



Hospitality Alumni Newsletter

December 2010 Issue

The holidays are just around the corner and life seems more hectic than ever! We will soon be saying goodbye to 2010 and getting ready to kick off another decade... before we un-cork the champagne, let's have a Blueberry Tea and catch up with one another.

Alumni Snippets

This newsletter would not exist if you didn't take the time to drop us a note to update us on your life.... It is always great to hear from you and many thanks for taking the time to keep us in the loop. As in the past, all the names from your graduating year have been included whether we have received a note or not... in some cases, we have lost contact with the individual... one moves and the connection is broken with both inaccurate e-mail and snail-mail addresses.☹ However, if you have news that hasn't been updated in recent newsletter issues.... by all means share.

The Blueberry Tea should be ready by now... enjoy reading about your Alumni and friends of an era long ago☺ Note that some messages are re-worded and others aren't as the original message is much better expressed than I could ever attempt☺

Staff of.....

1990

Lisa Brown-Tanner and **John Buckler** have sent no recent updates but we know that **Jane Chisholm-Fox** and her family departed Bridgewater this past spring and are now calling Kimberley, British Columbia home. Her husband, Michael, had a great job offer, so the family decided to make the move. In the last note, Jane mentioned that they are now building a house in Kimberley. All the best in your new adventure. In Jane's note she

mentioned that the Fox's were waiting for snow so that they could start their ski season. No word from **Janet Croft-Handley** but **Kevin DeMille** dropped a note saying that he and his daughter were making a visit to Nova Scotia to visit the grandparents. Kevin is working in the IT world in Toronto. Both Kristine and I were away from the campus when Kevin was hoping to come by for a visit. Hope you enjoyed your Nova Scotian break☺. **Sharon Hanlon-Morash** has been on the quiet side but **Nicole Hiltz-Stewart** has been spotted working at our local Sobey's store. Hope all is well. **Sylvia Kinnear**, **Tina Hubley-Smith**, **Twila Leopold**, **Patty Moody-Weagle**, **Peter Mossman**, **Darrin Myra**, **Trina Rhuland-Cleveland**, and **Brad Selig** have sent no news ☹

1991

Shannon Bruhm who is the Food and Beverage Director of RCR Catering based in Halifax (and most recently a partner of the company) has been recruiting some of our Alumni. RCR oversees the food services at the Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites, Pier 21, and the Cunard Center, just to name a few locations. Alumni **Walter Hubley (2006)**, **Mark Drennon (2008)** and **Élan Snarby (2010)** are also part of his team. Thanks for your continued support of our program, Shannon. **Tosha Killiam-Bruhm**, **Kim Burssey-Chaisson**, and **Tina Hatt-Baker** have sent no updates. **Linda Hayes** had a surprise when she went to work on May 17th this year. Assistant Manager, **Marcia Mosher (1992)** arranged a little party for Linda as she had reached the milestone of 20 years of service with the hotel. Although Linda has been with the same property, she has experienced different owners and managers throughout the years. The most recent change was the re-branding of the property to the *Days Inn & Conference Center*. I was pleased to receive an invitation to celebrate this milestone with Linda. Linda has also experienced many changes on the front desk from the manual system to computerized systems ...and yes, more than one system! Congratulations on your accomplishments, Linda. **Jack Headly**, **Carrie Manuel-Ernst**, **Terri Slauenwhite**, and **Jane Whynot** have also been on the quiet side.

1992

Leanne DeMille-St Louis, **Pam Langille** and **Stephanie McGill-Lee** have been on the quiet side too. **Marcia Mosher** has been busy at the *Days Inn & Conference Center* but she and her team were able to include one of our Staff of 2012 for some OJO (on-the-job-observation) during the week of October. Thanks, Marcia. No word from **Jenny Murray** although **Penny Rhyno-Whynot**, we know, is living in the Valley but... we have no contact information☹ No recent news from **Rhonda Roast** and **Ike Seaman**. **Sheri-Lynn Slauenwhite-Barry** is still going all out. Sheri is employed in the cafeteria at Bayview ... which is the same school her girls are attending. This fall, Sheri, became a Sparks Leader and is working with 5 and 6-year-olds to introduce them to the world of Guiding! Sheri's daughter, Amy, had a

biking accident this fall and had both of her wrists broken! (Yes, the casts are off and Amy is doing well.) Oh, the challenges... on a brighter note, Sheri had a nice visit with Penny Rhyno-Whynot.... Sheri mentioned that she had no regrets taking the Hospitality Services program... especially when she looks back on her twenty years of friendship with Penny.... What more could you ask for? Thanks for the note, Sheri and all the best. **Rodney Wasicuna** as manager at the Studio Seven.... believe he is watching movies instead of sending updates!

