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## Hospitality Alumni Newsletter

### December 2011 Issue

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The fall semester is almost at an end....and the list of things to be accomplished is far too many. Of course, there are marks to be calculated ...and a Newsletter to create. Let me see, the Newsletter sounds much more interesting. It is always much more attention-grabbing for me to read your e-mails and get caught up on your lives instead of working on course outlines and evaluating papers!

So take a few minutes away from your hectic lives... and all those lists... and get the ingredients for your Blueberry Tea and step back in time when you thought life was really challenging and now you realize it was a 'piece of cake'.... Some of the messages have been re-worded and others are in their original format... as they can't be improved on.

Staff of.....

#### 1990

No news has been received from **Lisa Brown-Tanner** and **John Buckler** but **Jane Chisholm-Fox** sent us a note. Jane and her family are enjoying their lifestyle in Kimberley, BC. The town has 'one' traffic light! Jane mentioned that the town reminds her of Mahone Bay. The Foxes moved into their new home this past May. Daughter, Lucy, was on two soccer teams this past summer while dad, Mike was either coaching or attending meetings about soccer. The family made a trip to Nova Scotia in August to visit with the Grandparents and to get some beach time in! It has been quiet from **Janet Croft-Handley**, **Kevin DeMille**, **Sharon Hanlon-Morash**, and **Nicole Hiltz-Stewart**. **Sylvia Kinnear** could find no excuse not to give us an update☺. Sylvia is still very involved in the Ukulele group and they have given many concerts in Lunenburg County and surrounding areas. Besides being involved with music, this grandmother of two is very occupied with her gardens. Sylvia's gardens are a must see and are open to the public... since it is winter time, wait until next summer and drop

by for a visit... give Sylvia a call so she can be your personal guide. **Tina Hubley-Smith** –*“things for me are pretty much the same except I now have another teenage daughter. One more to go but I have decided that working 40 hours a week is better for me. I now let Malcolm have more house control. I work the daycare about five days a week, most days finishing into the evening at about 6 pm. My small cleaning business is down to about 2 jobs a week and I still am cooking five days a week to help keep a 95 year old in his home. Last April I received my E.C.E equivalency and at almost the same time I received a Caring at Work Award. Congratulations!! I have finally realized why blueberry tea was so important to Ms. Corkum; now I am making up for lost time! (it only took you a couple of years to catch on!!) The girls keep my weekends very busy but I have decided that 2 1/2 hours of badminton on Wednesday nights help me to*

*keep sane! And I have continued to drive my bike all year round, rain, sunshine or snow. Malcolm has been driving his bike to the Lunenburg Arena for his 28th year. I miss the hospitality business and food and beverage so I find myself eating out a lot just to stay connected. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2012!* You always amaze me by how much you get accomplished, Tina... and that you are loyal to bike 365 days a year!! All the best to you and your family. No recent news from **Twila Leopold**. **Patty Moody-Weagle** has joined the CCA gang! ...this past June, Patty graduated from the NSCC-Shelburne Campus with honours in Continuing Care Aide. Congratulations. Patty is working at the Roseway Manor. Patty says this was the best decision that she has made in years..... Patty's son turned nine this past summer. Thanks for the note and all the best. **Peter Mossman, Darrin Myra, Trina Rhuland-Cleveland** and **Brad Selig** have sent no notes.

#### 1991

**Shannon Bruhm, Tosha Killiam-Bruhm, Kim Burse-Chaisson, Tina Hatt-Baker, Linda Hayes, Jack Headly, Carrie Manuel-Ernst, Terri Slauenwhite, and Jane Whynot** sent no updates... hope all is well.

#### 1992

We have been able to track **Leanne DeMille-St Louis** down... Leanne is still in 'Upper Canada'... Leanne is the North American Support and Asset Manager at Mosaic Sales Solutions.... Leanne, this sounds like you are totally involved with computers!!! Great to know that you are doing well, Leanne. No recent updates from **Pam Langille** and **Stephanie McGill-Lee**. **Marcia Mosher** is at home coping with some health issues. We wish you all the best, Marcia... No news from **Jenny Murray** but **Penny Rhino-Whynot** informed us that she and her family have been living in the Annapolis Valley for the past two years. Husband, Adam, has switched from the Army to the Air Force which is one of the reasons for the move... although, that means he is often away from the family. Penny's daughter, Emma (7) is enrolled in French Immersion while big brother, Joshua (11) is in middle school and learning French... Penny is kept busy but still gets out running and is faithful to her gym routine! Thanks for the note and all the best, Penny. **Rhonda Roast** has sent no news. **Ike Seaman** who is the Director of Food and Beverage at the Wickaninnish Inn in Tofino, BC says that there is lots on the go as usual on the west coast! Ike, is enjoying his new position and all the other challenges

including working on the budget! The property is undergoing major renovations which will take its rooms from a 4 diamond to a 5 diamond standard.... All the best with your renovations, Ike. With all this on the go, Ike wasn't able to jam in his Nova Scotia holiday ... surfing is still a top propriety and a great stress relief. Thanks for the note, Ike. **Sheri-Lynn Slauenwhite-Barry** was trying to think of something exciting or new in her world.... This past September, Sheri-Lynn was riding her bike... put too much pressure on the brakes...and over the handlebars she went☹ Sheri-Lynn broke her right arm in two places ... really, Sheri-Lynn, you don't have to go to that much trouble for a 'news bite'... take care and thanks for the note. No news from **Rodney Wasicuna**.

