

#### Welcome to our MD 85th Celebrations edition of our MDAA Fall 2016 Newsletter!

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# Mount Doug 85th Anniversary Celebrations!

Coming up this November 4th & 5th, 2016 at the school - Fri. November 4<sup>th</sup> (6:30-9:30 pm) and Sat. November 5<sup>th</sup> (1:30-4:30 & 6:30-9:30 pm) Everyone is welcome: alumni, students, staff and the community!



OUR PROGRAM for MD 85th for each of the 3 time blocks:

1. FRIDAY, Nov 4th - 6:30 - 9:30 pm

DOUGS Talks - 6:45 - 7:45 - Jack, John W, Lizzy & John S

Poetry Café - 6:45 - 7:45

Battle of the Brushes - 7:20-7:40 - then voting till 7:50 pm

Opening & Music Performance - school then ticket draws & auction winners

Art Exhibit; Clubs, Sports & Alumni Displays all evening

#### 2. SATURDAY, Nov. 5th 1:30 - 4:30 pm

DOUG Talks - 1:45 - 2:45 -Rob, Stef, Rick, Dave & Shawn

Poetry Café - 1:45 - 2:45

Battle of the Brushes - 2:20 - 2:40 voting till 2:50 pm

Opening & Music - strings, then cake - then ticket draws & auction winners

Art Exhibit; Clubs, Sports & Alumni Displays all afternoon

#### 3. SATURDAY, Nov. 5th - 6:30 - 9:30 pm

DOUGS Talks - 6:45 - 7:45 -Peter, Justin et al, Doug, Stan, Alec

Poetry Café - 6:45 - 7:45

Battle of the Brushes - 7:20-7:40 - then voting till 7:50 pm

Opening & Music Performance - alumni then ticket draws & auction winners

Art Exhibit; Clubs, Sports & Alumni Displays all evening



Ticket Sales for this event help fund student bursaries and other school initiatives

Friday 6:45 - 7:15
Jack Lowther,
past MD teacher & principal
1954-1979
Fossilized Material Delivered
by a Fossil

Friday 6:45 - 7:15 John Wilson, 1984 The Power of Giving Back

Friday 7:15 - 7:45 Lizzy Blundon, MD 2005 class The Brain Without Behavior: Current Issues in the Assessment of Consciousness

Friday 7:15 - 7:45 John Sumner, teacher & students Aviation Takes off at Mount Doug Saturday 1:45 - 2:15 Rob Wager, 1978 How Will We Feed 10 Billion People?

Saturday 1:45 - 2:15

Stef Barber, 2002 How a Mud Puddle Changed the Direction of My Life

Saturday 1:45 - 2:15 Rick Green, 1967 My Life with Rocks and Squiggles: a Geophysicist's Story

Saturday 2:15 - 2:45
Dave Cowen, 1984
The Power of Collaboration

Saturday 2:15 - 2:45 Shawn Boulding, current Principal Technology in the Classroom Saturday 6:45 - 7:15 Peter Bryant, 1979 The Power of Perseverance

Saturday 6:45 - 7:15 Justin Lo, 2017, Kiki Xiao, 2019 & Daniela Velasquez, 2017 B.O.B.A. - the experiences of 3 Mount Doug International Students

Saturday 6:45 - 7:15 Doug Bertram, 1980 Marine Birds Need the Salish Sea

Saturday 7:15-- 7:45 A History of Mt Doug Track & Field with Stan Gill and Guests

Saturday 7:15-- 7:45 Alec Krawciw, 2017 Science Fairs & Graphene - the Next Generation of Printed Circuits

### Join the fun on Nov 4th and 5th!

Save money with an Early Bird Ticket, & reserve a seat at our popular DOUGS Talks.

More Information and tickets at: mountdougalumni.com

\$10 Adult: (\$15 at the door) Student: \$5

\* All proceeds go to our MDAA Student Bursaries Fund. \*

# Honorary President's message -

Hello all you fellow MD alumni. Such exciting times! I hope you will be there at our school's big 85th Birthday Celebration this November 4th & 5th. I understand all three event times have something different in store so invite your friends, family, co-workers and neighbours! The community is welcome too along with us alumni, students & staff.

I'll be looking forward to hearing about the gathering as I sadly and regrettably will be out of the country that weekend. Make sure you buy your tickets and register for those DOUGS Talks on line. The speakers & their topics sound really interesting and the music programs I am sure will be fantastic! Have fun and thanks for supporting our Alma Mater and our MDAA Student Bursaries Fund. Investing in our students is an important gift to give.



David Foster . '67 Class

## President's message

Welcome alumni, and as David says, we look forward to your participation in our school's 85th Celebration. Your hosts, the MDAA board, 85th Celebrations Committees and supporting alumni volunteers along with students & staff have been working hard for some time planning a super party for you.

Only \$10 for ticket online and you can select your DOUGS Talks too. \$15 at the door - still a bargain for all that is happening. Battle of the Brushes in the Art Exhibit area, the Poetry Café, plus great displays of Clubs, Sports and Alumni from the past 85 years.

Show your school spirit! Come & bring others to our school's gathering. You will be glad you did!