1993

No reports from **Cynthia Bush** and **Virginia Clark**. This past fall, **Nicole Dorey** flew West and landed in South Korea! Nicole spent a month in the country and said she didn't want to leave as there was still so much to see and do. In fact, Nicole is already planning a return trip to experience more of that culture. Great trip, Nicole ... Nicole returned to the SSRH upon her return and found that

her status had been changed from a temporary to a permanent position. Congratulations, Nicole. **Willa Mae Fancy-Bent** had a few minutes to drop us a note to report the twins, Gwen and Mark, who are three years old were at preschool. Cora, the oldest who is now eight years old and in Grade III, is resisting homework all the way... Willa Mae thinks it may be a trait that she inherited from her!!! Cora might already have her career path lined up as for Halloween ... she decided that she was going to go as a Chef! Thanks for the note Willa Mae and all the best to a busy family home life. No updates from **Angela Greek-Lohnes** this time. **Tracy Lawrence-Sperry** also has a busy household with Jack who is six and in Grade I and brother, Owen, who is three... the boys are involved with basketball, swimming and Beavers... Oh, yes, this fall, husband, Jason, had a hip replacement operation! On a professional note, Stacy has been with Delta Barrington for 17 years (Tracy was pleased that they hired her when she was only 10 years old!) and she presently holds the position of Sales Coordinator. However, she is in the process of taking some additional training courses which will lead to a move as Sales Manager. Thanks for the note and all the best, Tracy. **Stacy Levy-Goodie, Crystal Myra, Mable-Jane Naugler,** and **Tammy Wagner** have been on the quiet side.

1994

Maureen Brisson sent us a lovely note with a message for all us to consider...Maureen shared with us the following: "**There** have been some changes to my husband's and my health since my last update, but nothing we are not able to cope with.... but to all my younger "classmates", I would recommend you live your life as fully as possible while you are young. Time goes by really quickly as you age and it is difficult to recapture the vitality, good health and independence of being young. "**This is not a dress rehearsal. This is it.**" *Tom Cunningham*. As travelling is too difficult for my husband, we had my husband's children and their partners for visits this summer. The "twins" and Mum and Dad also came for a visit [wonderful], and then my younger daughter arrived in September, so we had a busy time in the kitchen but also lots of fun. We did spend a week at Green Bay which I really enjoyed. Hopefully life is great for all my fellow

students."... great words of wisdom and good advice, Maureen...thanks.

Kandace Clark-Westin and **Dennis Evans** have sent no notes but **Kim Lohnes** was working at White Point the day that the Staff of 2012 had a tour of the property and later had lunch in their restaurant. It was great seeing you, Kim. **Sean Mosher** says that transfers to other properties are quite backed up! Sean is the Director of Rooms at the *Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire* located outside London, England. Lately, it has been Sean and the Director F&B who have been handling many of the daily operations which makes each day different and challenging, offering many learning opportunities! Thanks for the note, Sean. No news from **Tina Pierce-Lohnes**. Had the opportunity to see **James Robar** in action this past September. During a class trip to Halifax, we had a tour of *Radisson Suite Hotel* where Sean is Concierge (with four keys – Les Clefs d'Or.) He took the time to speak to the students about his position and the story behind the key! Was great seeing

you James.... Where is your next vacation taking you???

Cindy Weare-Ross, April Whynot and **Shelly Zinck** have been on the quiet.

1995

No news is good news... so for this group ...all is well. **Denise Barkhouse, Trudy Boutilier, Crystal Dover, Tammy Ernest, Jennifer Ford-Hazelwood, Jane LeChance, Corry Nauss, Lee Roach, Ruth Vaughan,** and **Jennifer Wamboldt-Morgan.**

1996

Sonja Battig and **Paula Brophy** have been on the quiet side. **Jodi Fralic-Oickle** has departed her position as a receptionist for a local optometrist and is now an Assistant Manager at the new *Best Western Plus, Bridgewater*. Jodi said that she was missing the industry and with her children who are 'aging', she felt it was a good time to make the switch. The opportunity to be involved with the opening of a new property was just too good to pass up! All the best, in your new challenge. No recent updates from **Todd Hayden** but **Julie Hutt** sent us a note. Julie has moved... across the harbour to Dartmouth where Julie feels that the city is much friendlier to her dog. Julie is one of those "still" people.... who feels that life hasn't changed so she has no newsworthy item☺ Julie is working at Blue Ocean where she supervises 6-8 different projects on any given day! Great hearing from you and thanks for the note. **Patricia McFarlane, Tami Mullins-Bollivar, Margaret Tays, Meredith Brown-Smith, Denise Ross, Karey Vaughan-Maillett, Tammy Wamboldt, Barb Wells-Whynot** and **Robert Wimmer** have not sent any updates.

1997

Renne Colbourne and **Jennifer Flemming** have sent no updates. **Corry Rowter-Kaczuga**, as a tease, sent a change of address note....and is now living in Milton, ON. A couple of days later the news arrived! Two days shy of Corry's first anniversary, her daughter Lola, arrived. Lola was impatient and arrived six weeks early.... But a fighter like her mom, Lola is doing well and is putting on weight. Lola will be spending her first Christmas in Nova Scotia... yes, Corry, you should have a 'blueberry tea' (no, make

that a scotch!) before you get on the plane.... Thanks for the note and glad that everyone is doing well. **Angela Reid, Nicole Roy-Wimmer, David Thomas, Mandy Touesnard-Larkins, Melanie Wilson-Bruneau** and **David MacLeod** have also been on the quiet.

1998

Sarah Amero, Joanne Biddle, Laura Bowles, Johanna Conrad-Foster, Janet Larder, Brenda Naugler, Nicole Reynolds-Whynot, Crystal Seamone and **Ryan Rhodenizer** have sent no recent updates... hope all is well!