#### 1993

**Cynthia Bush** and **Virginia Clark** have sent no updates. **Nicole Dorey** who is a LPN and was working at the SSRH has transferred to the Fisherman's Hospital ... congratulations on the transfer and full benefits. The children are in school so **Willa Mae Fancy-Bent** was able to find a few minutes to 'compose what is going on!' The big challenge for Willa

Mae was organizing the family for their Christmas photo... *I am sure that everyone will be all smiles at the same time and keep their eyes open!!!* Willa Mae's oldest daughter, Cora, is in grade four while the twins, Gwen and Mark have started in Junior Kindergarten... which gives Mom a break ... and Willa Mae can read and dream with her 'seed and gardening' catalogues while the kids are off learning ... Yes, I agree, it is important that you take Blueberry Tea when the kids are coasting on those cold wintery days! Thanks for the note and update, Willa Mae. No recent update from **Angela Greek-Lohnes** but **Tracy Lawrence-Sperry** sent us a copy of her promotion notice... Tracy is now a Sales Manager for the Delta Halifax and Delta Barrington Hotels. The press release informs us that Tracy's career has spanned 20 years with Delta... starting in Housekeeping transferring to the Front Office where she had positions as Bell, GSA and Duty Manager followed by a couple of years in reservations as a Group Specialist.... And to think, it all started with a position as a room attendant... Well done, Tracy. **Stacy Levy-Goodie, Crystal Myra, Mable-Jane Naugler, and Tammy Wagner** have sent no updates.

#### 1994

**Maureen Brisson** has sent no news but we have had an update from **Kandace Clark-Westin**. Kandace is the Manager of Food and Beverage Daytime at the Scandic Grand Central in Sweden. *I have changed jobs in August and now work for a hotel chain called Scandic. I am a part of the opening management team. We opened on Oct 01 and had our grand opening 11-11-11 with 1200 invited guests, it was more than a bit crazy! My area of responsibility is F&B daytime. This encompasses breakfast (up to 802 per dag), drop in lunch (average 220 per dag), conference lunch (varies 50-130), room service and the staff dining room. The hotel I work for is Scandic Grand Central, their new flagship hotel. It is an old stone building from 1885 that over the past two years has been renovated and turned into a fantastic hotel with 391 rooms. It really is beautiful but has serious challenges from an operations point of view. For example the dish pit for my dining rooms is in the basement, which means all dirty dishes must go down in the elevator and then all clean up in the elevator....you can imagine the logistic nightmare! And the high staff costs! At least management was smart when they hired the opening team who all signed off on over time in return for 6 weeks' vacation....trust me they are the winners! My husband says I'm a ghost and my youngest daughter (yes, still only 5 kids) spends her time playing hide and seek looking for me in cupboards*

*throughout our house. Not so great. I am averaging 12 plus hrs per day, 6 days per week but am hoping to not work more than fulltime by January....ahh delegate is my new favorite word!* Thanks for the note, Kandace... hopefully, you will soon have more time to spend with the family. **Dennis Evans** and **Kim Lohnes** have been quiet but **Sean Mosher** let us know that he and the family were relaxing at the Four Seasons Nevis located in the Caribbean. Sean who is the Director of Rooms at the Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire located outside London, England needed a break after covering for the GM for over a month. Not a bad reward! Sean informed us that their family is going to be expanding this January when their second son will be arriving ...joining brother Jacob who has entered the 'two's! Enjoy your rest now, Sean... as you mentioned, life will change around the house. Sean is looking for another transfer... to be involved in an opening of a hotel which could take the family anywhere... good luck and thanks for the update. **Tina Pierce-Lohnes, James Robar, Cindy Weare-Ross, April Whynot** and **Shelly Zinck** have been quiet.

**1995**

**Denise Barkhouse, Trudy Boutilier, Crystal Dover, Tammy Ernest, Jennifer Ford-Hazelwood, Jane LeChance, Corry Nauss, Lee Roach, Ruth Vaughan, Jennifer Wamboldt-Morgan** have sent no updates.... No news means good news!

**1996**

**Sonja Battig** and **Paula Brophy** have been on the quiet side. After being involved with the opening of the Best Western Bridgewater, **Jodi Fralic-Oickle** has returned to her position as a receptionist with a local optometrist in the Bridgewater area. All the best, Jodi. No news from **Todd Hayden, Julie Hutt, Patricia McFarlane** and **Tami Mullins-Bollivar** but **Margaret Tays** has been located. *My apologies for falling off of the radar for as long as I did – glad to be “found”! I have been here at the Sheraton Centre since July, and I am loving it. Definitely feel as though this is the position where I can really apply all of my experiences. We have over 100,000 sq ft of space supported by about 1300 guest rooms. This is a Starwood owned and managed property with many of the execs for the North American region here in the building; so from the business side of things, it makes for a great training ground. In addition to myself, there are 7 managers; over 120 permanent employees and another 50+ casual employees...it’s a busy department! Been in Ontario for almost 2 years now and it feels like home. Besides, I am tired of moving. Prior to joining the Sheraton, I enjoyed working for Vintage Hotels and would highly recommend them as an employer for those in the industry in the Niagara area. Living in Burlington (commuting and it really isn’t too bad) yoga keeps me sane, as does copious amounts of wine.... you might want to try a nice ‘single malt’! It is great hearing from you Margaret... glad that life is treating you well... all the best.* **Denise Ross** sent no update but **Karey Vaughan-Maillett** found some time to drop us a note.... *So much to update at this time of year... Not sure I can say I have ever been this busy. But while sipping on a glass of wine while I write this, I will do my best to bring you all that I am up to these days. Not sure when I last sent in a message, so here it goes. As a mother of 4 children ages ranging from 9 years old down to 23 months old, I can say that we have a huge revolving door. My 2 boys are in hockey - need I say more, my oldest daughter is in Dance - jazz, ballet & tap, & Girl Guides with many activities, and my youngest daughter is - well a full on toddler! My husband is taking a Submarine course now that is very hectic and stressful for him, which will end in the spring and at that point we will know where we will be posted,*

