

August  
2007

# DMCI AlumnEYE

*A publication of the DMCI Alumni, Athletic, Cultural and Education Fund, Inc.*

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## DMCI Alumni Association Contact Information

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## Nine months and counting to the 85<sup>th</sup> reunion

Dates for the 85<sup>th</sup> reunion in April 2008 have been set. Mark April 18, 19, and 20 on your calendar and start making plans to reunite with friends and classmates and relive some maroon and white memories.

The Fort Garry Hotel is the host hotel for the reunion. The reunion planning committee has secured a block of rooms for the event and out-of-town alumni wishing to make arrangements may contact the hotel toll free at 1 (800) 665-8088. Anyone in Winnipeg wishing to book a room may call 942-8251. When booking hotel rooms

please provide the code number 10108E.

Planning is underway and specific details and registration information will be provided in the Fall 2007 *AlumnEye* newsletter, which will be mailed to all alumni on our mailing list. If you do not think you are on the mailing list please contact the alumni association via email at [info@dmcialumni.org](mailto:info@dmcialumni.org) or send us your contact information in the mail at DMCI AACE Fund, Inc. P.O. Box 2475, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4A7

While many details are still being finalized, the

plans for the weekend include a Friday night event at the Fort Garry, an open house at the school on Saturday, and a hotel banquet on Saturday night. The weekend will be capped off by a breakfast on Sunday morning, also at the hotel, which by all accounts was an extremely popular event at the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion in 1998.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to celebrate all things Daniel and reconnect with friends and faculty. The next reunion won't come around until 2023 when we'll mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

## Electronic AlumnEye



***This edition of the AlumnEye is only available electronically. If you know of people who cannot access a computer, would you please help them out by printing copies for them. Thank you.***

## Message from the President



*"In true Daniel spirit our alumni comes through and supports the best high school in the west."*

Welcome to the Summer 2007 issue of our alumni newsletter. It has been a busy and productive time since we last had the opportunity to update the alumni. Following our successful Bud, Spud and Steak fundraiser last October which was highlighted in our fall newsletter, the Board has turned its attention to planning for the upcoming 85<sup>th</sup> reunion.

The reunion will take place beginning Friday, April 18, 2008 and continue through the weekend, concluding on Sunday, April 20 with a farewell breakfast. Our reunion headquarters will be the Fort Garry Hotel. For our out-of-town alumnus, the host committee has reserved a block of rooms for the event and details can be found on page 1 of this newsletter. Pricing for all of the events will be on our alumni web site in the early fall ([www.dmcialumni.org](http://www.dmcialumni.org)) along with more reunion information so please check back for details. As

well, the fall newsletter, which will be a print edition sent to all alumnus on our mailing list, will include registration information and more about the plans for the weekend.

I would like to thank the current members of the reunion planning committee for their efforts thus far: Norma Busby, Beniamino Di Geronimo, Kathy Gerylo, Brenda Kennedy, Margaret Hillius, Heather Johnson, Bill Kilfoyle, Judy Kyliuk, Franco Petrelli, Cindy Ruth, Heidi Schmidt, Grant Sims, Bev Sorensen, Joyce Wawrykow and Christine Wollmann. We're still looking for a handful of volunteers to help with the reunion so if you're interested, please contact me at the email address below.

Fundraising is a big part of any alumni organization and we are no different. Please take time to consider making a donation (tax deductible of course) to your alumni

association. All the information you require is on the donation form located on page 7 in this newsletter.

We have received generous donations to our scholarship program, and combined with our fundraising events the alumni have provided the school with well over \$250,000 of support over the years. In true Daniel spirit our alumni comes through and supports the best high school in the west. For the list of the latest scholarship winners, please see page 3.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, have a wonderful summer. Enjoy the weather and time spent with family and friends. Be safe and stay tuned for more information on the plans for the 85<sup>th</sup> reunion.

Regards,

Doug Sargeant  
President  
[dsargean@petro-canada.ca](mailto:dsargean@petro-canada.ca)



*A number of alumni attended the AGM in April.*

## Highlights from the Annual General Meeting

The annual meeting of the DMCI alumni association was held April 23, 2007 at the school. In reviewing highlights from the past year, President Doug Sargeant noted the success of activities like October's Bud, Spud and Steak Night and last

May's Wine and Cheese event in raising both funds and creating opportunities for alumnus to gather and reminisce. The two events raised almost \$3,000.