1999

Rhonda Allen and **Keri-Ann Woodworth-Emeneau** have sent no news but **Ellen Barkhouse-Fancy** has dropped us a note. On the employment side, Ellen is still with ACSBE... "I just received another promotion to Project/Client Coordinator. This means I get to work with logistics and ATTENTION TO DETAIL on a daily basis *wink* but there is also a balance in the fact that I am still able to provide customer

service. I am loving it so far. We are currently delivering a Youth Employability Program in Wolfville.” On a personal note, daughter Mya, who is now 6, will officially be able to sing, “All I Want for Christmas is my Two Front Teeth” this year. Next week we are headed in for family pictures, I have a feeling that they are going to be a bit gummy this year ☺ that’s about it for this go around. I look forward to receiving my Newsletter. It’s a great way to see what everyone is up to and to stay in contact with my Hospitality network. Regardless of whether or not I am directly involved with the industry, I can easily say that I would not be where I am in my career if it weren’t for my Hospitality training (it’s still in my blood ☺).“ Thanks for the great note, Ellen. **Rebecca Barkhouse** was home for a visit this past summer but has returned to China where she is teaching English to future pilots at the Aeronautical University. Rebecca is glad that she is ahead 12 hours in China as this gives her an opportunity to meet the newsletter deadline! Rebecca says that life is pleasantly busy and satisfying.... Rebecca says it is rewarding to see all that prep work for the classroom is coming together... Rebecca is also doing some extra tutoring and *it is funny that I have been teaching about ordering food... all experience comes in handy at some point in our life*☺ Rebecca says her next visit to Nova Scotia could be six-months away☺ Always appreciate that you find time to drop by for a visit....Thanks for the update. **Amanda Beals-Kotlar** was a mentor to one of the Staff of 2012 during the OJO this past October. Amanda is Front Office Manager at the *Delta Prince Edward Hotel*. Amanda and Jason were married in May 2009 and are now in the process of house hunting.... Great hearing from you, Amanda and all the best in finding your new home. **Laura Beck-Patton** and **Tania Crouse** have been on the quiet side. One of my agents (**Elsa Conrad 2007**) shared that **Jennifer Davison-Lowe** is expecting twin girls this coming January. The connection is that Elsa’s partner, Thomas, is first cousin to Jennifer’s husband, Darren... it is a small world. Thanks for the update. **Julie Dunbar-DeMont** is now at the *Atlantic Hotel and Marina Oak Island*! No, Julie hasn’t moved but the hotel was re-branded and hence the new name. Besides getting ready for all the upcoming Christmas parties, the hotel is also hosting their ‘bridal show’.... Thanks for the

note, Julie. Julie mentioned that the hotel is looking for a Banquet Supervisor.... any takers??? **Jeremie Finck** has been on the quiet side too. Finally found time to drop in to see **Amanada Llewellyn-Wamboldt** who is the Assistant Manager at the *Best Western Plus* located in *Liverpool*. We also had a student there for OJO. It was great to see you and thanks for the great tour of your property... very nice. All the best. No news from **Jared Mitchell** and **Angela Rode-nizer**. **Stephanie Risser** sent us a update.... So great to hear from you, Stephanie. Stephanie is now a McIntosh and is currently home on maternity leave with her son, Adam. Stephanie’s career path has led her to the VG Hospital in Halifax where she is employed as a Pharmacy Tech... It great to hear from you, Stephanie, and all the best. No news from **Tanya Roy-Leslie**.

2000

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, Chris Harris, Alissa Jodrey, Scott MacLeod, Natalie Mansfield-Herman, and Amanda Moreau-Conrad have been on the quiet side. Finally caught up with **Heather Nauss** who has been working at the Mug and Anchor for the last couple of years. It was great to see you, Heather. No news from **Crystal Smiley-Greek** and **Warren Stuart**. **Monica Veinot** was spotted here at the campus early in September. Monica was checking out what courses were available to take. Monica who is expecting baby number two this April is working part-time at the NSLC! Good Luck, Monica. An agent has reported that **Kari Ann Whynot** has departed Boston Pizza and is in the midst of planning her up-coming wedding. All the best, Kari-Ann.

2001

No news from **Karen Coolen-Doucette** but **Kimberley Cunningham** has dropped us a note to say she returned to work at the *Delta Barrington* from her recent maternity leave. Kim's youngest, Sarah, has just turned one while older brother, Billy, turned five and has started Grade Primary! Gee, the time does go by quickly, Kim. All the best... and a 'milestone' birthday coming up too 😊. No news from **Jennifer Forsythe**. When in Nova Scotia, **Devon Reid** always seems to find the time to drop by for visits which are always appreciated. Devon is presently hanging his hat in London, ON where he is now the Building Superintendant at the Blackfriar Condominiums. This condo is an upscale property, and in many ways Devon has taken on the role of being the concierge for the tenants. Congratulations, Devon and all the best. **Dan Tanner** has returned to the classroom after spending his summer at *White Point*... as a Culinary Arts co-operative education student. When his kitchen shift was over ... his ability to switch hats to take on the Food and Beverage Services Manager position at *White Point* came into play. This past September, Dan was named President of the Atlantic Chapter of the Canadian Association of Professional Sommeliers... well done and congratulations. Oh, yes, this summer in his 'spare' time he planted 200 wine vines! Bring on the wine! It has been reported that **Meredith Brown-Smith** is on maternity leave from the Confederation Center of the Arts in Charlottetown, PEI.