*either Halifax or Victoria. Hoping with fingers crossed we stay here. Now, moving on to me: I have been wanting to get back into the workforce once again. Surprisingly as busy as I am, you would think that work would be the last thing on my mind, but really, I have been feeling like I’ve been missing something the last few years. Don’t get me wrong, I LOVE being a mother but I’ve lost “me” at the same time. I decided to join the team of Lia Sophia, beautiful jewelry where I do home parties for gals & their friends & family. I have found something that allows me to stay at home with my children during the day and not break my bank account to pay for child care for 4 children. I have not given up the idea of the hospitality industry yet; that is still on my mind - oh how I miss it, but for now I do have the chance to get out of the house a few times a month to host parties, wear amazing jewelry and sell what I wear! It’s a win-win for me for the time being! Karey, I might have to have some scotch after reading all what you have been up to!! Thanks for the update.* **Tammy Wamboldt, Barb Wells-Whynot and Robert Wimmer** have sent no updates.... (really did hear

from Robert... as Nicole is very efficient!) Hope all is well.

### 1997

**Renne Colbourne** and **Jennifer Flemming** have sent no updates but **Corry Rowter-Kaczuga** let us know that she is coming home for Christmas! Corry has returned to her administration position at a private college in Mississauga after being on maternity leave with daughter, Lola... *Lola is in fulltime daycare and has her first "boyfriend" (she may look like her daddy but already chasing the boys like her mommy. ha ha)* We will be visiting NS for Christmas and then headed down south in January. This lady is in need of some sunshine, pampering and adult beverages! Thanks to the world of Facebook, I was able to track down **Margaret Tays (1996)**. The crazy part of the story is she lives in Burlington and I live in Milton... only 20 minutes apart from each other. All these years I have been searching and she is only down the road! We haven't been able to meet up due to our schedules but hopefully soon. So that is the news from this part of the world. Thanks for the note, Corry and have a great holiday. **Angela Reid** has sent no updates. **Nicole Roy-Wimmer** and husband **Robert (1996)** said that they had news... they are the parents to son, Tristan who arrived on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is healthy and Nicole is enjoying her maternity leave ... and yes, she is returning to work this spring. Congratulations and all the best. **David Thomas** and family have returned to Toronto after a brief re-location to Nova Scotia. Dave is the GM of a Casey's restaurant in downtown Toronto. All the best, Dave. No news from **Mandy Touesnard-Larkins** but **Melanie Wilson-Bruneau** sent an update... Melanie and the family have purchased an old farmhouse located in Petitcodiac that will need extensive renos.... But the family is enjoying being in the country..... Melanie is busy working with the Compass Group which involves food service in the local elementary school. All the best, Melanie and good luck with the renovations. **David MacLeod** and his wife moved into their new home last October..... purchased a puppy to go with the house... and now they are waiting the arrival of a new *MacLeod* .... David is still with Audi Halifax .... This past summer David was off to Toronto to participate in a National Competition .... based on a presentation and product knowledge... All the best, David.

### 1998

**Sarah Amero** and her partner, Kurt Solomon , have sent news.... Daughter Kourtney Karen arrived on September 27<sup>th</sup> ...and yes, Sarah is home on maternity leave from her job at the CIBC in

Halifax. Johanna has been 'mentoring' Sarah on various baby tips for survival☺ Congratulations and all the best, Sarah. No news from **Joanne Biddle**... but I saw **Laura Bowles** at the Bridgewater Superstore ... and her daughter arrived this past August.... Laura is balancing her Massage Therapy business and taking care of baby....all the best, Laura... guess you and Sarah will have to get together and share notes! **Johanna Conrad-Foster's** daughter, Victoria, is now in grade 3....gee, the time does fly by. Johanna is still working with Capital Health.... Thanks for the note and be sure to have a blueberry tea when you are visiting with Sarah! No recent news from **Janet Larder-Keddy**, **Brenda Naugler**, **Nicole Reynolds-Whynot**, **Crystal Seamone** and **Ryan Rhodenizer**.

### 1999

**Rhonda Allen** has been spotted at the Charm Jewelry in the Mall ... Rhonda is still working part-time with the YMCA Day Care at the campus. No news from **Keri-Ann Woodworth-Emeneau** but I do know that **Ellen Barkhouse-Fancy** departed from ACSBE... she has taken on a new challenge. All the best, Ellen. We know that **Rebecca Barkhouse** is still in

Beijing, China... and with minutes to spare, we received Rebecca's news! Rebecca is now doing private tutoring and corporate training.... Since, Rebecca is coming to Nova Scotia for the holidays, hopefully we will get more details. Looking forward to your visit, Rebecca. No recent updates from **Amanda Beals-Kotlar** but **Laura Beck-Patton** is still practicing Massage Therapy out of the New Germany Medical Center. Laura and her husband reside on the LaHave River with their two dogs... oh, the life. Laura mentioned that she has been certificated as a Massage Therapist for over seven years... gee the time does go by! Thanks for the note. No recent updates from **Tania Crouse, Jennifer Davison-Lowe, Julie Dunbar-DeMont, Jeremie Finck, Amanda Llewellyn-Wamboldt, Jared Mitchell, Angela Rodenizer, Stephannie Risser** and **Tanya Roy-Leslie**

## 2000

No updates from **Karen Dolliver-Corkin, Dwayne Eisner, Melissa Murphy, Glenn Thompson, Kandi Boudreau-Smiley, Jason Carver, April Crouse-Thompson, Tanya Dagley-Nauss, Sally Forest-Calder, Trudy Freeman, Lisa Grondin, and Chris Harris.** **Alissa Jodrey** has been located! Alissa is the manager at the Carlton Card shop at the Bridgewater Mall. It was great to see you again, Alissa. **Scott MacLeod, Natalie Mansfield-Herman, Amanda Moreau-Conrad, Heather Nauss, Crystal Smiley-Greek,** and **Warren Stuart** have been quiet. **Monica Veinot** was spotted at the NSLC.... Really, Monica is on maternity leave ... but she has been working part-time. Thanks for pointing out the 'scotch' section for me☺ No news from **Kari Ann Whynot** so we hope *no news is good news!*

