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WELCOME TO 2024!!

The Lambton College Retirees' Club has celebrated many milestones over the last 25 years. Let's add to those luncheons, dinners, trips, memories and any other item that would be enjoyed by all that read this newsletter.

I'll start with my adventure at the College in brief.

1981-1982 I studied Business Administration – Accounting. Found out, not my choice for a career, but that knowledge has come in handy.

1984 – 2020 I enjoyed my dream career in the Resource Centre, later the Library Resource Centre, then Learning and Teaching Commons. I started in the Audio Visual Department. Media formats at that time were Film Strips, Film Loops, Slides, Records, Audiocassettes, 16mm Films, Transparencies and the new emerging Videocassettes.

A vacancy came up for the Circulation Desk in 1993 and I jumped into that world. Loved the activity in that area and all the students. Not a fan of the Reference Desk. Not a fan of the Card Catalogue either. Dropped a drawer or two in my days. Became really good at filing the cards.

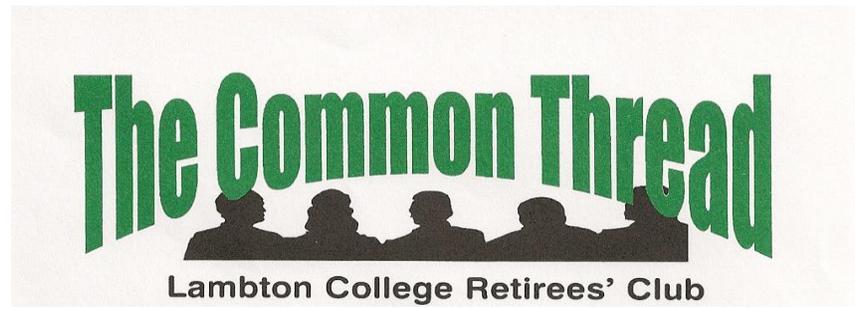
For the College's 40th Anniversary, I was voluntold to sort through the College's Archives for interesting items to display. Hence starting my involvement in this venture. Not too many years later, the Art Collection for the College was appointed to me. I didn't have an Art background, but I did have an appreciation for the works. And that's where I stayed till my departure.

Those last few days were hard to be in the building with no students. But it was time to leave and start another adventure. Don't know how I found the time to work.

Retirement seems like a long time away, but it arrives quicker than you realize.

Happy New Year!

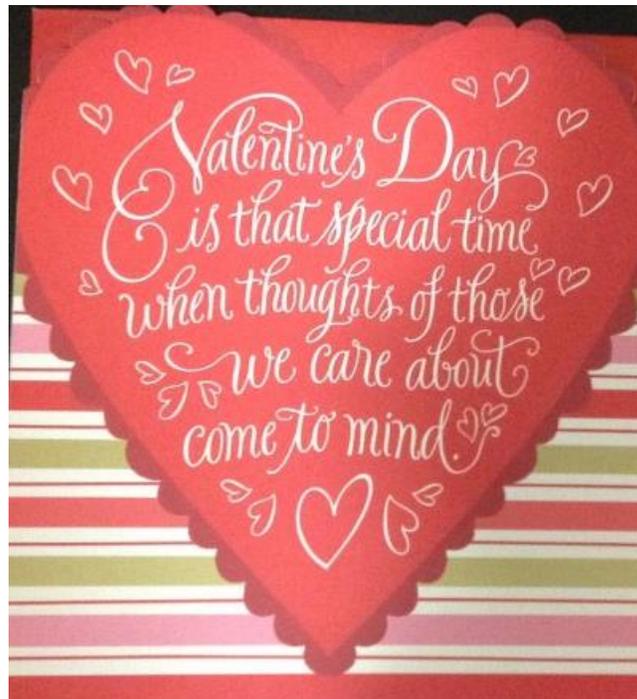
Kathi Vandenheuvel

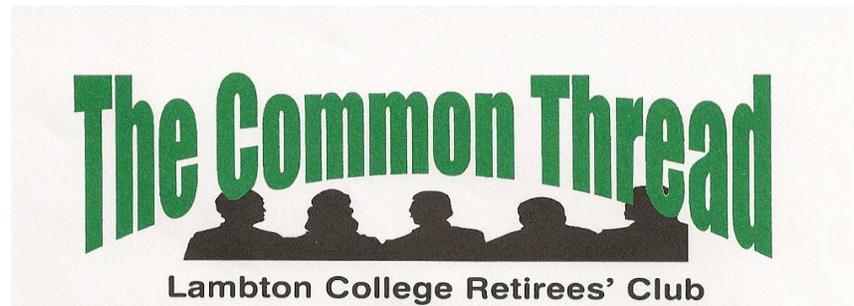


**JOIN US FOR A SWEET TREAT OF A LUNCH
FEBRUARY 14/ 2024
Wagg's Restaurant on Christina St, Sarnia
Time 11:45am**

RSVP ASAP or by Feb 12/24

Please call Alma Brown at 519-336-9108 or Mel Sparks at 519-344-2931





Lambton College celebrates the opening a new main entrance at its Sarnia campus Thursday.
PHOTO BY PAUL MORDEN /The Observer

The Bridge and Greenhouse and Entrance have never looked so colourful. Slowly the grey concrete structure that so many of us walked into each day is fading. But the Corner Stone area remains as a reminder of the beginnings. Well 2.0 in today's terms.

