



Alere Flammam

The newsletter of the Lisgar Alumni Association
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Joan Finnigan: Lisgar's Beloved Storyteller

Affectionate, enthusiastic, energetic, engaging, feisty, industrious, warm—these are some of the adjectives that come to mind as one examines the contents of Joan Finnigan's file, which is replete with articles, clippings, pictures, a poster announcing an evening held in her honour, and her own résumé submitted in 1992. Joan attended Lisgar Collegiate from 1940–1945 and continued a close relationship with the school, which culminated in her editing the sesquicentennial history of the school for the 1993 reunion. In 2003, during the 160th, she thrilled many attendees by rolling up her sleeves and signing copies of the book that were for sale on that occasion. Many other files in the alumni office contain photos, newspaper articles, or other items marked "donated by Joan Finnigan," and several of her books are among those of Lisgar's published writers which line a shelf in the alumni office. Her contribution to the school cannot be measured.

Joan grew up on McLeod Street in Centretown, the daughter of original Senators captain Frank Finnigan, another Ottawa Valley legend, and mother Maye (Horner), also of Valley

stock. Her affinity for the people of the Ottawa Valley was nurtured as she spent summers on her grandparents' farm in the Pontiac. After graduating from Lisgar in 1945, Joan enrolled in the journalism program at Carleton, which she soon left, impatient to attain experience in the field, eventually working as a reporter for the *Ottawa Journal*. Her early exit may also have been prompted by the fact that though she won the majority of votes in a Students' Council election she was not permitted to be president because she was a woman.

Later, at Queen's University, where she studied English and History, Joan met her future husband, Grant Mackenzie, a medical student, and dropped out once again before attaining a degree in order to support him by working as a freelance journalist. Widowed by the premature death of Dr. Mackenzie in 1965, she began in earnest her career as a social historian as she toured the Ottawa Valley, three young children in tow and armed with a tape recorder, interviewing residents and taking up causes that inspired her.

Contemporaries of Joan will know that even in her young years she was an avid writer, having been a member of the *Vox* team, and its editor in the year 1944–45. Her Ottawa Valley renown resulted from her avocation of chronicling the stories of the Valley people she grew to love and admire

and her recognition of the importance of preserving their social history. Among those books recalling regional history are *Laughing All the Way Home* (1984), for which she was a runner up for the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour, and *Life Along the Opeongo Line* (2004).

In her Lisgar file one finds Joan's 1992 résumé adorned with a note "for the Lisgar archives." It lists 24 published books of various genres—poetry, history, oral history, children's literature, a cultural and historical guide, humour, biography, recipes, sociology—and numerous journalistic highlights as well as film credits and radio scripts. At that time, she also had had three plays produced, and listed eight works projected or in progress. Between 1965 and 1989, she received no fewer than 25 marks of recognition or nominations for awards, some of which she won. In addition to all this, she somehow found the time to finally attain her degree in English from Queen's in 1967. Her personal data in the résumé indicates that she was in excellent health and lists her hobbies in her own words as "six wonderfully amazing grandchildren, photography, gardening, and tennis." And she wasn't done yet!

Among the many honours Joan received over the years, it is likely safe to say that few pleased her more than the event held on April 16, 2007 to



LISGAR LEGEND: Ottawa Valley and Lisgar Collegiate historian Joan Finnigan, who passed away last fall, was one of the school's most well-known and beloved alumni.

recognize her contribution as the social historian of the Ottawa Valley of the 20th century. The evening featured singing, poetry, and music and was attended by many dignitaries as well as admirers anxious to return the affection she had bestowed on them in her writings over the years. It is to be hoped that she was aware also of the high regard and affection accorded her by her friends in the Lisgar community for her contribution to our school.

Joan Finnigan died on August 12, 2007. ■

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Heritage Ottawa's 3rd Annual Bob and Mary Anne Phillips Memorial Lecture:
Lisgar Collegiate's 1908 Heritage Building at its Centenary
 Wednesday, February 20th, 2008, 7:00 PM, in the Lisgar Alumni Auditorium. Admission is free.

Lisgar alumni David Jeanes and Stuart Lazear will talk about Lisgar Collegiate's heritage building, constructed in stages 1874–1901, and its five prominent architects: William T. Thomas, Walter Chesterton, James Mather, Edgar L. Horwood, and Lawrence Fennings Taylor, and the campaign by Heritage Ottawa's founding president Bob Phillips and collaborators to save the school from demolition in 1974. Visit www.heritageottawa.org for more information.