## 2001

No news from **Karen Coolen-Doucette** but **Kimberley Cunningham** let us know that life as Night Manager at the Delta Barrington gives her the opportunity to spend time with the children... daughter, Sara, who just turned two while big brother, Billy is six. Kim says that he is a 'mini Dan'. There is a June wedding being planned for Kim and Dan... all the best and congratulations, Kim. **Jennifer Forsythe** sent no updates but **Devon Reid** let us know that he is the Building Superintendent of the Blackfriar Condos located in London, Ont. Devon, thanks for your kind words... but you were the one who kept 'getting up and taking on the challenge'... glad that things are working out for you. No news from **Daniel Tanner** but **Meredith Brown-Smith** sent us a note to let us know that she returned to work from her

maternity this past June. Meredith enjoyed being home with Aidan but resumed her duties as Sales Manager at the Confederation Center of the Arts in Charlottetown, PEI. *I just returned from maternity leave as of June 2011 and it feels like no time passed. My son, Aidan, is 16 months old and growing every day. My husband, Andrew, is now the Sous Chef of the Delta Prince Edward and as expected in this industry, works 24/7. My job continues to challenge me every day. What I "sell" is constantly changing in our industry and that keeps me motivated. My drive to further educate myself has had me enrolled in many workshops over the last 5 months such as "Profitable Partnerships – Maximizing Cultural Tourism Opportunities" and more recently a course in proposal writing. I have no intention of leaving PEI let alone my career and will always consider my time at NSCC as one of the smartest investments in my life!* Thanks for the update and all the best. No recent update from **Jessie Mullen-Mansfield** although, Jessie's manager was at the TIANs conference and reported that Jessie had a great summer at our National Park – Keji.

## 2002

No news from **Shawan Beck** but **Jackie Collier-O'Connell** sent us an update... *2011 for the Collier-O'Connell family has been a roller coaster ride. Chuck went off to Libya and had to return due to his mother being diagnosed with serious cancer and passed away two months later. The emotions and family trauma took a toll and still has an effect on the daily family routine. The kids did get use to Daddy being home but he had to go back sailing. Currently he is sailing and is a part of the boarding party (the board pirate and stranded ships). Chuck will be going back to the Mediterranean area in the New Year for 6 months. I have left Loblaws and did some HR consulting work with a local company; but I realized that I enjoy working in the office (who would have thought!!) Currently I am working for Ocean Nutrition; the company produces omega 3 oil!! All the good kind! I am the Compensation and Benefits Coordinator! Very challenging and rewarding role!*

*Aj is now 8, playing lots of sports and doing excellent in French Immersion, and Geoffrey is just about to turn 4 years....how time flies!!! That's the short version of our family life!!!* Thanks for the update, Jackie... to a better 2012. **Bradly Northover** and **Kelly White** have been quiet. **Kim Whynot** has now added Ward to her surname... Kim's wedding was this past October 1<sup>st</sup>... Kim was home on maternity leave with Lily who turned the big ONE on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Kim has returned to Valley Regional Hospital as part of their housekeeping department. Thanks for the note, Kim.

## 2003

**Jamie Andrews-McCorry** sent us a note to let us know that all is well for the McCorry's! *Mike had a great season with the Annapolis Royal Golf Club, Abigail happily spends three days a week with Day Care and her friends and I am busy with the work at the hospital (and after two years I am still receiving compliments on my professionalism!). On some Den and Friends News, my Mother and Father In-law recently enjoyed a Wine Tasting Night and have also dined a few times... great comments about both their experiences!* Thanks for the note, Jamie. **Stephanie Carver-Lynch** who is a Sales Manager at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in Edmonton was off to Chicago in November for work. Stephanie said it was a great trip to see the sights and network! Enjoy your Christmas break. No recent updates from **Erin Hume**, **Kate Orlando**, and **Cheryl Williams**.

## 2004

Quiet from **Stacey Beamish** and **Tiffany Crouse-Mason**. **Matt Dagley** sent a note and his new address indicates that Matt has returned to Halifax after living in Vancouver, BC. Matt's short film, *Toilet*, has been screened at the *Deboshirfilm Pure Dreams Film Festival* in Saint-Petersburg, Russia. What a great opportunity for you, Matt ... and to think it all started with your housekeeping course! All the best. **Jessica Dagley** sent us a quick note... and I now realize why! Jessica gave birth to her third child on November 13<sup>th</sup> ... Fonia weighed in at 7lbs 11oz. I would say that you are busy, Jessica.... Thanks for the note and all the best. An agent informed us that **Dan Hoveling** got married this past September. Congratulations, Dan. **Sarah Hoveling-Turner** sent no news but **Lynn Hurst-Callahan** gave us an update. Due to downsizing at the Best Western Chocolate Lake, Lynn is unemployed... during this downtime, Lynn and her husband have been able to do the renovations that had been planned but the time was not there... Lynn, wish you success in your job hunting and better things for 2012. **Chasity Lausanne-Spindler** is still on maternity

and **Jade Mapplebeck, Samara Mason-Gosling, Sally Wamboldt** have sent no news.