Meredith and her husband, Andrew, have welcomed a son into their family. **Jessie Mullen-Mansfield** has been on the quiet side.

2002

Fairly quiet group... no word from **Shawan Beck**, but **Jackie Collier-O'Connell** sent us a note. Both Jackie and husband, Chuck, have new jobs. Chuck has joined the Navy and has been in and out on various sailing/training exercises since April. In the meantime, Jackie has become a member of Loblaws Human Resource team. The first year and half involved an intensive training program. Part of the program involves working in a Superstore in various levels including, and up to, Assistant Store Manager and then off to Toronto for three months... kids stayed in Halifax! This past September the Human Resource training began which includes working with various managers and travelling from store to store. Congratulations, Jackie. On a personal note, oldest son, AJ, is now seven and is in Grade II French immersion while brother,

Geoffrey who is three is continuing on with the 'terrible two' stage! Thanks for the note, Jackie and do drop in if you get down this way. No news from **Bradly Northover** and **Kelly White**. One agent has reported that **Kim Whynot** has a 'bundle of joy'... her daughter arrived this past October. Congratulations, Kim, and all the best.

2003

Jamie Andrews-McCorry and husband, Michael, have joined the homeowners' club by purchasing a home in Lawrencetown. They made the move this past June. Jamie is employed part-time at the Middleton Valley Hospital while Michael is now at the Annapolis Golf and Country Club as their superintendent. The location of the house is the half way point! Hope you are enjoying your new home... all the best. Since being in sales at the *Ramada Hotel and Conference Center*, **Stephanie Carver-Lynch** is now a member of CSAE Edmonton Chapter (Canadian Society for Association Executives.) Stephanie was given the task of being the Chair of their Christmas Luncheon... which brought back many memories of planning for the Gala! ... and Stephanie said that she had fun!!! Thanks for the note. No news from **Erin Hume**. **Kate Orlando** has spent her final season as Restaurant Manager at the *Bartlett Lodge* in Algonquin Park, ON. Kate will be spending the Christmas season in Nova Scotia before she moves to Vancouver in January. Kate has completed her training in Holistic Nutrition and will begin her new career path. All the best in your new adventure, Kate. **Cheryl Williams** spent the season at the Charlotte Lane restaurant located in Shelburne.

2004

Stacey Beamish and **Tiffany Crouse-Mason** have sent no recent updates. **Matt Dagley** is reaching the end of his program at the Vancouver Film School. Matt sent me a copy of one of his assignments... featuring 'toilets'... Thank goodness for his Housekeeping Operations course! There was just a tad of humour in the video! Matt is planning to come home for the Christmas holiday. Thanks for keeping in the loop. **Jessica Dagley** sent us a note saying she had some big news! Jessica is expecting her second child on December 12th... so by the time you get this newsletter her second child should be

on the scene. Daughter, Eva, started school this fall.... A busy time at your household, Jessica ... Wishing you all the best. Agent Matt has reported that **Dan Hoveling** is now engaged and planning a wedding sometime next year. Congratulations, Dan. We have had an agent report that **Sarah Hoveling-Turner** is expecting her first child in the coming New Year. **Lynn Hurst** is balancing many balls right now... Lynn is the Sales and Catering Coordinator at the *Best Western Chocolate Lake* located just before the rotary in Halifax. She has been planning her wedding scheduled to take place on December 18th... she will be married by the time you receive the newsletter. Lynn and her husband are off to Italy for their honeymoon! Lynn's new surname will be Callahn... Wishing you all the best, Lynn... what a honeymoon trip you have planned. **Chasity Lausanne-Spindler** is getting ready for her upcoming maternity leave from Co-Operator Insurance located in Bridgewater, starting this January. Chasity is due on Jan. 1st,

and no, they don't know the gender of their baby... Chasity mentioned that she and Chad are anxious to become parents... Congratulations and all the best. No word from **Jade Mapplebeck**. **Samara Mason-Gosling** spent her summer as the Assistant Manager at the *Old Fish Factory* in Lunenburg. Although, she meet up with Chasity at the OBS Clinic since Samara is expecting her second child... who is due to arrive on December 31st... now who is going to be the first one to win this contest???... Chasity or Samara? All the best, Samara. **Sally Wamboldt's** mother has informed us that Sally departed from *Cilantro's* in Lunenburg and spent the summer at the *Rum Runner Inn*. Hope all is well, Sally.

2005

Danica Hirtle's wedding to Paul Hynick went off very well on August 7th... although she and her bridesmaids did get sunburned because they were at Crescent Beach for their wedding pictures.... And it was one of those hot sunny summer Saturdays! **Kassie Huber** who is living and working in Fredericton, NB dropped by a visit this fall and it was great to catch up with her... although she can't wait until she has planned another trip to Ecuador to work with locals and help them... Kassie didn't seem to be bothered by her primitive accommodations... and in my opinion I don't think it would get a one-star rating! Good luck, Kassie, and it was great to see you. **Tanya Joudrey** who is employed at Ko's has been coping with a year of renovations at the restaurant. Tanya says the changes are amazing but there was always continuous cleaning☹. Over the summer, Tanya's nieces and nephew kept her extremely busy.... but she enjoyed spending the time with them. Have a great Christmas holiday, Tanya. **Alicia Osbourne** has departed Walmart and is now employed at Boston Pizza. Alicia's daughter, Hailey just turned 2 and is very excited for ho ho, and is expecting baby #2 on May 2nd. ... all the best, Alicia. **Johanna Patrick** is back on campus in the final year of her LPN program. All the best, Johanna, in your studies.

