



MDAA FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER

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Our MD 85th Celebration is now captured in history for our archives with photos in the slideshow -180 pix - at the bottom and DOUGS Talks YouTube clips on our website. Check out the fun memories! mountdoug alumni.com/archives/mda-85th-events

MDAA President's message -



Hello Mount Doug Alumni, and welcome to this Fall edition of our MDAA Newsletter!

Our MDAA board has three new members we are pleased to welcome: our youngest is new grad, Justin Lo '17, then Chris Bauer '08 and Greg Arnott '83. Thanks for returning to give back to our alma mater. We have two more directors seats to fill so do think about whether you might be a good fit for our board. Let us know if you are interested in joining our board or perhaps a committee to start with. Email me at wgedney@telus.net and we can chat further about it.

There were eight fun class reunions over the summer this year of which we were aware. Lots of fun reconnecting for MD grads! Check out the Reunion section below. Also see our bursary winners and where they are now after their June MD graduation.

Enjoy all our Fall offerings and let us know if there is something you would like to see in your MDAA Newsletter.

Wendy Gedney

MDSS Principal's message -

Dear Alumni;

Welcome to the 86th school year for Mount Douglas Secondary School. As we settle into the fall season and into the regular routine of the school year, we find that our staff and students are engaging in a wide variety of activities both inside and outside of the classroom.

Our extra-curricular programs are already in full swing as auditions for this year's musical theatre Spring musical performance, Grease, are complete. In athletics, the football team is back on the gridiron, volleyball and cross-country are up and running, and our girl's field hockey team is making headlines with some amazing performances.

Once again, on behalf of all the staff, students and the entire Mount Doug community, thank you for



keeping connected with us and supporting what we do. Please feel free to drop by, visit and to keep engaged in your high school in any capacity you can.

Kind regards,
Shawn Boulding

Names in the News

Did you know that the new Victoria Police Chief, **Del Manak** is from MD class of '82 ... **Ocean Han** '18, grade 11 MD student has won the Saanich Youth Environmental award for his Garry Oak ecosystem restoration in progress since grade 7... **Cait Haggarty** '80 has been named as head coach of Camosun College women's basketball team... **Denver Jackson** '04, award-winning short film animator, competed at Comic Con in San Diego with The Wishing Jar and won in his category... **Vanessa Wheeler** '06, her new massage clinic has expanded and is now Cardinal Health Point Centre.

Michael Thomas, Mike Edge, Joe Haegert, Brian Bingham, Mike Greenhalgh, Cliff Raps and Tom Jacklin '78, all.



These MD friends still get together yearly when they can, sometimes going camping or on other adventures. This September saw them gathering in White Rock, BC, where the Community Garden was being expanded. The friends were part of the team building raised beds. After a good day's work, for dinner Cliff Raps and his wife Hilda got all the friends making individual pizzas in an outdoor wood-fired pizza oven! Congrats to you all!

Another successful MD alum is **Atom Egoyan**. This year he's directing the opera Jenufa for Pacific Opera Victoria. This is his first local production since he graduated in Mount Douglas' class of 1978! He made sure to thank his former drama teachers in the program notes. There is also a former classmate in the chorus of the opera. The Times-Colonist has a terrific review of this opera at this link: <http://www.timescolonist.com/review-atom-egoyan-directs-riveting-opera-1.23064547>

Spotlight on our MDAA June '17 Bursary recipients



Our **Len Michaux** Memorial Fine Arts Bursary was presented to **Justin Lo**. We will speak with Justin and report back in our Spring '18 issue.

In June 2017, the MDAA was pleased to have the MDAA Academic Bursary awarded to graduating

Mount Douglas student, **Sarah Jiang**. The MDAA spoke with Sarah to ask about life after Mount Douglas and her plans moving forward.