Members' Forum

In reply to our request for identification of the photos of a mystery item found in the Archives, David Jeanes was the first to write with the correct reply: Page 5 of the Spring 2007 *Alere Flamman* newsletter shows a mystery pin with the numbers 8 and 5 set between blue and grey shields above and below the Lisgar name, with the number 64 attached on a short chain. This is an award pin for an average above of 85% for the 1963–1964 school year in any grade. In the early 1960's pins of the Lisgar coat of arms with the year attached were also presented to Student Council members, and with a bar attached for the perfect attendance prize.

[Editor's note: David will receive a Lisgar travel mug in appreciation for solving this mystery for us. We also received replies from Maureen Stapley (1967), Lyle Sadavoy (1965), Sandy Hoenecke (1965), and Irenka Farmilo (1966).]

Margaret Neiboer (Gretel Bates) wrote from her home in Invermere, BC: I retired in June after 25 years as a Senior Tax Avoidance Auditor with the Canada Revenue Agency. I have moved to a small resort town in the Rockies beside Lake Windermere. It is three

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hours from Calgary and my kids. I have always been grateful to Lisgar for teaching me that you can do a lot of things with your life, and that you don't have to follow any expected pattern. For example: I am not going to be doing any accounting or tax work in my retirement! I always enjoy the newsletters as you always see a name that you know.

George Toller (1945) had a poem published in the Alta Vista Community newspaper recently:

Sleighting in a Winter Wonderland
Sleigh bells rang,
We all were listenin'
The Rideau Canal
Was all aglistenin'
The horses jogged along,
As we sang the Lisgar song,
Life was so delightful way back then!

Harold Rubin (1939) has published an autobiography, Those Pesky Weeds, including several memories from his Lisgar days.

I. F. Kennedy (1947) has published the book Black Crosses Off My Wingtip, about his World War Two fighter pilot days.

Anne Holman (Boyd, 1955) wrote from her home in Herefordshire, England: I remember realizing at the time what a wonderful teacher Miss Meach was, as was Miss Isobel Brown, whose Latin classes have led to a life-long interest. My final year in a one-to-one German class with Miss Thompson was a happy time too. I'm glad to know that Lisgar flourishes.

Sally Pitt (1979) wrote in to ask if there were any plans for a 30 year reunion for her graduating class. She is now living in PEI and works for the CBC.

Marvel Evelyn (Miller, 1955) wrote to ask for contact information for Hugh Hiscox (1956/57): I was in the class of 1955, but left Lisgar in 1954 to attend school in St. Thomas,

In Memoriam

BURGESS, Betty died on February 11, 2007 in her 92nd year. Betty was predeceased by her beloved sister Mary. She is survived by her sister Helen Morgan. Donations welcome to Lisgar Collegiate Scholarship Fund, in memory of Betty's dear friend, Adel Gazal.

CAWSEY, Ruth (Gray, 1957) died on August 28th, 2007 at the age of 70. Loving wife for 47 years of Grant (1958) and mother of Janet, Gord, and Greg. Sister of Thelma, Marjorie, Barbara, Alec and Ron.

BUFORD, William "Neal" died on September 19, 2007 at the age of 84. A WWII veteran with four years in the RCAF and 20 years in the USAF, and retired civil servant with the US Department of Defense, he was predeceased by his wife of over 53 years, Doris.

DALE, E. Elizabeth (Thackeray, 1945) died on June 24, 2007 at the age of 79. Beloved wife of the late Prof. Douglas Dale. Mother of Kathy, Bill, Jim, Rick, and Margy.

GRAY, Ruth (Cracknell, 1950).

HAAS, Richard B. (1962) died this fall after a long illness. He is survived by his wife Carol, and children Taylor, Timothy, and Donna, and his sister Doreen. Richard started Lisgar's chess club and donated the chess trophy for the school.

KATZ, Sidney (1960) died on September 13, 2007 at the age of 92. Survived by his wife Dorothy, sisters Esther and Miriam, as well as his son Jeremy. Predeceased by his son Stephen. Sid was a journalist and wrote for *Maclean's* magazine as well as the *Toronto Star*. He was particu-

larly concerned with health issues and special needs.