## 2005

**Danica Hirtle-Hynick** let us know that she has departed Bluewave Energy; she has moved on to Bridgewater Honda selling cars! Danica is enjoying the challenge and the change in pace... little did she know that the famous quote, "attention-to-detail" would also be a key component in the automobile field!. **Kassie Huber** has moved also... we will now find Kassie in downtown, Calgary! Kassie is working at a group home for the homeless youth... Kassie, mentioned that on *any given shift, she will deal with the police, the paramedics, having to file a missing person's report or telling recruiters.. (people who try to get young girls into prostitution...Quite the learning curve, Kassie.... You are doing great work... all the best.* **Tanya Joudrey** said that there wasn't a lot to report on... Tanya is a team member at Ko's restaurant here in Bridgewater and they are heavy into Christmas parties! Tanya also informed us that she prefers 'winters over summers!' ... and is looking forward to big snowfalls and cold weather... say it isn't so!!! Although, Blueberry Tea does taste lovely on a cold, wintery day! No news from **Alicia Osbourne** but **Johanna Patrick** let us know that she is finishing her LPN program here at the Lunenburg Campus this December... the 16<sup>th</sup> to be exact. Congratulations, Johanna.

## 2006

No news from **Matt Andrews** but **Mallary Corkum-Myra** and husband, Alec, had quite the experience this summer.... it was very emotional and challenging but we made it through! *My pregnancy was going wonderfully and I had weekly appointments with my diabetic OBS team and baby and I were doing great and my diabetes was under great control. On July 13 I went it for my weekly appointment and ultrasound and something was very wrong. At 36 weeks (4 weeks early) I had to deliver via emergency Cesarean birth. Max was born at 1:12pm on July 13 and weighed 7lbs 150z. The doctors and nurses took Max away to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and there he started fighting for his life. I didn't get to see my son for 8 more hours, not even a glimpse of his face and it was almost a week before I held him in my arms. It was a grueling 3 weeks and it was even tougher when Alex and I had to go home as there was no place for us to stay in the IWK and we had to leave Max overnight. I was at the IWK diligently every day from 5:30am to 7pm. But we finally got to take Max*

*home 3 weeks later as he recovered fully! Once Max was home it was still a tough road as he wasn't gaining weight, but I am VERY happy to say that he is now completely healthy and finally starting to gain steady weight 😊 He is our world and we are very lucky for how things worked out. I never want to relive that experience again as I still struggle every day with sad thoughts about it, but I realized that I am stronger than I ever thought I was and more thankful and grateful for every little breath, smile and coo that Max takes. We tend to not look too far ahead into the future anymore, as we learned in the NICU to take it day by day, minute by minute but our future plans are to celebrate our first Christmas together as a family and we couldn't be happier 😊 Mallary... how true for all of us... we must remember to take every minute of every day... wishing you and your family all the best. No news from **Rebecca Foley** but we do know that **Walter Hubley** is still with RCR Catering as their Banquet Captain working out of the Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites. **Nicole Oickle** has sent no update while **Pratheesh Thomas** let us know he is still busy with school! Pratheesh is now taking 'social work' at*



Dalhousie University. Pratheesh is also keeping one foot in hospitality as he is working part-time at the Delta Halifax on the weekends. Thanks for the update. **Margaret Robart** is still manning the front desk at Mariner King Inn in Lunenburg. **Noelle White** is still employed with the Truro Superstore which has recently gone under major renovations. This Superstore has installed 'self-checkouts'.... Noelle has been trained to aid customers and there are days that Noelle thinks the Customer Service Desk was less stressful than coping with irate customers at the self-checkout☺ To help to relieve some stress, Noelle purchased a kitten... its seems 'Cooper' is somewhat spunky and likes to get into everything... thanks for the note and all the best.

## 2007

No recent news from **Elyse Biebheshheimer** but **Elsa Conrad** had exciting news to tell me. Elsa and her partner have welcomed daughter, Alivia Rose Lowe to their home on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Miss Alivia came in weighing 8lbs 8oz and is 21.5 inches tall! Elsa has mentioned that there are play dates arranged with Vanessa and son, Rowan.... but it seems that it is more for Mommy time. Elsa is now on maternity from her cooking duties at the Wild Wood Café here in downtown Bridgewater. Congratulations, Elsa and all the best. We did receive a note from **Zac Crnec**. On a professional note, Zac is a Realtor with Claussen Walters & Assoc. and a personal note.... Zac and Debbie Scott were married this past June. Congratulations, Zac.... If you are looking for a restaurant, Zac has one on the books! It has been on the quiet side from **Sarah Fancey, Curtis Fownes** and **Alicia Hennessey**. Both **Meaghan Legere** and **Ashley March** have sent updates. Meaghan who has been working the evening shift in reservations for the past four years at the Atlantica Hotel Halifax has moved onto the day shift... her major adjustment has been the 6:30am alarm going off! Meaghan says " *job responsibilities are pretty much the same but I certainly have more of a work load... which honestly I didn't know was possible. Although things get kinda stressful at times, I enjoy the challenge. I was used to working alone for the most part at night, but it's nice to socialize with other employees and see how things take place during the day. I also feel half normal again... going to bed at a decent time, eating proper meals, things that seemed to take the back burner with the night lifestyle.*" The life of an hotelier, Meaghan... thanks for the update. And now our update from Ashley... *Meaghan just told me about the newsletter due date. (I'm cutting it close I know) A little note about myself, I'm still roommates with good ol' Meaghan*

*Legere and I still hold my server/bartender position at Seasons. I suppose last time I wrote in for the newsletter I was talking about plans to Cuba. Amazing of course! One of the top highlights for me would have been experiencing a FREE trip to Havana, due to our resort overbooking! The resort was looking to interest 12 people to take the tour of Havana including one night at their sister property in the city. This allowed all 6 of us in our group to go! The summer here in Halifax went fast! The restaurant has dealt with some expected challenges; in September the restaurant was in need of staff, due to people leaving for school and whatnot. I worked a few weeks of breakfast shifts, and find myself being very glad that most of my serving breakfast days are over (hopefully). While working those breakfast shifts and using all my energy to stay positive, I was looking for a new direction to take my hospitality career. I signed up for a Human Resource Management class online through NSCC to help me decide if I wanted to go back to school. I'm very pleased with how much I've enjoyed the HR studies, now here we are in November and I'm currently working on my final project for the class☺ You*

*run through my mind often, Ms. Corkum as I still struggle with time management!* Thanks for the update, Ashley and great to know that you are continuing your education. Although **Vanessa Nauss-Bolivar** is on maternity leave, she seems to be spending a day or two at the Best Western Bridgewater! Rowan Alan arrived on August 10<sup>th</sup> weighing in at 7lbs... Vanessa will return fulltime in June 2012... just in time for the summer season. Thanks for the note and all the best. **Katrina Salter** has been quiet!