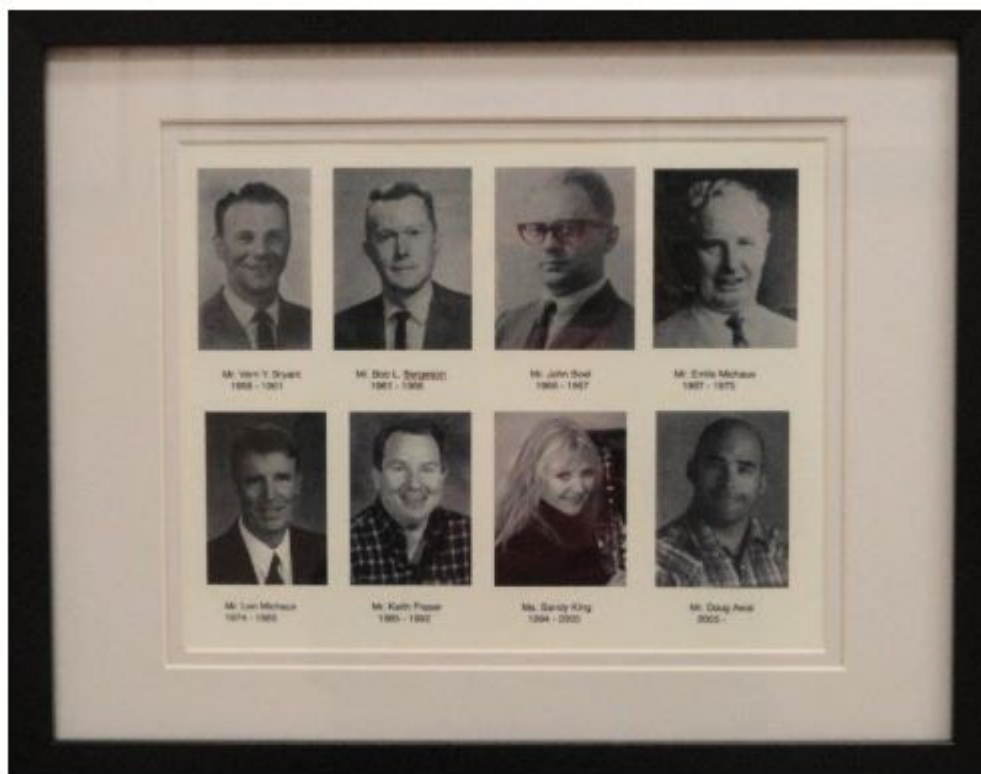
Sarah is currently studying at the University of British Columbia where she is enrolled in the Faculty of Science and hoping to major in biochemistry. One highlight from her time at Mount Douglas was her AP Physics class taught by Mr. Phil Ferreira. Sarah applied the MDAA Academic Bursary to her tuition, which will assist her with focusing on her studies with a possible goal of receiving an honours designation. Sarah would like to thank those that assisted her while at Mount Douglas, the MDAA for the bursary, and especially her classmates in AP Physics class! The MDAA wishes Sarah continued success.

- written by Dustin Marnell



Our two bursaries are funded by you, our MD alumni. Contributions are easy to make on our secure MDAA website under Please Donate. Go to mountdoug alumni.com

During our MD 85th Celebrations, this framed piece was given to the Music Department of MDSS from Wendy Gedney in recognition of all the band directors who taught, encouraged and created MD student musicians since 1958. Thanks to them all! The torch is with you, Doug!



Gone but not forgotten

MD alumni who have died since last Spring '17 newsletter - that we are aware of (do let us know if there are others):

- Bill Edgar - '66 - d. May '15
- John Holtum - '65 & '66 - d. Dec. '16
- John Boel - band director '66-'67 - d. Mar. '17
- Reg Reid - VP '77-'87 - d. April '17
- Jean Dawson Levis - '39 - d. May '17
- David Harwood - '54 - d. May '17
- Tom Rains - '67 - d. June '17

Muriel Mercer Douglas - '39 - d. June '17
 Tom Harris - '67 - d. June '17
 Judy Tapp - '67 - d. June '17
 David Hirst - '62 - d. July '17
 Randy Crago - '67 - d. July '17
 Jack Lowther - teacher then principal '54 - '78 - d. August '17
 Jean McRae Keziere - '45 - d. August '17
 Dave Jones - '85 - d. September '17
 Doreen Drury Borden - '53? - d. September '17
 Jack Rowe - '44 - d. October '17

Please let us know if a MD classmate or friend has died and we will post it on our MDAA website under their year.

Business Listings

Next time you're at the MDAA website, check out our MDA Business Listings. If you have a business, be sure to add it to the list (it's free advertising) so savvy alumni can use businesses that are owned or operated by fellow Mount Doug alumni! *

Remembering Two Special MD Alumni Administrators -



Back Row—Mr. G. Brown, Mrs. M. Sampson, Mr. J. Lowther, Miss Boucher, Mr. A. E. Jones.
 Front Row—Mr. J. Muir, Mr. E. Forster (Principal), Mrs. Pogson.