MACKENZIE, Joan (Finnigan, 1944) died on August 12, 2007 at the age of 82. Predeceased by her husband Grant and her brothers John and Ross. Survived by her brother Frank, sister Norma, and her children Jonathan, Roderick, and Martha.

MACKIE, Dorothy C. (Douglas, 1939) died on July 12, 2007 at the age of 88. Loving wife of Robert, sister of the late Hugh and Jean. Her daughter writes that Dorothy had many fond memories of her years at Lisgar.

MOULDS, Dr. Godfrey died on October 24th, 2000 at the age of 83. He worked for more than 40 years as a general physician, surgeon and obstetrician in Ottawa and delivered generations of local babies. He was predeceased by his first wife Eleanor. He is survived by his second wife Catherine, and children Donald, Marney, and Stephen as well as his sister Irene.

POWERS, Irene (1929) died on April 12, 2007 at the age of 95. She was the dear aunt of Rick (1964) and Judy (1956) Sleeman.

TOLLER, Eric B. (1947) died on August 29, 2007 at the age of 80. Survived by his wife of 55 years, Margot (Winters, 1948), daughter Jane, and son Peter. Brother of George (1945) and Joan (1950). George was Head Boy at Lisgar in 1947.

Mail has been returned to the Alumni Office marked "deceased" from the following Alumni:

RENWICK, R. (1936)

URIE, Geraldine (1948) ■

Ontario. Hugh and I grew up across the street from each other in Sandy Hill and we were in the same Confirmation class at All Saints Anglican Church in 1950. We often used to walk to Lisgar from Charlotte St., a distance of several miles, to save on streetcar fare. No school busses in those days! It seems that every time I am in touch with anyone from Lisgar, Hugh's name comes up and we say, "I

wonder where Hugh is." Recently, I promised that I would find out. So I hope you are able to help me locate him.

Lynda Thompson (Davey, 1967) wrote: I do so enjoy receiving the newsletter and feel very sorry that I have not been renewing. So today I am sending the funds to cover the lifetime membership and a small donation for

the general fund. A special thank-you to members who volunteer for the Association.

Janet Potter (Cole, 1964) is a talented stained glass artisan living in Woodlawn, Ontario. She wrote: I really enjoy the newsletter—great opportunity to “catch up” with people from “way back.” Keep up the good work!

George McCuaig (1934) of Manotick, Ontario wrote: Most enjoyable newsletter!

William Berry (1960) e-mailed: Reading in the recent Lisgar newsletter (Spring '07) Mr. Milton Shaffer's memories, I reflected upon my time at Lisgar (1955–60). He mentioned that sports were a big deal, however most of the school's teams were second-tier. Speaking for myself, sports were a big deal as well, but I never felt that the teams were second-tier. Luckily, fortunately, whatever way you want to put it, we won the Jr. A football championship three years in a row. I do not know if any other school has ever accomplished this since—certainly not before then. To this end, I would like to nominate Mr. Bernie Black who coached us during that championship run. I know of three players who played on all three championship teams, which would have been a rarity because of the age restriction, and would like to also include them in the nomination. The players are William Blackburn, Tom Kritch and William Berry.

Valerie Leasing (Delaute, 1953) e-mailed: I was recently reminded of Latin and history classes with Isobel Brown and Marion Meech as I cruised the Mediterranean and Greek Islands with friends. We visited many of the ancient ruins and places they so vividly described to me over 50 years ago. Many people have remarked on Miss Meech's ability to remember the names of former students. I too was amazed at this ability when I met her at the 160th reunion. She not only remembered my name after 50 years

but remembered that I had two sisters who attended Lisgar and asked about them by name, confirming in my mind that she really did remember us all. Thanks for *Alere Flammam*. Keep up the good work. It is great to keep in touch.