Andy Brandt passed away December 22, 2023. He was Chair of the Lambton College Foundation for more than 20 years. Below is link to his Obituary.

Thanks to Mr. Brandt, the College was blessed by many funding opportunities.

<https://www.theobserver.ca/news/local-news/obituary-ex-sarnia-mayor-mpp-andy-brandt-85-recalled-as-happy-warrior>



Notes from Retiree friends:

John Henderson and Jacquie Taylor say HI. Jacquie is the author of the newsletter in their community. And John still reads "Sleep Hollow" every Halloween. Only person I can remember who faithfully borrowed that title every year.

Janet Kempe (Herman) keeps in touch. She writes, "I drove to Sarnia last Friday and could not believe the view from Modeland Road. The legacy of Lambton College lives on in the talents of your students. Wishing you the love, peace and joy of Christmas and the Blessings of 2024"

Military Project – continued

GERALD A. GREVSTAD

I was born in Winnipeg, Man., along with six brothers and two sisters.

All my brothers served in the military except the oldest, Oscar, who was born in the U.S. Oscar left Canada for Seattle, Wash. to be with my mother's brothers.

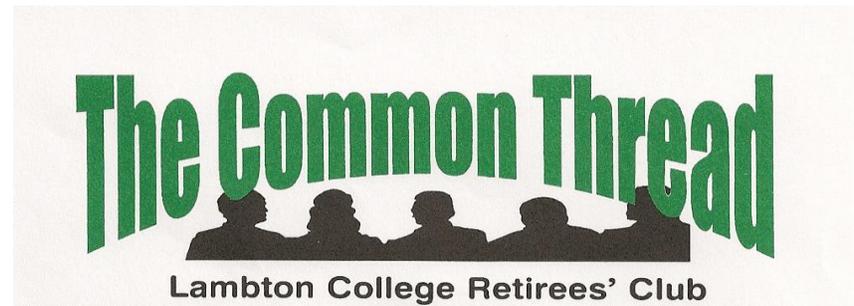
Dale, next oldest, served in the ground crew at MacDonald's Aircraft in WWII.

Next in line, Arthur, was in the PPCLI and then bought his way out and boarded a tramp steamer for England where he joined the RAF, became a fighter pilot in 1939. While engaged in combat with the better experienced German pilots he was shot down over France, rescued by French troops and transported back to England and hospitalized. From there he was shipped back to Canada. He survived his injuries and was later discharged.

My next brother, Melvin, trained as an RCAF navigator and became a Pathfinder crew member. He, too, was shot down over France in 1943 and died of injuries.

Next in line was Harold. He was a radar specialist and served at a station in Resolute Bay where he helped intercept Russian communications.

Next was Bill, my younger brother who also trained as a radar technician.



I myself joined the RCAF in 1970 and was shipped to Aylmer, Ontario for basic training, then to Clinton where I fumbled along studying, but failing radar. I was transferred to the accounting department as I had good grades in high school Accounting. My flight commander liked me and asked me to do some investigating work. I agreed and was given my first assignment in the airmen's mess. People wondered why the wife of the person in charge had big cars and fur coats.

I observed the Corporal closely and soon noticed that every morning he came in he brought with him a big grocery bag. He was using his own food to make burgers and the like. He was accused, convicted and discharged.

My next assignment was at the airmen's clothing unit. An audit had revealed that the number of new Eisenhower jackets did not tally with the inventory lists. I was put on fire watch checking all areas. As I crossed behind the stores unit I saw personnel selling these jackets out the back window. I ordered them to stop and subsequently the offenders were charged and convicted.

After this I was assigned to the officers' bar where the revenues did not match the liquor supply. The procedure soon became apparent. Two sergeants sold liquor tickets to the officers who would present them to the bartenders for their drinks, the bartenders were supposed to tear the tickets in half. But instead they didn't and the tickets were returned to the sellers who would again sell the same tickets. I reported the practice and the staff were replaced. The culprits were penalized.

Soon after my CO asked me what I wanted to do next. I replied I'd like to get in aircrew training but I needed a couple of courses in math and a science. He arranged for me to go Upgrading to take them. I signed up with a tutorial service and passed. As a result I was admitted to aircrew training in Winnipeg in navigation and soon was progressing well. After several months in the program with NATO country trainees and flying trips I developed breathing problems and was given a medical discharge. I was given the option of returning to ground crew or accept the discharge. I decided to leave the air force.

Your Executive:

Alma Brown, Cathy Bull, Terry Cameron, Mary Leckie, Josh Lipszyc, Pat O'Connor,
Gerry Page, Mel Sparks, Kathi Vandenheuvel, Ursula Westelaken, Ray Wreford