Wendy Gedney
MDAA President

## Principal's message

Dear Alumni,

The recent storms have brought the fall weather and with that, we are off to another exciting year at Mount Doug. With the new year, I would like to welcome Mr. Aaron Norris, our new Vice-Principal, who is joining us from the Saanich School District. In a short time, Aaron has already made strong connections within our community and is also finding time to coach our Cross Country team.

Mount Douglas continues to thrive with an increase in our school population of almost 100 students over last year. Although this past June we saw 276 students graduate, we continue to draw students from all over the south island. Our recognition overseas has resulted in our international student population almost doubling over the last five years. Currently, our school population is at 1156 students.

Our athletics' program is seeing huge participation rates this year, and we are having tremendous success on the fields, courts and chip trails. Once again our Varsity Football team is ranked #1 provincially and our Senior Girls Volleyball team has climbed to #4 in the province. In Cross Country, our junior boy's team has earned a berth in the provincials in November with their incredibly strong showing.

As we near November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> for the Mount Douglas 85<sup>th</sup> Celebration, we look forward to welcoming you back to your school. In fact, we welcome you back anytime to come join us in any of our school activities; whether it is for the school musical, cheering on our sports teams or to simply drop by to try and find your grad picture on the wall, you are part of the rich history of Mount Doug, and our doors are always open.

**Shawn Boulding** 

Principal

### **MDAA Bursaries News** -

This June 2016 the MDAA Board was pleased to introduce a second bursary, an MDAA Academic Bursary. Our first was the Len Michaux Fine Arts Bursary. This year's winner of our first Academic Bursary was **Neha Saxena**. Congratulations, Neha! We will catch up with her in our Spring '17 Newsletter.

For now, news of our Len Michaux Bursary winner.

There's good news about **Danté André-Kahan**, the 2015 recipient of our MDAA's Len Michaux bursary! He's putting it to good use at the University of Victoria.

Danté was in the band program since Grade 4, starting with percussion and later taking up electric guitar. "I was doing rock music and playing in the middle school jazz band and concert bands, but it was only when I got to Mount Doug that my musical life really started to take off," says Danté, who fell in love with the timpani, his secondary instrument.

One of Danté's musical supporters was teacher Doug Awai, who became both a mentor and a good friend. "I probably wouldn't be remotely near this path if it weren't for the things he has shown me I can play though jazz and classical music," says Danté.

"I picked up guitar because I wanted to be like Angus Young from AC/DC – now the way I approach music is basically upside-down from that!" Danté laughs. Though he still likes progressive rock and metal, the music he plays now is mostly classical, world, and jazz-fusion. As well, he's learning accordion to explore family history through French and Slavic folk music.

Busy with classes, Danté is very proud of the music he's written and is recording at UVic. "In addition," he says, "I'm currently working as a guitarist and composer/arranger for the Kaleidoscope production of *Snow White*, showing in late December – it's going to be a great event for all ages!"

- interview by Paula Johanson

### Gone but not forgotten...

Andrew North '74 class - d. February 2016
John Douglas Stewart '66 - d. April 2016
Andrew C. Guest '81 - d. May 2016
David J. Harris (teacher) - taught 1974 - 1992 d. May 2016
Mary E. Aitken (teacher) - taught 1978 - 1987 d. June 2016
Audrey Lillian Price '35 d. May 2016 in her 100th year!
Russell Lamb '71 - d. July 2016
Jim Worth '81 - d. July 2016
Preston Smith '98 - d. July 2016
Dave Mason '71 - d. December 2015
Doug Stark '84 - d. August 2016
John Rose ' 66 - d. Sept. 2016

Anyone you know of to be included on our In Memoriam pages of our MDAA website, email: <a href="mailto:obiteditor@mountdougalumni.com">obiteditor@mountdougalumni.com</a>



On September 30th, MDSS students, staff & alumni bid a fond farewell to the much loved evening custodial team, Janice (retiring after 17 yrs at MD) and Shawn (going on the Vic West now) Hobday. They will be missed & we wish them all the best. They said they WILL return for the 85th Celebrations. Come say hello to them!

MD REUNIONS - this past summer - 5 fun parties that we knew about. The MD classes of 1966, 1981, 1986, 1996 & 2006.



1966 class at Uplands Golf Club July 30/16



1981 class at 1550 Restaurant June 4/16



1986 class at The Strathcona Maple Room July 9/16



1996 class at The Strath Maple Room September 17/16

#### • ATTENTION ALL MD ALUMNI AUTHORS, POETS & ARTISANS!

Partner with your Mount Doug Alumni to provide opportunities for Mount Doug students. If you are an author, an artist, or an artisan and you would like to display and market your work at the 85<sup>th</sup> celebration, we will be pleased to work with you to make that happen. Sell your product and leave with us at least 10% to invest in the future of Mount Douglas for student bursaries. Look forward to hearing from you. Email me at: Bill Conconi - billconconi@me.com

\* Thanks all for this edition - stay in touch and see you at our MD 85th Celebrations November 4th & 5th! \*

#### Newsletter contributors:

Wendy Gedney '67 & Paula Johanson '78 & Bill Conconi, MD teacher 1971 - 2002