2006

No news from **Matt Andrews** but **Mallory Corkum's** wedding took place this summer... From what I heard, it was a smashing success! Congratulations! Mallory sent

us this note. **"Life** has been great on my end! Mine and Alex's wedding was September 18 and the sun was shining and everything went perfect. We couldn't have asked for a better day! We opted out of a 'traditional' honeymoon and instead we toured around Nova Scotia for a couple of days - we both love to explore our own province so it was fun for us! I will say that I went back to my Food & Beverage days at NSCC when I was in the planning process of the wedding - I used a lot of my knowledge and techniques to plan my big day and it was very helpful! Basically we rented an old inn (called the Captains House) in Chester and it's just a rental property now, so I had to hire caterers, set up the bar & hire a bartender, set up tables, etc! It was fun at times to be back in that F&B mode, but mostly stressful haha! Work has been soooooo busy - which is great. I am now the Reservations Manager at *CANADVAC Travel Services*. We extended our product fully into Quebec & Ontario in 2010 and it went really well so now moving for-

ward with 2011 bookings we are selling the Atlantic Provinces and all over Quebec & Ontario. My organizational and time management skills have definitely been put to the test over the past year but I've learned the same thing I learned when I was in college. I can do it if I put my mind to it! Our main booking season is January, Feb & March so right now we are getting prepared for that. You would be happy to know that your email & phone etiquette you have drilled into us was worth it - it is so important for me to send professional emails and to remain positive and professional while talking on the phone, so thanks☺ When I made this change to working into this sector of tourism I thought one of the big negatives would be that I would miss out on contact with people (guests) and I love meeting new people but now I just meet different type of customers. I don't always directly meet the European customers whom I have booked for this vacation but I do meet those owners/managers of the inns & hotels that I sell/book which has been fabulous! It's great to have a good working relationship with innkeepers from all over Atlantic Canada, Quebec & Ontario - It's amazing how much knowledge my previous jobs have given me, I still refer to my hotel experiences and knowledge on a daily basis which only means I can do this job better having the background that I have. Other than work, fixing up our house and playing with our 'daughter-puppies' Molly & Lexi, life is pretty un-dramatic but that's just the way I like it!" ... Thanks for the great update and all the best, Mallary. No word from **Rebecca Foley**. This fall I came to work and when I walked into the cafeteria I was wondering who the gentlemen was in the great looking suit... it was **Walter Hubley**. Walter had a day off from his position as Banquet Captain with *RCR Catering* which operates the food and beverage at the *Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites* along with *Pier 21*. Walter 'volunteered' to speak to the Staff of 2012 about his studies and his career path. Thanks for the visit and taking the time to talk to the students... all the best. **Nicole Oickle** has been on the quiet side. **Pratheesh Thomas** is working part-time at the *Delta Halifax* and still hitting the books at Dalhousie University. Pratheesh's goal is to graduate this May with Honours in Psychology. All the best, Pratheesh and thanks for keeping us in the loop. **Margaret Robart** is still

manning the front desk at the *Mariner King Hotel* in Lunenburg. Margaret is planning to stay in Nova Scotia for the next while. All the best, Margaret. **Noelle White** has taken on the position of Customer Service at the Truro Superhost. Noelle mentioned that she has many transferable skills that she has learned while in the THM program and that she has used these skills while dealing with the various clients although, Superhost has come into play more often than not! Loblaws has a customer service recognition program that consists of four levels... Noelle has already received one level ...which is when a staff member nominates someone within the department. Congratulations, Noelle... well done and wishing you all the best.

2007

No recent update from **Elyse Biebheshheimer** but **Elsa Conrad** has had a busy summer working in the kitchen of the award-winning winning *Woodwind Café* located on King Street here in Bridgewater. Elsa has purchased a replacement car since

she decided to put her 'little red cavalier' to rest. Elsa is in contact with **Jennifer Davidson-Lowe (1999)** as her husband is a cousin to Elsa's partner, Thomas. **Zac Crnec** has spent another season at the *Fairview Inn*. Zac was also a mentor to one of our students during her OJO week this past October. Thanks, Zac. **Sarah Fancey, Curtis Fownes** and **Alicia Hennessey** have been on the quiet side. **Meaghan Legere** dropped me a note to let me know that she moved into a new apartment...and her flatmate is no other than **Ashley March!** Both ladies, must have read, *Eat, Pray and Love*, as they decided they are going to concentrate on themselves... it was either the book or Oprah! Both ladies are at *Atlantic Hotel* (formerly known as the Holiday Inn Select Halifax). Meaghan is a member of the Reservations team where life has been extremely busy and with the Canada Winter Games coming to Halifax there isn't really going to be any down time! Well, maybe some at Christmas... Thanks for the update, Meaghan and all the best. **Vanessa Nauss-Bolivar** and Cory had their June wedding ... and to make life interesting, Vanessa departed the food and beverage sector and joined the new *Best Western Plus* here in Bridgewater as one of their Assistant Managers. Vanessa was part of the opening team members and was involved in all aspects of the property. Once again, the Housekeeping Operations course came in handy as she was involved with the set-up of the housekeeping department and rooms and now operations. All the best, Vanessa... **Katrina Salter** called this spring to let me know that she was on the move.... Her fiancée was being transferred to London, ON and she needed to verify some information for her resume. Hope things have worked out for you, Katrina and all the best.