"While the association's board of directors is few in

number all alumni should be proud of the job they do and the work that takes place over the year, all on a volunteer basis," said Doug. "As a group they are the organizers of the fundraising activities for this association."

*Continued on page 4*

## Scholarships awarded

At the graduation ceremony on June 28, representatives from the Alumni Association presented scholarships to a number of students. These scholarships are either funded by the alumni or are administered by the alumni association.

### *Scholarships funded by DMCI alumni:*

**Daniel McIntyre Alumni Scholarship** – First awarded in 2001, this scholarship is presented to a graduating student with reasonable or better academic standing and accepted into a post-secondary program.

**2007 recipient: MaryAnne Gonzales.** MaryAnne also won the McIntyre Medal, the highest award given by the school in recognition of contributions to the school and academic excellence.

**Alumni 75<sup>th</sup> Scholarship** – Since 1999, this scholarship has been presented to a student with reasonable academic standing who has made a contribution to the school and to the graduating class in some unique way and has been accepted into a post-secondary program.

**2007 recipient: Ann Aviso.** Ann also won the Math Merit Award. She will be attending the University of Manitoba.

**Alumni Merit Scholarships** – Established by the alumni in 2001, these scholarships are presented to the students who receive the Merit Awards for high achievement in specific subject areas. Following are the 2007 recipients.

Jethro Advincula	<i>Art</i>
Johnny Tran	<i>Business Education and Technology</i>
Danny La	<i>Computer Science</i>
Rick Damsel	<i>English</i>
Jabahi Wa'Enge	<i>English as an Additional Language</i>
Ashlynn Mayham	<i>Home Economics</i>
Chad Riach	<i>Industrial Arts</i>
Kenny Sacramento	<i>Languages</i>
Ann Aviso	<i>Mathematics</i>
Kristel Figueroa	<i>Music</i>
Jann Dava	<i>Physical Education</i>
Suzanne Gomes	<i>Science</i>
Lisa White	<i>Social Studies</i>

### *Scholarship funds managed by the Alumni Association:*

**E.M. Arnott Scholarship** – Presented to a graduating student who has demonstrated leadership, tolerance towards others and academic proficiency. This scholarship was established by family and friends in memory of a former principal of Daniel.

**2007 recipient: Katrin Castillo.** Katrin is interested in the sciences and will be attending the University of Manitoba.

**William J.S. Brown Scholarship** – Presented to a graduating student who has high academic standing, has demonstrated exceptional talent in music and /or the performing arts and who wishes to further these studies at a post-secondary institution. This scholarship was established by the Brown family in memory of their husband and father who was a graduate of Daniel.

**2007 recipient: James Ampil.** James will be attending the University of Manitoba and is interested in music and singing.

**Ella Rae Halsall Memorial Scholarship** – Presented to a graduating student interested in sciences. This scholarship was established by family and friends in memory of Ella Rae who attended Daniel.

**2007 recipient: Lindsay Alvero.** Lindsay was in the top five percent of the class and will be attending the University of Manitoba.

*Continued on next page*



## Scholarships awarded (continued from page 3)

**Sherman Himelblau Memorial Award** – Established to honour the memory of a teacher, this award is presented to a graduating student who has contributed in the areas of drama and music and demonstrated strong leadership qualities.

**2007 recipient: Nickhaqel Pagula.** Nickhaqel is interested in the performing arts – singing and acting – and will be attending the University of Winnipeg.

**John Lawler Memorial Scholarship** – Established by family and friends to honour the memory of a teacher.

**2007 recipient: Trystan Briones.** Trystan is interested in graphic design/animation and will be attending the University of Winnipeg.

**Beverley Wong Memorial Scholarship** – This scholarship is presented to a graduating student who has a reasonable academic standing, exhibited qualities of good citizenship and has an interest in entering a post-secondary child care training program. It was established by the Wong family in memory of their daughter and sister, who was killed in an accident shortly after graduation from Daniel.

**2007 recipient: Eileene Ching.** Eileene is interested in child development and will be attending either the University of Winnipeg or Red River College.

**Takejiro Yamashita Memorial Bursary** – Established by the Yamashita family to honour their father, this scholarship recognizes a graduating student for participation in many facets of high school life while maintaining academic excellence.