*Bill Thorsteinson (1953) e-mailed: In 1953 I graduated from Lisgar (more or less) and was on Student Council along with Betty Swerdfager, Joan Herbert (who I married in 1957), Don Bohart, Dick Foran, and others who I've forgotten. Somehow in our various moves I have lost my copy of the 1952–53 *Vox*. Would there be any copies of this edition and how might I obtain one? I enjoy receiving *Alere Flammam* and hearing about fellow students of my era. Joe Scanlon wonders why Mr. Meng invited him up to the shooting gallery. Well, Joe was a consummate “gym rat.” Always shooting hoops at lunch and after school. I guess Mr. Meng was hoping Joe might hit the target because he seldom hit the basket.*

Marjorie (Gray) Wells e-mailed: My brother (Ronald Gray) passed away in November and some kind soul put his death notice in the last Lisgar newsletter that goes out to former students. My sister Ruth Cawsey (Gray), who lives in Toronto and who is not well, wondered if you had a record of who sent you that notice. Ron's brother Alex also attended Lisgar and played Goalie for their hockey team in the late

'40s and was captain of their football team. Alex died in Korea. As a family we would like to say thank you to the person who remembered our brothers.

[Editor's note: *Ruth (Grey) Cawsey has since passed away.*]

Dee (Bienview, 1965) and Tony Watt (1965) e-mailed: Hello! Just received the latest issue—I hadn't been to the website in a while, and was pleased to see that the newsletter was posted there! No need to send us a paper copy any more—just an e-mail saying it is available on the web site. I hope you are doing this with others—it should be quite a cost saver. Thanks for all you do for the alumni!

Marvel Evelyn (Miller, 1955) wrote from her home in Calgary, Alberta: I am one of the many people who were saddened to hear of Ruth (Gray) Cawsey's death this past August. Ruth and her husband Grant visited me in Calgary in the fall of 2006. Ruth was very happy and positive about her health that day and she was so moved by our majestic Rockies. Ruth and Grant's visit came at a very poignant time. Ruth knew she was facing more cancer treatment and my husband was undergoing radiation treatment and possibly another bout of surgery. We knew how important it was for the four of us to enjoy some happy days together. Ruth talked about her love for her brother Alex, who was killed in Korea on April 16, 1953. During the visit, Ruth and I reminisced over our

time at Lisgar and at the Ottawa Civic Hospital School of Nursing. Ruth remembered so many Lisgarites and knew what paths their lives had taken since their high school days. I can see Ruth laughing as a young teenager and then as a newly grown-up, smiling nursing student, in the OCH pink uniform with clack shoes and stockings. I am certain she brought much comfort to the patients she cared for in her years as a psychiatric nurse. I am sure Ruth's spirit now spends some time in the Rockies west of Calgary!

Recent Lisgar grad Ally Kemper (2007) was featured in a 7-page spread in the October 2007 issue of Hello! Canada magazine. Ally is the daughter of Margaret Trudeau Kemper.

Neil Alder (1952) wrote: Enclosed is a group photo of Lisgar Alumni who attended the 19th Annual Old Timers Reunion held in August 2007 at my home in Smiths Falls. This is a group that attended Lisgar between 1946 and 1953. As it has been 60-odd years since we went to good old Lisgar, you can see we are all in our golden years! We plan on holding our 20th and probably our last gathering on the second Saturday in August 2008. It has been great keeping these old friendships alive and as this could possibly be our last meeting anyone who would like to join us is more than welcome. Contact me at nalder@ripnet.com or by phone at 613 283-7615. ■



WE'LL MEET AGAIN: The 20th annual Old Timers reunion will be held at Neil Alder's home in Smiths Falls this August. See above for more information.

Twelve Wild Women and One Outhouse

By Heather Ingram

Before tattoos, body jewellery and thong underwear were common, we were twelve young women who bonded while at Lisgar—part of the Class of 1960. Among us were a head girl, a basketball player, cheerleaders, girls' AA leaders, Hi-Y members and *Vox Lycei* staffers.

How could we know that we twelve young women would fan out in different directions in the world yet maintain our bond, albeit sporadically, over 50 years? And who would guess the same twelve women, now 65 years old, would get together again to celebrate our sisterhood?

That's exactly what happened with the "Lisgar Longlasters" reunion over four sun-filled days at a McGregor Lake cottage in Québec in July 2007. Our one common discovery: although our divergent life experiences have

shaped our growth and development throughout adulthood, our core values and warm friendship ties remain unchanged. After university, which we all attended (a new phenomenon for women in our era), two of us joined CUSO (Canadian University Services Overseas), landing in India and Ghana respectively. Those two-year commitments led to a professional East Indian classical dance career for one and the launching of scholarships for girl students in Ghana by the other. One of us taught in the Canadian north and Newfoundland while another favoured the alternative individualized approach to learning in Toronto and a third taught Tai Chi for over 20 years. One is an economist working in Ireland.