## 2008

No news from **Amy Conrad** but **Sarah Currie** let us know that she has finished the Pastry Arts Program at the community college. *I was hired on at my work placement Bonne Cuisine after I finished there in May and I am still there now. I am a fulltime Pastry Chef, one of three. And we also do a lot of catering functions. Because Bonne Cuisine doesn't have any actual serving staff, the staff there volunteers for the functions. So I often get to serve at catering functions. Last week I worked a wedding, and also a function at the Province House. Those functions always remind me of the good ol' Tourism Days ☺... gee, Sarah, does that sound like that volun-told that happened occasionally here in the TM program??* No news from **Rebecca Dauphinee** but **Mark Drennon** was spotted at the TIANS gala. Mark is the daytime Banquet Captain with RCR Catering located at the Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites. One of our many agents informed us that **Cecilia Hatcher** has departed the Delta Halifax and is now at an Italian Restaurant located in Hamilton.... *I am now currently living in Hamilton, Ontario working at a very well-known Italian Restaurant called La Cantina. They've been voted Where To Eat in Canada since 1998... excellent food... they have a fine dining room and an upper casual dining area which is where more of the traditional Italian food is served like pizza and pasta. I am the hostess captain there... also "The Manager's Assistant". I help with scheduling, sick calls, Memos... anything that the managers need me to do.. I hope to be serving there eventually as well... but it is hard at the moment cause I am the only person who can work day-time currently. I am still looking for hotels though, I've met a customer who is good friends with the GM of The Sheraton here so I may have to stop by and have a chat with him ☺. I am getting by here, it is definitely not like the East Coast ... the city I live in is about 600,000-700,000 people, so about double of Halifax. Everyone is really nice here and my boyfriend and I are settling nicely. I've seen Lindsey (VanKroonenburg) a few times since I've been here, it seems to be a monthly event that we get together :) it's great having her only a*

*an hour and a half away.* Thanks for the note and wish you all the best. One can now find **Robin Patterson** at the Brussels Restaurant and Brasserie located near NSCAD in downtown Halifax. Robin says that it is a very *European restaurant specializing in mussels and over tappas as well as boasting a drink menu with approximately 180 different beers.. it makes for an extremely unique working environment and he is enjoying the fact that he's finally being able to put the skills that were gained from the TM program to good use..* Robin has put her final payment for her Titanic Memorial Cruise... the next thing on the agenda is to book her flight to London, England... what a trip that will be Robin. Keep us in the loop. **Meghan Shorey** has been quiet but we have heard from an agent that Meghan is now a Guest Service Supervisor at the Atlantic Hotel in Halifax. **Lindsey VanKroonenburg** and Christopher Ritcey-Conrad are now residing in London, Ont. Lindsey is employed at the Hilton in what is called the 'Command Center'... answering all the phones coming in and out! Her manager told her not to get too comfortable as she is 'front office material'☺ Lindsey says that 'city life' is

alright... but the novelty is wearing off☺ **Felicia Warner-Himmelman** and husband, Devan, are soon going to be parents.... Congratulations.... Felicia is the Assistant Manager at Eclipse located in the Bridgewater Mall. It is hectic with the Christmas shopping and planning for the arrival of a baby... all the best, Felicia.

## 2009 – Gap Year

### 2010

No official news from **Keshia Daniels** but we have heard that Keshia is the Community Relations Coordinator at Boston Pizza here in Bridgewater. Congratulations, Keshia. No news from **Amber Robertson** but **Sarah Selig** sent a note. Sarah is the Head Housekeeper at the Best Western here in Bridgewater... and she is loving it! Such a change from those Facilities Management courses! Sarah and her partner have just purchased a home... welcome to the mortgage club☺ **Elan Snarby** let us know that she is currently employed by The Prince George Hotel in the banquet department. Elan is now in the process of applying to the Mount to earn her degree ... taking advantage of the 2+2. We know that **Brittany Stewart** spent the summer at the Old Fish Factory but has now returned to Mount Saint Vincent University to continue her studies. Elan informed us that Brittany is now working part-time in banquets at the Prince George Hotel with her... what a great team! No news from **Kim Williams**.

## 2011 - Alternate Intake...even years

### 2012

..and now there are seven.... This year we had a couple of students who did not return from their co-operative work terms. **Jillian Keefe** spent her summer at the Delta Barrington working in the Privilege Club... while at the hotel, Jill's path crossed with **Kim Cunningham** (2001); **Erika Knickle** spent her summer at the Rum Runner in Lunenburg... her manager was Louise Fuhlendorf who taught the food component for the TM program here at the campus (2010); **Katie Mosher** stayed in Lunenburg also and could be found at the Della Nona... her Italian is improving. **Alison Munroe-MacEachern** spent her summer at the Quarterdeck... **Courtney Nauss** honed her skills at the Grand Banker in Lunenburg both as server and bartending. **Sarin Postma** was a GSA at the Digby Pines Golf and Spa resort... while **Katey Romo** was at the Old Fish Factory... the students all had good

experiences with many of them having the opportunity to return for the following season. As usual, there were many stories... some for the class and some not!