Jack Lowther began his teaching career at MDHS in 1954 at the age of 24, on a staff of only 8. Being young, funny, caring and supportive, he was always a favourite among the students. He rose to principal in 1969 and, in 1970, headed the school's move from its original Cedar Hill Road location to its current home on Gordon Head Road in 1970 where he remained as principal until 1978.

Jack was an important and valued member of Mt. Doug's history, as a great coach, wise counsellor, excellent teacher, and friend to the students. As a teacher and principal, Jack set a tone of respect and dedication and treated the students as adults, an attitude which gave us all a feeling of confidence and maturity perhaps beyond what we deserved!

He lived a long and varied life, was a stellar athlete (and jive dancer!) in his youth, and had a lifelong love of jazz music. His garden gave him pleasure until the end of his days, and he made the world a better place with his positive attitude and kindness to everyone. His sense of humour was with him till the end as he continued to bring laughter to all who knew him.

Sadly, Jack died suddenly but peacefully in August of this year at the age of 87. He was often asked to speak at class reunions and was always a hit. Jack remembered his students fondly and enjoyed keeping up with many of them over the years.

You can read Jack's obituary on our MDAA website under Staff Members or In Memoriam at mountdoug alumni.com

Jack, you made a positive difference to many and will be remembered fondly. Rest in peace; we'll never forget you.

- written by Faye Ford '64 & Wendy Gedney '67



Before becoming Mount Douglas Secondary School's vice principal from 1977 to 1987, Reg Reid was already an experienced and respected teacher at Oak Bay Junior High and Victoria High School, and a vice-principal at Central Junior High and Vic High. A strong believer in sports for schools and the community, Reg Reid chaired the Island's basketball championships for many years, and he co-organized the 1994 Canadian track and field trials for the Commonwealth Games. He was also a coach in Victoria Minor Hockey, and a lacrosse player in his youth. He is survived by his wife, four children, and



six grandchildren.

In the words of Jack Lowther, Reg was always positive, much loved and the best vice-principal I had the pleasure of working with. Reg's obituary is on our website under Staff Members or In Memoriam. Also, an interesting Times Colonist article can be read about him at: <http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/beloved-island-educator-reg-reid-dies-at-92-1.17618140>
- written by Paula Johanson '78

REUNIONS that we know of this year: (see our MDAA website for details)

*MD '47 class 70th - gathered at Royal Victoria Yacht Club in May/17
Thanks, Pat Young



*MD '57 class' 60th - gathered at Cedar Hill Golf Club, May 31/17

*MD '60 class' 53rd - picnicked - 1899 Hovey Rd, Wed, May 3/17
Thanks, Pat Hocker- see their photos on website under Reunions - Past

*MD '62 class' 55th - gathered at The Beach House, Sept. 15/17
Thanks to Sharon Hope & committee



*MD '67 class' 50th - gathered - Uplands Golf Club, July 29th/17
Thanks to their great organizing team of 7. Their photos are on website soon.



*MD '77 class' 40th - gathered at Uplands Golf Club, August /17
Thanks, Kevin Sing & helpers

*MD '82 class' 35th - gathered at the Union Club, July 8th/17
Thanks, Bruce Cafferky & team

*MD '87 class' 30th - gathered at Victoria Golf Club, July 29th/17
Thanks, Jodi Wilde Baker & committee

WINNERS of our newest alumni contest from our June '17 grad class from those who signed up on our website in the summer: Sabrina Shum and Amber Ikle - congratulations on your Tim Horton's gift card win.

SURVEY MONKEY results

We asked you in our Spring '17 Newsletter about what Alumni events you'd like us to create for all of us. The majority wanted a social and next popular was more DOUGS Talks. Most didn't want these big events often; more than a year apart. Our board is thinking maybe five5 years with small happenings in between.

Thanks for your feedback.

You are invited to our next MDAA board meetings, November 15, 2017 or January 17, 2018 at 7 pm MDSS in the library. Come see what we are working on - maybe you'd like to help us.

Let us know if there is something you'd like to see in our newsletter. Email: wgedney@telus.net

Donate to the Mount Doug Alumni Association

Please consider making a donation to the Mount Doug Alumni Association. The simplest way is to go to the [website](#) and click on the donation button. You can make your donation securely online via the Canada Helps website.

If you would rather make a donation by cheque then you can use our donation form, please click here to [download a pdf](#) of our donation form which you can print, fill out and send it in the mail.

Thanks for supporting our Alumni Association and our students!

Our Newsletter committee: Wendy Gedney '67, Dustin Marnell '98, Paula Johanson '78, & guest contributor, Faye Ford '64 & proof-reader, retired MD teacher Dianne Gillespie