**2007 recipient: Jann Dava.** Jann will be attending the University of Manitoba and is interested in math and science.

**Barbara Thomasson Award** – This award was established by Barbara, a former teacher at Daniel, to help students on their way to post-secondary learning.

**2007 recipient: Kimberly De Sousa.**

## AGM highlights (continued from page 2)



At the meeting reports were given on behalf of the Archive, Fundraising, Newsletter and Scholarship Committees. The Treasurer's Report and Auditor's Report were also presented.

Doug noted that donations to the scholarship fund make it possible for the association to award scholarships each year. "Thank you to the alumni and members of the

general public who continue to support our scholarship programs. These awards have been greatly appreciated by all of the recipients over the years."

Elected to the board for the first time was Benianimo DiGeronimo. Re-elected for another two year term were Doug Sargeant, President; Heather Johnson, Secretary; and Bill

Kilfoyle, Member-at-Large. Returning members are Gilles Beaumont, DMCI Principal; Franco Petrelli, Vice-President; Cindy Ruth, Treasurer; Grant Sims and Mary Capri, Members-at-Large; Joyce Wawyrkow, Past President; Mary Kelekis, Honourary Life Member; and staff representatives Bev Sorensen and Marina McCaffrey

## 1957 choir trip to Wales fondly remembered 50 years on

*“Many years on when afar and asunder  
Parted are those who are with us today.  
When we look back and forgetfully wonder  
What we were like in our work and our play,  
Then it will be, there will often come o’er us  
Glimpses of notes like catch of a song.  
Visions of school days will float then before us  
Echoes of Daniel will bear them along.”*

That old Daniel school song had special meaning for former DMCI choir members’ 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion of their trip to Llangollen, Wales to compete in the 1957 International Music Eisteddfod.

Glen Pierce, former DMCI music teacher/director, and his wife, Daisy Pierce along with some of the original 50 members of the 1957 choir gathered at the Viscount Gort Hotel in Winnipeg on June 1 to recall their experiences, sing a few old songs and reflect on the impact the trip has had on them individually. Geraldine (Niemczyk) Spencer described the trip as a “life changing experience.” Reginald Parker, now a retired lawyer living in Saskatchewan, was unable to attend but sent his recollections:

*“I have returned to Great Britain, including Wales, several times since our wonderful experience at the Eisteddfod. It is difficult to describe what I felt when I return to Llangollen. The memories of our sojourn there were vivid and overwhelming. Our experience there was and remains one I will always treasure.”*

Barbara (Hill) Bulmer, now living in Vancouver, noted, “The choir trip was a real highlight of our young lives.”

Other shared memories of people, places and experiences: old black and white photos, scrap books of theatre stubs, newspaper clippings, and other memorabilia, stories of adventures in London, the wonder at visiting great historical sites such as Stonehenge, the Tower of London, Windsor Castle. Some choir members still maintain friendships with people they met in Wales 50 years ago now.

Glen Pierce and his wife, Daisy, initiated and organized the 1957 choir trip when school trips to Europe were unheard of. This was one of the first. At the time, skeptics thought the initiative would not be successful. Even the Winnipeg School Division would not allow the choir to use the school name, so the choir was entered into the Eisteddfod the Schola Cantorum (the School of Good Singing). To guarantee the two-week trip, Mr. and Mrs. Pierce put up \$50,000 of their own money—quite a large sum, especially in 1957! Choir members

each paid \$680.00 to cover travel, accommodations and food. Rudy Peters recalled he chose the trip to Wales over buying a car, a decision he doesn’t regret.

The 50 choir members traveled from Winnipeg to Montreal by train, by air from Montreal to London (stopping in Labrador to refuel en route; Iceland on the return trip), then on to the small Welsh town of Llangollen where they were billeted with local families. They did well in the music competition—as I recall, the choir achieved a fourth place.

The success of this first overseas choir trip led Mr. Pierce to take two or three other choirs to compete in the Eisteddfod and led to the formation of a madrigal choir at Daniel.

Many Daniel alumnae, especially those who sang in one of Glen’s many choirs, will be happy to know that Glen and Daisy Pierce, now both in their 90s, enjoy good health. In fact, Glen still gives vocal and piano lessons.

