa, ON		November 23, 2018
Mimi TAKIMOTO	Stratford, ON	1944-46	June 6, 2018

Alma College Archives and Relics

Report: Brian Masschaele, Director of Community and Cultural Services

On August 7, 2018, Brian Masschaele presented a report to County Council on the Estate Donations to Support Alma College Collections.

The report informed Council that Elgin County Archives and Elgin County Museum received bequests in the amount of \$50,000 and \$10,000 respectively to support future work relating to collections pertaining to Alma College, the former independent school for young women that operated in St. Thomas for over a century. Both the archives and museum have substantial collections relating to the college and continue to actively collect in this area. The funds will be utilized to support future projects such as digitization and preservation activities. The estate trustee is not seeking to have the source of the bequest identified, except to say that the individuals had a long-standing association with the college.

It was recommended that the bequests in the amount of \$50,000 to Elgin County Archives and \$10,000 to Elgin County Museum be deposited into donation accounts for each institution for use on future projects relating to Alma College.



Reunion Years

We need hostesses for the reunion years listed below. If you would be interested in contacting people from any of these years, please let us know at donnaro@rogers.com. We can provide alumnae names and contact information. A good turn out from your years always makes for a better reunion experience.

40 years: 1978-79

50 years: 1968-69

60 years: 1958-59

Also, if you have any suggestions for making the reunions more fun, we would love to hear them!



Is alumna, Lisa Johnson, 85-86 conducting an orchestra, herding cats, or trying to get all of the alumnae ready for the group photo? Hard to tell. Come on out this June and join in the fun, see old friends, and relive Alma stories.

Alma Alumnae Scholarship Fund

St. Thomas female student beneficiary

2018 Recipient of \$500

The 2018 recipient of the Alma College Alumnae Scholarship was Pyper Olver, a graduating student from Parkside Collegiate. Pat Duncan Meathrell presented Pyper with her scholarship on Tuesday, October 9, 2018. The Alumnae received a wonderful note of appreciation from Pyper.

2019 Recipient To Be Awarded

A graduating student from Arthur Voaden Secondary School will receive the next Alma College Alumnae Scholarship.

Your Generosity Shines

Thank you for your continued generosity through your donations to the scholarship fund. We also have had great success fundraising at the annual reunion. Please consider sending in a donation with your registration form or participate in the fundraising (live auction & 50/50 draw) planned for the upcoming reunion. At the time of this newsletter, the scholarship fund at London Community Foundation was at \$17,000.

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.

Alma College Scholarship Fund Donations

As the Alma Archives and Relics at the Elgin Museum recently received a substantial donation, we would

like to encourage alumnae to donate towards the Alma Scholarship held at London Community Foundation. You will receive a tax donation for \$20 and over. Our goal is to accumulate at least \$25,000 to allow for an annual scholarship of \$1,000 in perpetuity.

To make a gift to the Alma College Scholarship Fund, please send your donation by cheque to: London Community Foundation and indicate it is for the “Alma College Scholarship”. Their address is

Covent Garden Market
130 King Street
London, ON N6A 1C5

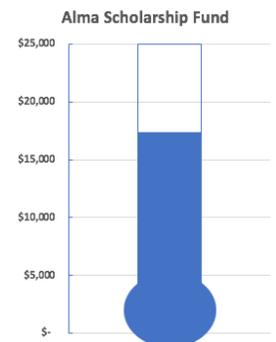
You can also donate online at www.lcf.on.ca by selecting ‘Donate’ and follow instructions.

If you have any questions, you can contact:

Diane Silva, Director, Philanthropy
at 519.667.1600 ext. 207
or via email at dsilva@lcf.on.ca.

See you in June!

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



Alma Alumnae Purse Project

For Homeless Women

The past three years, we have collected purses for homeless women in the London area. Each purse was generously filled by alumnae with a variety of practical items. The Purse Project has been very popular, and the homeless women loved the purses. Thank you for the kindness that you have shown these women.

We would like to make this the 4th year for the purse project. We ask that you please bring any used purses filled with items for homeless women. We will collect the purses at the reunion in June and they will be delivered to two shelters in London.

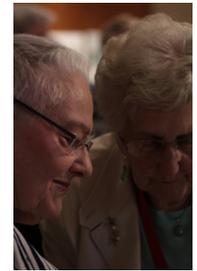
You can use your old purses or buy inexpensive purses at the Goodwill. Feel free to fill several purses if you

can. If you can't get a purse, use a backpack or simply a bag. Do not put cash in the purses, a Tim Hortons Card or other type of gift card is a better option. Any personal care items such as soap, toothpaste/brush, deodorant, lipstick, notepad & pen, socks, snacks etc. are welcome. Use your imagination and check out the Dollar Store.

The homeless women are so appreciative. Thank you in advance for participating.



Reunion June 2019



Friday June 7

- 4:00 pm Check in at Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London
- 4-6:30 pm Meet in the hospitality suite, Room 101.
- 6:30 pm Group will dine together in the hotel restaurant, Shelly's Tap & Grill (pay as you go).

Saturday June 8

- 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 9

- 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 \$149 plus taxes. Atrium view is \$159 plus taxes. A block of rooms is reserved under "Alma College".

Prices in effect until
May 26th, 2019

We recommend you
book early!

Reunion Fee - \$50

(Includes light breakfast and hot buffet luncheon)

Reunion 2018 Photos

1940s



1960s



1950s



1970s & 1980s