To paraphrase one of our Lisgar Longlasters, we represented the transitional age for women. Our models at the time were stay-at-home moms, and the academic environment then did

not encourage us in careers. We had to learn what we had not been taught, so we worked outside the home and raised children simultaneously, some of us at careers that were male-dominated at the time. We each found success in our fields. One of us is a film guru who received the Persistence of Vision Leadership Award from the Canadian film industry as well as the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal awarded to young Canadian achievers under 40. Also in our midst are professional writers, editors, and a publisher, an economist, a nurse, a chartered accountant, school teachers, and a leading advocate currently working to establish a National Botanical Garden in Ottawa.

McGregor Lake was the perfect catalyst for our reunion. We were privy to one outhouse, tastefully decorated with ceramic cherubs. Inhibitions disappeared: we swam in the nude.

Forgoing daily routines, we leapt eagerly back to nature and played in the water. We heard the plaintive call of the loon and remembered former camping days. We ate birthday cake after an enthusiastic chorus of "happy birthday to us!" In the wee hours of one morning, we serenaded the lake's inhabitants with loud songs, sung off-key and accompanied by raucous bawdy jokes and copious bottles of wine. We shared stories and hopes and fears and philosophies and health hints. The worst physical injuries were a foot splinter from the dock and a nasty insect bite.

We gathered from Ireland, Halifax, Edmonton, and Saltspring Island, as well as from Burlington, Toronto, Peterborough, Rigaud, and Ottawa. Together we have raised 23 children, we adore our numerous grandchildren, and seven of us remain married to our first husbands (could this be statistically unusual?!)

And there is a bonus. One of our original group, well-known local artist Joan Sutherland, was unable to join us. So while in Ottawa, we did attend an art gallery showcasing her love of nature and colour and spent an evening chatting with her by phone.

Plus... an additional bonus! Another former Lisgarite, Russ Sawchuk, awestruck at the sight of twelve wild women, turned up on our final day to take photos of the Longlasters together.

The Lisgar Longlasters are: Anne Baxter (now Fischer), Betty Jane Bolduc (Marsh), Barbara Brennagh (O'Brien), Lillian Buchanan, Liz Delaute (Simms), Anne Groves aka Anjali (Anne-Marie Gaston), Marlyn Horsdal, Heather Ingram (Rath), Sandra Low (Gathercole), Judith Robertson (who brought along our canine mascot, Polly), Joan Sutherland, Anne Wharrie (Hicks), and Jane Wilson (Panet), our gracious hostess.

An amazing friendship circle—and it all began at Lisgar! ■



LISGAR LONGLASTERS: The Class of 1960 produced many successes, including these twelve lifelong friends, pictured at a reunion last summer.

Here and There

Stained Glass Repaired

The repairs to the damaged stained glass windows in the stairwell at Lisgar's main entrance have been completed. The work was supported financially by the Alumni Association, using your continued generous donations. We are told that the restored windows look even more beautiful than they did originally! They are to be re-installed at the end of February, weather permitting.

Honour With Books

Alumni may not be aware that it is possible to donate a book to the Lisgar library to celebrate a special occasion, acknowledge an accomplishment, or provide a memorial tribute. For a minimum donation is \$50 for one book, a book plate bearing your name and the name of the person being honoured will be placed in the new acquisition. A tax receipt will be issued for your donation.

Life Members

We are delighted to report that 24 alumni have become Life Members since the Spring 2008 issue of *Alere Flamman*. They are:

Berry, William (1960)
 Chadderton, Brian (1967)
 Coleman, Heather (1986)
 Conrad, Lara (Glouchkow, 1992)
 Cook, Audrey (1953)
 Dudley, Heather (Dewar, 1960)
 Fry, Jane (Franklin, 1976)
 Gould, Roslyn (Pleet, 1953)
 Holman, Ann (Boyd, 1955)

Jeanes, David (1965)
 Lapointe, Jacques (1967)
 Lowe, James (1949)
 Moenting, Alissa (1997)
 Neal, Derek (1985)
 Potter, Janet (Cole, 1964)
 Robertson, Judith (1960)
 Scoates, R.F. Jon (1956)
 Simpson, Catherine (Kaye, 1962)
 Sire, Elisabeth (2006)
 Soo, Stephanie (2002)
 Stevens, Ken (1969)
 Stowell, Nick (1965)
 Thompson, Lynda (Davey, 1967)
 Tse, Raymond (1993)

Notes from Down Below

From Joy Heft

Since the last newsletter, two names have been added to the plaques in the Memorial Hall—that of Peter Chance to the Korean War Memorial, and that of Stewart F.D. Bruce, who trained troops at Camp Borden and in Kingston, to the Second World War plaque.