*Submitted by choir member Ray Lavery*



*Glen Pierce (top photo right and middle photo) and wife Daisy (top photo) enjoyed reminiscing with members of the first DMCI choir to visit Wales.*

## Where are they now?

### Alumnus inducted into the Order of Canada

#### Ron O'Donovan C.M. (1949-51)

On December 15, 2006 the Governor General of Canada, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, invested DMCI alumnus Ron O'Donovan as a member of Canada's highest civilian honour, The Order of Canada.

Ron has lived a life of service to others and continues to do so. Since 1950, assisting with The Mother's March of Dimes he has volunteered with

numerous organizations such as the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities, the Red River Exhibition Association, Winnipeg Harvest Food Bank, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg Retirees Association and numerous other non-profit organizations.

It was a simple act of donating 150 pounds of potatoes from the family garden to a local Agape lunch program that led to the creation of "Grow-A-

Row." The program, started 21 years ago, encourages gardeners to plant an extra row of vegetables and to share their harvest with local food banks and soup kitchens. It has taken root and blossomed across Canada and the United States. Due to Ron's effort and his wife Eunice's, over a million kilograms of produce have been donated and a heightened awareness of this great need has been cultivated.



### Former administrator and staff member inducted in Hall of Fame

#### Vailla Hoggan Staff 1969-75; Principal 1993-2002

In April 2007 the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame inducted former DMCI administrator and staff member Vailla Hoggan (Richardson) into its ranks for her achievement in water skiing, a sport she dominated for a decade. She won six straight overall Canadian

championships, even though she liked slalom best and considered it her strong point.

She competed in four international competitions, including two world championships (1967 and 1969). Vailla was also the first Canadian woman to win gold in slalom at the Group 1 (North and South America) Championships in Bogota, Colombia in

1968. She ended her competitive career with a competition in Manitoba in 1970, after she joined the Daniel staff. While the demands and duties of her teaching career left her little time, she did become the first female executive of the Canadian Water Ski Association and she coached the Manitoba team for the 1973 Canada Summer Games.



## Your Names Goes Here: Donor Wall Contributions

If anyone is planning on making a contribution to the school and its programs and wants recognition on the Donor Wall before the reunion in April 2008, the contribution must be received before the end of November 2007. It takes time to have the new name strips engraved and to go through the records for names of people who already have engraved strips that should be moved from one category to another on the wall. A donation form is included on page 7.

**Where are they now? (continued from page 6)**



*Glen with alumna Mary Kelekis during a recent visit.*

**1940s**

**Glen Adams  
1942**

After his final year at DMCI, Glen started working for the CPR as a payroll clerk for sleeping and dining car crews. In 1946 he changed jobs and went to work for Air Canada as a clerk in telecommunications. In

1949 he was transferred to Montreal where he was a personnel supervisor and later a personnel manager for the computer department.

In 1983 Glen retired from Air Canada and he and his wife, **Doreen Davies (1943)**, chose to return to Winnipeg, where they

renewed friendships with their Daniel Mac and curling connections. After Doreen's death, Glen remained in Winnipeg, but macular degeneration has caused Glen to return to Montreal to live with his son; however, he returns twice a year to visit his friends.



*Dennis Quaid takes a break during movie shoot at Kelekis Restaurant.*

**Kelekis Restaurant used as Quaid movie set**

Kelekis Restaurant's lunch counter served as the location for one of the scenes in the new Dennis Quaid movie "Horsemen" due to be released next year. According to Mary Kelekis, "the whole process was a learning experience." The scene which has Quaid and his son, played by Lou Pucci, eating lunch at the counter

took the whole day to shoot while lasting only 3 minutes and 20 seconds in the actual movie.

The technical people arrived around 9 a.m. to set up power, lights and cameras. Around 2:30 p.m. the extras and wardrobe people came in. Later the directors arrived to check it all out. Quaid and Pucci arrived around

4 p.m. The shoot wrapped up around 9:30 p.m.

It had taken 15 double cheeseburgers (with one bite taken out of them) to get the scene right. Two of the Kelekis' staff had a small part in the scene – the cook and the waitress.

**WE NEED YOU! And your support**

**Revive your school spirit. Take an active part in supporting your school!**

I wish to make a donation to the Alumni Fund in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to the DMCI AACE Fund, Inc. Mailing address: DMCI AACE Fund, Inc. P.O. Box 2475, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4A7

**Please print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it should appear on donor wall (for contributions of \$100 or more. Max. 35 letters including spaces):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