2008

Amy Conrad is now the Catering Manager for the *Quality Inn and Suites Halifax* on Parkland Drive. It seems that every 3-4 months, Amy has earned another promotion. For a while, Amy was balancing two properties... the Airport and the Halifax location... Well done, Amy. On one of Amy's days off, she accepted the invitation to come to the class to share her career path. I told Amy that I wouldn't use the 'stop watch' during the presentation... thanks for taking the time to talk to the Staff of 2012.

Sarah Currie is working on her career goal and has returned to the classroom. Sarah is enrolled in the Baking and Pastry Arts program at the Akerley campus. Sarah is working with a French Chef... Sarah has retained her status as an honours student ... and once again, can't believe how fast this first semester has flown by. Good luck, Sarah and thanks for the note. **Rebecca Dauphinee** had a nice long note ... Rebecca has departed her supervisory position at Starbucks. Rebecca tried the retail sector but decided to go the entrepreneur route and has started her own jewelry line. Rebecca is hoping to have some of her jewelry at the Farmer's Market in Halifax and also at Chapel Hill on Spring Garden Road. Rebecca also mentioned something about managing a tattoo shop...say it isn't so.☺ All the best, Rebecca. **Mark Drennon** was spotted at the *Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites* this fall when we were participating in World Tourism Day. Mark is a Banquet Supervisor with *RCR Catering* and is normally based at the hotel. Last word on

Cecilia Hatcher was that she was in the food and beverage department at the *Delta Halifax*. Hope all is well, Cecilia. **Robin Patterson** sent us a note to let us know that she is still residing and working in Halifax. Part of Robin's motivation lately is her upcoming cruise... Robin is booked on the Titanic Memorial Cruise in 2012! The Cruise is retracing the course of the Titanic, leaving Southampton on April 8th, then stopping in Cobin, Ireland and Cherbourg, France, then heading off into the middle of the Atlantic for a memorial on the same date(s) as the sinking from 11:40pm on the 14th until 2:20am on the 15th.... The cruise will head off to Halifax ending up in New York City... what a trip!!! Keep us posted, Robin and all the best. **Meghan Shorey** spent the summer at the Delta in Windsor, ON but Nova Scotia kept calling her... Meghan is now Guest Service Supervisor at the *Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites*. Thanks for the phone calls and updates, Meghan. **Lindsey VanKroonenburg** spent the summer as the Accommodations Manager at the *Brigantine Inn* located in Lunenburg. This January Lindsey is in the process of heading off to Sri Lanka for a three-month work term with a satellite campus of Keyin College from Newfoundland and Labrador. Lindsey will be team teaching a program called Front Line Hospitality at Keyin's new International Campus. **Todd Hayden (1996)** who is a Career Counsellor at Keyin was involved with Lindsey's interview selection. It is a small world.☺ These individuals will then earn working visas to move to Newfoundland to start their careers in the Tourism Industry. Lindsey thanks for keeping me in the loop on this opportunity. **Felicia Warner** has departed TELUS and is now the Assistant Manager at the Eclipse clothing store located in the mall.

2009- Gap Year (suspended year)

2010

The last we had heard was that **Keshia Daniels** had spent the summer at *Fox Harb'r* but we are not sure about the direction that Keshia has taken since season is over at the resort. Rumour has it that Keshia has returned to *Boston Pizza* here in Bridgewater. **Amber Robertson** sent a quick note to say that she was departing *Rocky Mountain Hotels* in Jasper and heading east... well, as far

as Toronto this December. Thanks for the note, Amber... let us know what you are doing. **Sarah Selig** accepted a GSA position at the new *Best Western Plus Hotel* in Bridgewater and was part of the opening team to get the property ready for its first guests this past August. Our local paper, *The Bulletin*, featured an article on the hotel and its environment program... and yes, Sarah is on the committee. Good luck in your career, Sarah. **Élan Snarby** headed out west after classes this spring but eventually returned to Nova Scotia. Although, Élan was accepted to the Mount this fall, she decided that she wanted to work ... so she joined the *RCR Catering* team and is working at the Cunard Center and Pier 21. Thanks for the note, Élan and good luck. **Brittany Stewart** sent her new e-mail address... which was associated with the Mount. Hope all is going well for you Brittany. **Kim Williams** had taken the road trip to Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise in Alberta but rumour has it that she returned to Nova Scotia. Hope all is well, Kim.