Thanks to the generosity of alumni, we are gradually reaching our goal for the archival collection of copies of the *Vox*. The receipt from Joan (Klaas) Doubt of the 1959 and 1960 *Vox* has reduced those still sought to the following issues: 1911, 1914 (spring and fall) 1916, 1922, and 1924. The hottest *Vox* according to recent demand are those of 1947 and 1968. Grant Murray purchased a copy of the former, and we later received a request which we were unable to fill from Barbara Konig for the same year. Additionally, Joseph Maviglia visited the school in search of the 1968 edition. He lines up behind Peter Stark who has a long-standing request for that edition. Anyone able or willing to part with either of those years, please get in touch. Upon receiving his 1947 edition, Murray Grant wrote:

"That book marked the beginning of a career path for me. As the 1946-47 president of the camera club, I undertook to take most of the pictures in the *Vox*—all of the '47 grads and some others. I created the "LIFE at Lisgar" section at the back of the book. Almost as an after-thought I

submitted my summer of '46 story (a trip to Texas) and won first prize. One thing led to another and I have spent 50 years in journalism, advertising, and public relations. Lisgar is a great school and the staff are totally supportive as students stagger, stumble, step and slide into a career path."

For those who are interested, the Ottawa Public Library's Main Branch has an almost-complete collection of *Vox* dating from 1917. Alumni are reminded also that we do have extra copies of *Vox* for sale for some years.

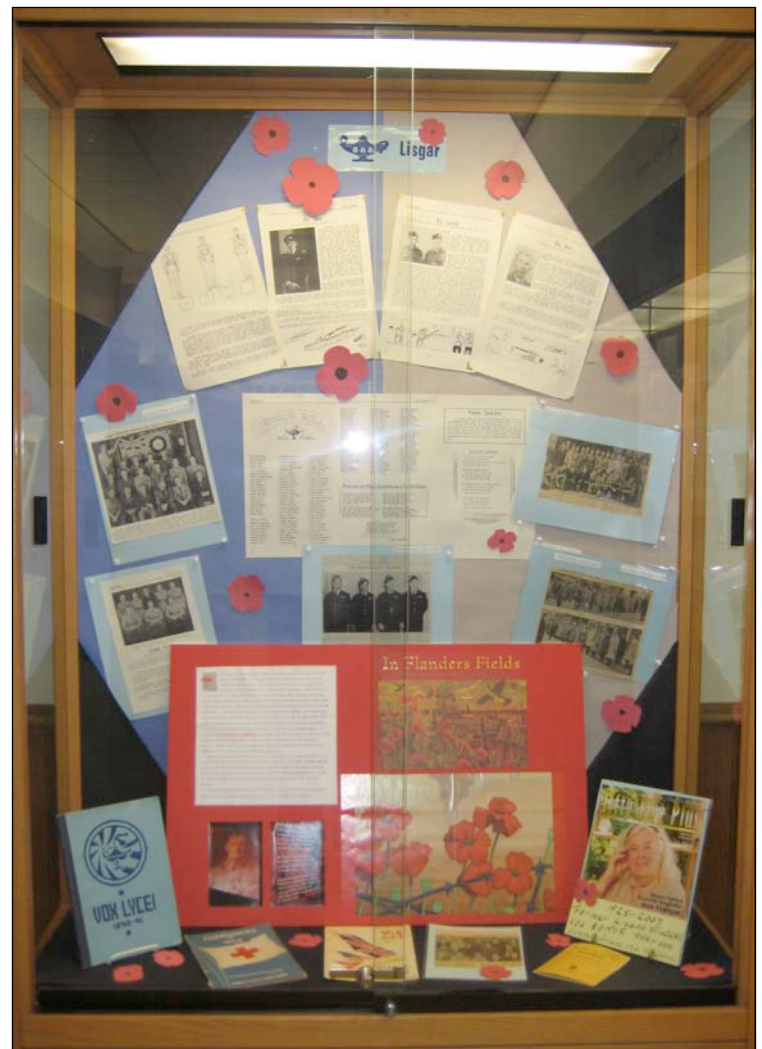
A Remembrance Day display mounted in the alumni showcase highlighted the Second World War using material from the 1941 *Vox* with the addition of a colourful poster explaining John McRae's inspiration for the poem "In Flanders Field" upon the death, during World War I, of his friend and former Lisgarite, Alexis Helmer. As another honoured former student, well known author Joan Finnigan, died this year, the display included a picture of her and a few of her poems from the 1941 *Vox* dedicated to Lisgar enlistees. In "Prayer on the Departure of a Soldier" she wrote:

