



BROWSING THROUGH MY YEAR BOOKS

NUTANA COLLEGIATE 1941-1945

Looking in my rear view mirror

As I view life in my 81st year, the short road ahead seems filled with uncertainties and potholes, so I tend often to gaze into my rear view mirror where I can reminisce about my happy times on a road well travelled. Some of my most treasured memories are recalled when I browse through four old copies of my NCI high school yearbooks. I reflect on many happy friendships and wonder what has become of old classmates that I once saw everyday, and about others I haven't heard from in sixty three years. ...But then, I recall my conversation with a sweet lady whom I met when I attended Nutana's 75th birthday reunion in 1985. "Do you remember me?" she asked coyly. "Well, ummm... I think I do ..." I mumbled, while trying to see her name badge. "You jerk" she said, - "In our home room I sat in the desk across from you for 4 long years!." It was wonderful, - she hadn't changed a bit!

Putting the Yearbooks together:

Seventeen students helped to publish the 1944-1945 yearbook and everyone had an important job. If you are scanning these web pages for the names of old friends, or the names of relatives who attended Nutana many years ago Leona Haver was the Editor-in-Chief and Bob Stow was the Yearbook photographer. Bob, a gifted and gentle student, died soon after leaving school while visiting South Africa. Les Snelling was the advertising Manager, Glenna Cockrill was the sports editor, and Jack Roney, Lynne Banks, Muriel Snider, Marilyn Davis, Sherry MacEachern, Marie Devereau, Marj Borden, Betty Walker, Elaine Norman, Bea Doner, Audrey Mulvey and Lorraine Campbell served as the yearbook's Feature Editors, Sales Manager and Business Manager. All in all, it was an excellent learning experience for an eager staff.

There was a lot to report!

If you don't have copies of your old NCI yearbooks, you may not remember just how much news each edition presented. Perhaps most importantly, there were class pictures and student profiles for the 19 classrooms that comprised "A", "B", "C", "D", and "E" schools. With a 1944 school enrolment of over 700 students this alone was a huge job. In addition, there were stories about the 14 sports teams (including table tennis and tumbling) along with the activities of the cadet corps plus 15 student clubs and councils. Not to be overlooked were a dozen or more social events such as school dances, the Graduation Banquet, Freshie Day, the annual Alumni Dance, and Remembrance Day services. And of course, much space was devoted to the school's wartime activities such as "Milk for Britain", "Poppy Day", "The War Stamp Drive" "The Free French Fund" and "The Russian Relief Fund".

Today

Today, the wide range of extra-curricular activities offered to students in years of wartime seems staggering. Do NCI students enjoy the luxury of these teacher supervised activities now? I hope so, and I only wish I had participated in more of the opportunities offered to me when I was a student—oh, so very long ago.