2011 – Gap Year (alternate in-take)

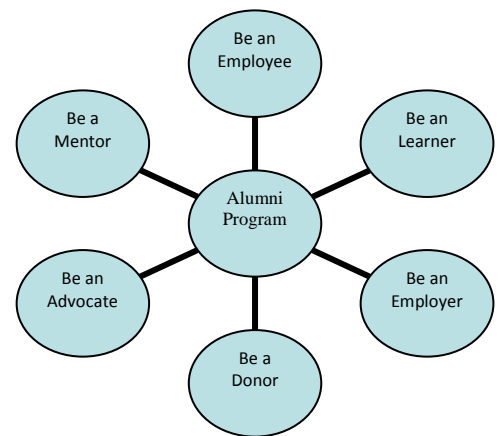
2012

One common trait that this group has in common is that they haven't come directly from high school... which is a first for our program. **Jenae Gaudet** decided to work after graduating from high school and with the advice of classmate, Jill, took the leap and enrolled in our program. From the Chester area **Emily Kaizer** joined our program about a week into the program... she was still researching and was deciding whether she should go to Akerley or Lunenburg... Glad that she selected us. **Jillian Keefe** had been working at Empire Studio here in Bridgewater and with assistance from **Rod Waiscuna (1992)** made her decision to try a career in tourism. **Erika Knickle** started her classes at Akerley and at the half-way point decided to return to Lunenburg... Needless to say, Erika has been determined to catch up on the various assignments. **Katie Mosher** is from the local area and has been working in the tourism industry for many years and knew that more education was required in order to progress in this field. **Alison Munroe-MacEachern**, after raising her two children, wanted to return school to improve her job opportunities. Last year, Alison joined us for a 'test drive' day ... **Courtney Nauss** had been working in Halifax for a couple of years and also recognized that she needed to continue her education and after 'flipping' through the NSCC Catalogue our TM program looked interesting ...and here she is! From Bear River, **Sarin Postma** has joined us Sarin also gave our program a 'test drive' and liked what she saw. While Sarin is with us her child is at the YMCA Day Care down the hall! After spending last year in Winnipeg training to be a nurse, **Katey Romo**, felt that nursing was not the career path for her and is now enrolled in our TM program for a different career path... plus it was really cold in Winnipeg! **Koelbe Sabine** also spent time in university last year and realized that in high school he was involved with CATS and the tourism program... dusting the PEI 'red soil' from his shoes, he has landed here in Bridgewater and our program. **Natasha Selig** has been out of school for a couple of years and felt that this program will assist her and her young family (baby number three is due in May)

in the future. So you can see, the Staff of 2012 has brought many different experiences with them which makes the discussions interesting. In the next couple of weeks, they will be putting their Co-op wish list together...

Alumni Program

Recently I came across this flowchart that had been developed by the NSCC Alumni division:



Looking at the different circles, you can see that our Hospitality/Tourism Alumni falls into many of the listed categories.

This fall at the Lunenburg Campus we re-introduced a week of 'on-the-job-observation' for the TM students to replace the TIANS conference experience. Discussions had been held

with TIANS and TM-FWG and it was decided that the conference would be a 'second' year student opportunity.

The week after Thanksgiving the Staff of 2012 were exposed to accommodations and food and beverage sectors of our industry. Many of the *mentors* that the students met and worked with during their week were our very own Alumni!

Jenae Gaudet and Emily Kaizer were at the *Atlantic Hotel and Mariner –Oak Island* where **Karen Dollivar-Corkin (2000)** is the Front Office Manager and **Julie Dunbar-DeMont (1999)** is their Banquet Manager; Jill Keefer was at the *Lunenburg Arms* while Katie Mosher was at the *Days Inn Conference Center* where **Marcia Mosher (1992)** is the Assistant Manager and **Linda Hayes (1991)** is a GSA. Courtney Nauss went to the *Westin Nova Scotia* to get the feel of a corporate hotel operation. Alison MacEachern was off to the *Best Western Plus Liverpool* where **Amanda Llewellyn–Wamboldt (1999)** is the Assistant Manager. Sarin Postma spent her week at The Pines Resort and Golf where she was exposed to the end of season operation! Katie Romo was off to the *Delta Beauséjour* in Moncton while Koelbe Sabine spent his week at the *Delta Prince Edward* where **Amanda Beals-Kotler(1999)** is the Front Office Manager. Natasha Selig spent her week at the *Fairview Inn* here in Bridgewater where **Zac Crnec (2007)** is the Assistant Manager.

The Staff of 2012 therefore had the opportunity to work with many of our Alumni during their week of OJO. And when you read through the newsletter, you can see that many of you are employers who are now hiring graduates Not just for their co-operative education placements but also upon graduation to join your teams. We have Alumni who have returned to the campus to continue their studies while others have taken on the role of being advocates ... so many of the circles in the flowchart have the Lunenburg Campus Hospitality/Tourism flavor!

Congratulations to all of you... take a minute and 'pat yourself on the back' for a job well done. Your support

over the years has been greatly appreciated. As Alumni you are definitely a super group Our sincere thanks for all your efforts.

The Den

Yes, The Den is open.... For the winter semester, it will be open for lunches on Thursday and Friday while evening service will take place on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The number to call for reservations is 543-0612

New TM Faculty Member - Thierry Surette



Since this is the year that we have a new in-take of students, a second faculty member was required for the TM program. Besides needing a food and beverage background... the individual gets to work with me! The successful candidate who was selected is....Thierry Surette. So who is this person?