## Tourism/Culinary Arts Conference



The Staff of 2012, under the leadership of **Sarin Postma**, hosted a full day conference for the high school students from Lunenburg and Queens Counties on November 23, 2011. This gives us the opportunity to inform potential students about the two programs in order to assist them in making their post-secondary education direction.

As a component of the Meetings and Events course, they managed – planned, organized, controlled, implemented and evaluated ... remember those five functions of a manager! The theme was *Elements*...finding your element! The students organized workshops, guest speakers, and lunch. Of course, there were speeches

to prepare, conference kits, and prizes to organize.

**Plan B...** followed by **Plan C** were put into action on the day of the conference. *Old Man Winter* decided that this was the day to have the first snow storm of the season! Needless to say, the P-12 system had their classes cancelled... which created havoc on our end. A few high school students did show up... the 'show' went on. The Staff of 2012 demonstrated many skills on that day ...

Due to the weather conditions, our guest speakers were cancelled. The students had lined up the following to share their stories... The guest speakers who were going to join us were... **Sara Selig (2010)** who is the Head Housekeeper at Best Western Bridgewater; **Margaret Robart (2006)** who is the GSA at the Marina King in Lunenburg joined by **Ms. Bernice Theriault**, General Manager of the Comfort Inn here in Bridgewater along with our very own **Thierry Surette**.

### **Year –End Gala Reception**

Thursday, **March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012** is a date for you to record in your calendars! It is the date for the Gala Reception... as the details are finalized, you will be notified of the specifics. It would be great to see you at this event. This will be my final gala with the students as I won't be on deck for the next group of second year students that will be going through.

**Jillian Keefe** was chosen as the Gala Manager for this event. Jill and her team will get into the serious planning in the New Year. We will be partnering with the non-profit group, Bridgewater Barracudas Swim Team again this year.

### **A Sad Day....**

Many of you are already aware that one of our co-op partners experienced a lost ... On November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011; there was a major fire at White Point. This private lodge was in its 83rd year of operation. The main lodge... which housed the front office, restaurant, kitchen, various meeting rooms, lounge, and recreation facilities were destroyed.

Some of our Alumni completed their co-op work terms at the resort while some were long term WP team members.... **Kim Lohnes (1994), Dan Tanner (2001) and Shawna Beck (2002)** were all employed and worked in the food and beverage department.

Dan Tanner is the food and beverage manager of the property. There were also some Culinary Arts alumni as members of the White Point team.

The great news is that the White Point will rise from the ashes... Mr. Dan Morton, the general manager, in one of his many news interviews, informed the public that the plan is to re-build the main lodge.... Bigger and better than it was!

Alana Hirtle who is the Event Manager at White Point had a major challenge the day of the fire. There was a wedding scheduled for that day... and even with all the craziness, the WP team went to 'Plan Z'... the wedding was only delayed by an hour! There are lessons to be learned from this.... training and professionalism made the day for that bride and groom.

The challenge for the staff of White Point ... and our Alumni is that they now have to wait until they can return to work.... The Manager is hoping for a re-open of the property in the fall of 2012. That opening will bring back the motto... ***It is a Great Day at White Point.***

Another property that some of you have had either completed your co-op work term or gained employment after graduation is the Citadel Halifax. This January, this property is closing its doors. The building is coming down and a new hotel and conference center is going up in the same location. This hotel holds many memories and experiences for me as that was the last property that I was working at before I made the switch to education!

### **Chances Are You Know One Of Us...**

Our President, Mr. Don Bureaux, tabled the Report to the Community 2011 to the Minister of Labour and Advance Education on November 22, 2011.

*The theme of this year's report, Chances are you know one of us... shows just how far-reaching the talents and experiences of our students. More than 90% of employed NSCC graduates live and work in our communities all over Nova Scotia. We are business people and artists. We take care of your cars, your computers, and your loved ones.....*

This new campaign that the College has initiated to track the graduates.... Although, we have been tracking you since 1990.... And we know how important you are to your families, communities and your professions .... We also know that some Hospitality Alumni are also making their mark in various parts of the world... to know that your knowledge and skills can take you anywhere on this globe is rewarding ....

By going to [nsc.ca/community](http://nsc.ca/community) you can add your own statistics and stories to "*Chances are you know one of us!*"

### **TIANS Conference**

The Staff of 2012 attended the TIANS conference that was held on November 27-29 in Halifax. The Marriott Residence Inn and The Cambridge Suites housed our students during the conference which is always greatly appreciated.

The conference offers many different learning opportunities which really makes our textbooks come alive. Many of you can relate from your own experiences by attending the conference.... Of course there were the stories that happened outside the conference!!! The students also purchased tickets to attend the Gala – Crystal Tourism Awards of Excellence.

Oh, yes, there was an assignment.... which will let me know what they liked and didn't like!

### **Surette's Back.....**

Once again the hustle and bustle of the holiday season has engulfed every aspect of our lives. Hotels are busting at the seams with back to back holiday parties. Restaurants are filling up with office gatherings and old friends are trying to make those holiday connections. Sales people are rushing to try and take their clients to lunch, and clients are trying to accept as many invitations as possible to ensure they are out of the office and partaking in the holiday cheer. The world is spinning and everyone is in a rush except for the server who is dragging their heels to get our food off the line or that guest service agent who is checking their latest text message rather than opening the door for the mother pushing the stroller or the elderly couple struggling against the harsh December wind. We find ourselves living in an instant world; email, cell phones, direct deposit, GPS, and although we are always in a rush, we seem to have forgotten to **rush to help the guest. WHERE HAS THE SENSE OF URGENCY GONE?** Is this a

generational phenomenon, a change in human nature, a change in work ethic or are we just too self-absorbed to care if we delivered the best service possible. Have we forgotten that the only reason we are here is to serve the guest? Have we forgotten that with no guest there is no pay check and with no pay check our electronic world will soon crumble? We choose hospitality as a career, so please live up to your end of the deal and be hospitable which requires having a sense of urgency.

