



Alumni and Friends of NSER Newsletter

Fall 2007

Greetings!

It has been 5 years since we have mailed a newsletter to all Alumni. We have now been in operation since 1996, and much has happened in that time. This newsletter is an attempt to capture and highlight the activities of the past few years.

In the beginning, funds were raised each year through appeals for donations from Alumni. Many were generous in response. The Executive decided to raise funds through other means as well. We believe that many do not appreciate receiving constant mailings from charitable organizations appealing for money. Therefore we have raised a considerable amount of money over the past 5 years through other fundraising efforts. Because there are over 2600 alumni names in our database, a general mailing is costly, and we felt that doing this every year was not a wise use of the funds. However, it is now time to bring you, the members, up to date, to let you know that the Association still exists, and that we have been continuing to build a fund which will support scholarships and awards to NSER students now and into the future. Over the years, many Alumni have contributed both financially and by working to raise money. We are deeply appreciative of all contributions!

You will find here items about our recent activities and about upcoming events. If you live in the local area or are visiting, you are most welcome to attend the annual meeting, as well as take part in any event sponsored by NSER Alumni. For those who wish to participate through a financial contribution, a donation form is enclosed. *Alumni and Friends of NSER* is a registered charitable organization. Tax receipts are issued to donors. Complete accounting of the finances is available at the Annual Meeting. For ongoing information please visit our website at www.nseralumni.ca

Wendy (Dunnett) Matthews, class of '65, President 2006-2007

Successful Fundraising Events

October 2005: An "Art Plus" Auction and Dinner raised a total of \$5,413.00.

October 2006: We held another Auction and Dinner and raised \$5,865.00.

Both of these events could not have been such a huge success if it were not for the great support the Alumni Association received from local artists, businesses and volunteers.

The Alumni Association annually donates scholarships, awards and travel grants to NSER students.

All the proceeds from these events were added to Association funds from which money will be distributed to the students of NSER.

Fundraising Through Sales

► Recently we have obtained NSER Alumni lapel pins which we are selling for \$2.50 each. Sales have been going well but to date we are still recouping the cost involved in this endeavor.

► In 2005, we sold raffle tickets on a quilt and raised over \$700.

► In 2004 we prepared a cookbook from recipes submitted by members of our Alumni. Of the 800 copies we had printed only a few remain and the total profit from the project is in excess of \$3000.

► In 2003 we completed a Memory Book and CD of pictures and activities from Reunion 2001. This was an expensive and time-consuming project for our association, with a net profit of less than \$1000.

Scholarships and Awards

Since 2002, the generous support of the NSER alumni and community has allowed *Alumni & Friends of NSER* to award \$8850.00 in scholarship dollars to fourteen NSER graduates.

Our plan is to generate enough investment income in the long term to assure one or more yearly scholarships

The Dr. Jerry Wilson Memorial Scholarship and the W.D. Hamilton Award, administered by *Alumni & Friends of NSER*, awarded, respectively, \$6000.00 to six graduates, and \$2000.00 to four graduates.

Alumni & Friends of NSER also sponsors students who attend such programs as the Terry Fox Center, Forum for young Canadians, and Shad Valley. Under this educational opportunities program, \$750.00 has been given to six students to assist with travel expenses.

In Memory

Since NSER began in 1951, our records indicate that 112 Alumni are no longer with us.

A special page on the website is being developed in their memory.

We have also placed memorial cards in local funeral homes and many Alumni choose to make *Alumni and Friends of NSER* their charitable choice when making memorial donations.

The \$1500 Alumni scholarship in 2007 was presented in Memory of Master Corporal Allan Stewart, an NSER graduate who died in action in Afghanistan.

A special thank you to Bruce Whipple and family who named *Alumni and Friends of NSER* as their charity of choice when Leah Whipple died. Leah was an active Alumnus with this Association from its beginning and contributed greatly over the years.

Website Update

- ▶ Visit www.nseralumni.ca
 - ▶ Our website is 6 years old. Maintained by Terry Matthews - grad of 1962.
 - ▶ Over 10,000 people have visited the site.
 - ▶ The visitor (5652) counter was reset in 2002.
 - ▶ Visitors per day: 15 Countries: 27
 - ▶ Time spent on site: average 3 minutes
 - ▶ Most popular content: Reunions and photos.
- Software used: *CuteSite Builder* and php.

Donor Recognition Wall

Located prominently in the main entrance to NSER, it is constructed of oak, and is an attractive addition to the school. Donor name plates are brass with black and gold. Each level of recognition, (\$250.+, \$500.+, \$1000.+) has a hand painted picture of NSER High School. Currently there are 24 name plates.

With planned annual givings, your name could soon be added to the wall.

Annual Meeting: 7:00 PM November 22, 2007 at the NSER Library

Please plan to attend. All yearly business and finances reviewed and approved. Be part of the decision process.

Dance and Social Evening

OCTOBER 19, 2007

At Sunny Corner Lion's Club

Music by Ti Blanc Morin

150 tickets available

Cost **\$10.00** each

Snacks, door prize, 50-50 draw

Contact any Executive member of *Alumni and Friends of NSER* or call 622- 8730 or 622-4552