Thierry Surette began his hospitality career in the kitchen of a family owned restaurant in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. In 1992 he moved to Fredericton, New Brunswick on his first post graduate adventure, at the University of New Brunswick. While in Fredericton, Thierry followed his passion for hospitality working in several free standing restaurants, nightclubs, and at what was then the *Fredericton Sheraton Hotel*. In 2001 Thierry returned to Nova Scotia to study Tourism & Hospitality Management at the NSCC - Akerley campus. Following graduation he joined the *NewCastle Hotels & Resorts* team where he held several management level positions both at the *Kel-tic Lodge and Spa* and at the *Westin Nova Scotian Hotel*. Thierry has recently joined the faculty at the NSCC Lunenburg campus where he is applying his knowledge and industry experiences to train the future leaders of Tourism. Welcome to the team, Thierry.....

Dine-Around

This fall we introduced a 'dine-around' opportunity for the first year Tourism Management and Culinary Arts students. This was something that the Akerley Campus has practiced and we felt that our students should have the same.

Thierry Surette worked with three restaurants in the town of Lunenburg and arranged our evening. ... So nice to have a partner to take on some of these extra tasks.☺ *The King's Plate* located at the *Mariner Inn*, *The Tin Fish* at the *Lunenburg Arms* and *Trattoria Della Nonna* all agreed to introduce our students to the various foods found on their menus.

The concept of the 'dine-around' is that you move from one restaurant to another for different courses! As there were three participating restaurants, there were three student groups...Our group had their appetizer at the *Trattoria Della Noona* and for our entrée we found ourselves at *The Tin Fish* while dessert was at *The King's Plate*. It was very convenient that the restaurants were located near one another as we often met the other groups leaving their designated restaurants!

The Chefs and the food and beverage servers were all on top of their game and our students experienced the food preparation and the service in three different types of food operations. Chef Raimer, Chef Eric and Mr Surette had great material for class discussions and were able to make the studies very practical and realistic.

A sincere *Thank You* to our industry partners for their participation, to Thierry for the organization of the event, and to our NSCC Academic Chair, Bob White, who 'picked up the tab'.

TIANS Conference

Yes, we know in our industry that it is a small world. Just this week I attended the Crystal Awards at the TIANS conference and we started off the introductions at our table. I learned that these ladies worked with Halifax Chamber of Commerce... and that is where our **Tania Crouse (1999)** can be found.



Kristine's Word

The End of 2010!

Wow! Another year gone, it's unbelievable! There is not much new to report for the Malvar-Oickle household. Both girls are in school, Sofia in primary and Lina in grade two. They are in the Centre Scolaire de la Rive Sud. Again they are amazing and outshine their parents at every turn.

Both girls are now in piano. You tend to forget how far one child has come until another starts at the very beginning. I know that we will have our Christmas filled with many hours of beautiful Christmas tunes. It really is beautiful to hear.



Professionally things are the same for me and we have another year of great new students in the Office Administration and the Business Administration classes. They have been plugging along and will shortly have their first semester completed.

Janice has been blessed with a great new sidekick this year and his name is

Thierry Surette. I hope that you all have the opportunity to meet him. He is doing great things in the dining room with the students, decoration and ambience. What a wonderful feeling when you walk into the dining room. Make a reservation and get a chance to meet him and the new students.

Well I would like to wish each of you a blessed, safe, happy Christmas and a New Year that surpasses your every expectation.

All the best!

Kristine Malvar-Oickle

JC's Note

A couple of issues ago, I mentioned the terms...

Boom, Bust and Echo which was coined by David Foote when describing the demographics of today. After reviewing some of your news we can see there were many weddings held over the summer and there is definitely a 'baby boom' happening! Congratulations to all...

Feedback is welcomed and your comments about the newsletter are very rewarding.... Here are some recent feedback that has been received..

- ✓ Look forward to reading the upcoming newsletter
- ✓ I have always enjoyed reading the newsletter and catching up on everyone
- ✓ It is always good to hear from you
- ✓ Look forward to the newsletter
- ✓ Thank you for continuing to update us on one another
- ✓ All the best to you and Kristine and have a great Christmas

Thanks for your comments and messages which do encourage me to continue with this newsletter... Receiving your notes re-confirms what I have been trying to accomplish since I began back in 1988... you prove on many occasions what Kristine, other NSCC instructors, Nicole Robinson, Amy Savoury and Louise Fuhlendorf, and I have shared with you.... skills, knowledge and attitude to be successful in your personal and professional lives. This year, Thierry's corporate background is appreciated plus he has many current contacts which is great for the students and the program. It is definitely a pleasure to have a teaching partner.

Sheri-Lynn Slauenwhite-Barry (1992) made a comment in her note about the friendship she had formed with another classmate that is now 20 years and counting! After all is said and done, the assignments and projects, to know that many of you met as strangers in September and during those 2 years, formed friendships are **still** a component of your life. What a great 'outcome' for any program to have. Probably the best un-official outcome to all the friendships that been formed and continue to grow... Congratulations.

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KM- Kristine.Malvar-Oickle@nsc.ca

Once again, just as there are many agents who help with the news... there are many people behind the scenes who help me with this newsletter... from proofing, editing, formatting and the list goes on..... thanks! To all of you who have sent notes... thanks for taking the time to share your life. The word 'Still' is such a great word....it is great that you still keep in contact and continue to share your world.

Thanks for keeping in touch...

jc



Merry
Christmas
jc