Happy Holidays have a safe and festive season and please run to open the door for someone!

*Thierry*

### **Kristine's Word.....**

Merry Christmas & a Happy New year!!!

I can't believe that it is Christmas again...so fast. It seems like we just returned to school, but then they do say that time goes faster the older you get. You may ask, "How does Kristine know she is older?". Well other than the year on the calendar, I now have students who were **born** after I started teaching here at NSCC. Many times I've had the experience where I've referred to something that has happened in the last 50 years and students don't know what I'm talking about because they were too young, but NOW they weren't even born...yikes! So that has been my revelation this school year.

Things are still great down here in the Business Department and the people that I work with are still wonderful. I have started to teach some subjects that I have more of an interest in like Human Resources and Business Ethics. I don't know if the students are enjoying the courses but I certainly am.

The kids are doing very well in school and still love it. They have the greatest teachers again too. Aren't we lucky that we always get the best teachers? Funny how that happens! ☺ I don't know at what age this love of school and teachers changes, but I know that I won't be thrilled when it does. They still play piano and have the nicest teacher ever. We (the royal one) are attempting skating again this year. Lina is doing very well and Sofia is just humouring us by her attendance. Hopefully she'll get the knack soon. Again we are so proud of each of them and all that they do. We are truly blessed!

I have been reading some of your updates and you all sound like you are doing so well. Janice and I are so pleased when we hear how well you are doing professionally and personally. Enjoy yourselves in every aspect of your lives and remember to take care of yourselves.

I wish you the very best Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

*Kristine Malvar-Dickle*

### **JC's Note**

Once again, thanks for all your updates. Some of you are coping with your own health issues and the health concerns of family members... others are coping with the death of families members.....the various stages of the 'life cycle' are being played out in all your lives.... Many of you are facing difficulties and changes with your relationships which are never easy even though you know it is the right thing to happen... In all the confusion of our lives... thanks for keeping in touch. As noted in the newsletter, many of you who have become parents for the first time, or will become parents soon while others are expanding their families.

The **JC Retirement Fund** will soon be leaving the classroom ... I didn't realize how heavy pennies can be! Three semesters and counting! (not including the spring semesters.) There is a faint light at the end of the tunnel! June 2013 is the magic combination! This will be the last time that I will be covering second year courses... it does seem strange that I don't have to keep these lesson plans for the future. Due to the 'alternate-in-take', we are scheduled to have students accepted for September 2012.... Of course, that all depends on numbers... our sister campus, the Burrige Campus who we were on alternate years with us, had their Tourism Management suspended last spring for an indefinite period of time.

Thierry Surrette accepted the part-time position this year which has been a bonus for both the students and me. Thierry has all the fun courses like ... Food & Beverage Cost Control; Financial Management and there is Wines of the World!

It is very rewarding to read your comments and know that many of you look forward to receiving the newsletter. Some of you comment on the impact that we have had on our lives... and that even today you occasionally think back to something we said or did in the classroom.... Thank you for taking the time to share those thoughts with us. It reconfirms what we set out to accomplish with the Hospitality/Tourism program.

Although, I don't know if that is just another reason to have a 'blueberry tea'! As I mentioned a couple of issues back, another bonus that has been interesting to follow is your friendships. Not only did you form friends within your own year, you also formed friends with students from other years... although with the alternate-in-take, that opportunity is not available to them. Some of you have lost contact ...but over the years, through 'Facebook' you have reconnected.... Of course, we have had a couple of "friends" who are now 'husband and wife'...

Hopefully you will find some time just for 'you' over the holidays... take a deep breath ... and guess what, we get to do it all over again in 2012!! The time does fly by... but just to let you know that I have 'frozen' you in your graduating year.... I still think that most of you are in your early twenties and not your early - thirties or even forties!!!

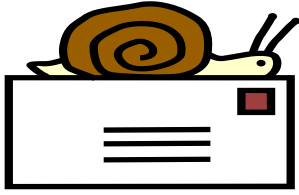
This Newsletter is far from being a one-man show... first without you, there would be no news. There are proof readers who help... and I know some obvious mistakes do get by☺... there are students training in the Business Connection Office who have helped with addresses and printing and 'stuffing'.... And to the many unnamed individuals.... Thanks to all of you.

Thanks for keeping in touch and have a great Holiday Season...

Email Contact:

JC [Janice.Corkum@nsc.ca](mailto:Janice.Corkum@nsc.ca)

KM [Kristine.Malvar-Oickle@nsc.ca](mailto:Kristine.Malvar-Oickle@nsc.ca)



### **E-mail and Snail Address.....**

The best of both worlds....a little bit of the old world and new world combined gives us a great source of communication....Due to the size of the newsletters....many of your addresses can't handle the size of the document....hence the snail address; and electronically

we use e-mail to maintain the 'instant' and 'short' messages ....So to keep the Hospitality/Tourism Alumni data base as current as possible....once again, your assistance is required....So if you have **moved**....or if you have the address for an Alumni who we have lost contact with and you have the information.....please forward the following to our attention:

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

**Graduating Year** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Agents At Large.....**

As you read through the Newsletter you will have noticed that there was no news received from some of your ex-classmates....some probably just didn't have the time....some thought that they had no news ☹ In the worst case....I have lost contact....no current snail mail address...or current e-mail address....so if you have the information..... could you please share.☺

JC's e-mail: [Janice.Corkum@nsc.ca](mailto:Janice.Corkum@nsc.ca)

Phone Number: 902-543-0614

Fax Number: 902-543-2413