Dear God; may he return
 To where his heart has been,
 To our lane of weeping willow
 With road-way in between,
 To spring-time in our country
 When the fields are touched with green.

In the last newsletter, this column featured a "mystery pin" and explanations were forthcoming from several

people. The 64 denoted the year, and students who had received an average of over 85% on their year's work received the pin in recognition. Elizabeth Hale, our secretary, has identified the first respondent, David Jeanes, who will receive a Lisgar mug in recognition.

For this issue, we have another question to pose to any of you who may know the answer—though this time we know the answer to the question ourselves: When and why did Lisgar's name change from Ottawa Collegiate Institute to Lisgar Collegiate Institute? ■



LEST WE FORGET: Current students were treated to a display recognizing Lisgar's WWII enlistees.

Alumni Funding Thank-Yous

Janice Isaac, on behalf of the English Department "...is overwhelmed by your generous donation for the purchase of a media cart. It will allow us to be more innovative in our lesson planning... We will be delighted to encourage our students to select more media-based assignments, and our Grade 11 Media course, which will run for the first time next year, will no doubt find this equipment invaluable. We truly appreciate your consideration and your kindness."

The Phys. Ed. Department thanks you "for the funding you granted to the Outdoor Ed. & Phys Ed. Program for the purchase of new cross-country skis. Twelve pairs of skis, bindings, and poles have been ordered and will be ready for use as soon as the snow flies. Your support is greatly appreciated and the equipment will be enjoyed by students for years to come."

Richard Arrigo (Arts Department) thanks you "for providing us with the means to purchase the curtains and poles for use in the gym and the auditorium. Your continuous support and generosity allow Lisgar to flourish. Having the curtains for Remembrance Day made the setup much easier, as they help transform the gym into a warmer and inviting place for an assembly!" ■



NEW SKIS: Outdoor Ed. teacher R. Middleton.



"CAN" YOU FEEL THE LOVE: Lisgar's canned food drive for the Centretown Food Bank this past Christmas beat last year's record—just under 5,000 items. Principal Karen Gledhill poses with director of student affairs Josh Ostapchuk in front of some canned goods stockpiled in Lisgar's main hall.

Kudos to Past Teacher Mitsuko Kawasaki

Mitsuko Kawasaki, former Lisgar Japanese teacher, was one of two people honoured at a luncheon and awards ceremony held at the home of the Japanese Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency Tsuneo Nishida, on September 25th. The Foreign Minister's Award is conferred on those who make a distinguished contribution to the increase of friendship between Japan and foreign countries in areas other than diplomatic.

Those who studied at Lisgar with Mrs. Kawasaki are aware of the dedication and excellence she brought to her teaching. Ambassador Nishida alluded also to her inauguration of the Japanese Contest in Canada in 1989 and her continued involvement in it, as well as her contribution to producing Japan experts in her role as coordinator for the Intensive Japanese Training at Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Mitsuko's contribution to the friendship between Japan and Canada is not limited to the arena of language; as a

member of Ikebana International in Ottawa for more than thirty years she has reached out to Canadians old and young in fostering an interest in this

Japanese traditional art. Mrs. Kawasaki's former Lisgar colleagues and students will be pleased and proud to learn of this well-deserved award. ■



BUILDING A BRIDGE: Japanese Ambassador to Canada Tsuneo Nishida (centre) bestows the Foreign Minister's Award upon former Lisgar teacher Mitsuko Kawasaki (right) and Dr. Akira Watanabe.