

Friends of CRC

Les Amis du CRC

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Mar 2013 Newsletter

March Meeting

ABCs of Fraud

Thurs. March 28 Start time: 1:00pm
CRC Auditorium - Duration: 1 hour

The ABCs of Fraud presentations are offered to groups of seniors by the Rotary Club of West Ottawa and the Ottawa Police Service. This Community Service Project was developed 11 years ago in response to the growing number of senior citizens being victimized by fraudsters and scam artists. The Rotary mission is to "fraud proof" seniors.

A typical presentation to a group of seniors involves trained seniors, usually working in pairs, facilitating a conversation about various types of frauds and scams. Through skits they demonstrate in a fun way how seniors are tricked into acceptance. Red Flags are outlined and discussed as warning signs of trouble ahead. Participants will become familiar with indicators of a fraud or a scam in the making.

Presenters:

Ottawa West Rotary Club members - Bob Harrison and Sharen Bowen

Ottawa Police Officers volunteers - To be announced

MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO AN INFORMAL LUNCH IN THE CAFETERIA

ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

Wednesday, 17 April 2013 at 11:30 am

The Friends of CRC's Annual Spring Luncheon will be held on 17 April at BistroFiftyFour, 54 Springbrook Drive in the Amberwood community of Stittsville. Spouses, partners and friends are encouraged to attend. The restaurant has lots of free parking, a nice bar area where we can gather to catch up on everyone's news and then have a leisurely lunch.

If you're attending, please leave a message at 613-990-6673 before Friday April 12th, leaving your name, telephone number, number of guests attending and your meal selection from the following menu. If you need directions to the restaurant let me know when you leave your message and I will call you back.

Spring Luncheon Selections

Grilled 6oz Striploin on ciabatta bun with caramelized onions, roasted peppers & pesto, served with choice of side

Grilled Chicken on Mixed Green salad with strawberries & fennel,
with balsamic vinaigrette

Baked Salmon with orange & almond salsa served
with roasted potatoes

Fluffy 3 egg omelette with sautéed mushrooms, asparagus & cheddar cheese, served with choice of side

Coffee & Tea included
Chef's choice of squares as desert for the table

Cost: \$18.99 plus taxes and gratuities

This price is based on guests choosing their meals from the above menu and advising me of their choices when they leave their name and phone number. I must confirm the number of guests and meal choices with the restaurant on 12 April. A \$2.00 charge will be added per person if ordering on day of event.

The Board has agreed again this year since our bank account is still very low we would collect \$2.00 from everyone attending so please don't forget to bring your loonies and toonies.

Hope to see lots of our members at the luncheon.

Colette

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DRTE/CRC PHOTO LAB

The end of 2012 marked the end of one of CRC's longest surviving client services... the Photo Lab.

Since the early 1950's, the photographic lab provided a valuable service to researchers, facilities managers and other campus partners in maintaining a photographic, film and video record of campus activities for over 60 years.

That photographic record of events included research activities, business portraits, new construction progress, security identification and passports, spacecraft integration and special event photography. At its conclusion, the section archived over 10,000 images annually, adding to a collection of over 200,000 images that dated from 1950.

(Left, initial construction of Bldg. 2)



Beginning in 2007, video and HD video were made available for lab activities and special events.

Formerly housed in the basement of Bldg. 2, the Lab moved to its final location in the Technical Services Building, Bldg. 34, along with other neighbours that included graphic arts, the design office, plating lab and the model shop in the early 1970s.

Employees in the then-named Scientific Imagery included **Oscar Lemieux**, **Pat Butler** and **Bill Townson**.

(Below left: Scotty Yool in the studio in Bldg. 2, centre: Pat Butler; right: Oscar Lemieux? Incidentally, I was still using the tripod shown in the left image when I departed CRC in 2012... pretty good value for money!)



From 1961 to 1988 the photo lab was under the management of **John Colbert** (*right*) who had accompanied the Electronics Group to CRC from their earlier location at NRC on Montreal Road. Those years saw the lab develop (pun intended!) into a full-service photographic section, capable of colour negative, transparency and print processing, as well as line graphic negatives for printed circuit board etching. The introduction of fledgling computer graphics technology, in 1988, then used simply to design slides for lecture presentations, expanded to a full computer graphics capability over the subsequent years.

When I joined the lab in January 1981 under manager **John Colbert**, my fellow employees were **Bill Townson**, **Don West** and **Joyce Chamberland**. At that time, **Norm Quick** had just retired. He is probably best known for his 16mm film work during the second World War.



During the time that the lab existed at CRC, DREO also maintained a separate facility, run by **Bill Harrington** and with photographer **Scotty Yool**. The two groups worked closely, with much of the processing work being performed at CRC. **Marcel Paquette**, while employed by DREO, was active in the black and white and colour darkrooms within the CRC lab.



Left to right (rear): **Marcel Paquette**, **Norm Quick**, **Joyce Chamberland**, **John Colbert**, **Bill Harrington**, **Don West**; *(front):* **Bill Townson**, **Oscar Lemieux**, **John Brebner**.

In 1985 the CRC Photo Lab amalgamated with Graphic Arts, at that time headed by **Art Adams**, another expatriate of the Montreal Road EL group. At his retirement in 1986, the combined lab became **John Colbert's** responsibility, with **Bill Townson** managing the Photo Lab and a flamboyant **Peter Mitchell** taking care of Graphic Arts.

In 1988, with the retirement of **John Colbert**, **Ted Wigney** of Technical Services assumed responsibility of the combined section. **Bill Townson** left shortly later to manage the reinstated DREO Photo Lab, and **Peter**

Mitchell took over responsibility for both the photo and graphics sections at CRC, renamed Creative Visual Services (CVS).

In about 1991 **Louise Casavant** assumed the manager's position, and after a number of reporting changes, CVS finally settled in under the CRC President's Suite of Offices (PESO).

In the spring of 2009, the Photo Lab was separated from CVS and placed under Campus Operations. Starting March, 2010, photographer **John Brebner** reported to **Steeve Lavoie** of DCO, then moved once again back into PESO under **Dan Duguay**.

The Photo Lab saw a number of major changes over its 50 year history at CRC, not the least being the reduction of staff from 6 people in the 1960-1985 period down to its single member in 2012. Digital imaging started with the acquisition of film scanners in the early 1990s, and a major milestone came in 2004 with the introduction of fully digital photography, thanks to the purchase of digital photographic equipment by the David Florida Laboratory (DFL), sparking a trend that accelerated in 2005 with the removal of all wet darkroom and enlarging facilities. Film disappeared, and so did the chemical smells that endeared the lab to its neighbours in Bldg. 34.

The resulting change in technology had many benefits to the lab's clients, not the least of which was a much-reduced turn-around time from initial photography to delivery of product, whether it be print output or CD/DVD copies of the images and videos, as well as a significant per-image cost reduction.

Another benefit to campus clients was the introduction of a searchable image database that allowed individuals to download images on-demand, a process that also helped free-up Photo Lab resources.

In the fall of 2007, the initial steps into producing digital video were taken. That service grew considerably through 2012 with an increased demand for video coverage of environmental testing by the CSA and the David Florida Laboratory. Those images and videos are part of the Canadian Space Agency's historical collection.

Despite the value-added to both CRC and Shirleys Bay site clients, a decision was made by Industry Canada in 2012 to close down the photographic section at CRC.

While I maintain an obvious interest in the section, my primary hope is that the image collection will be preserved at CRC and that all the images digitized to date will continue to be available to the Shirleys Bay community, and eventually to the Canadian public.

At this writing, the DRDC (formerly DREO) Photo Lab is still in operation, with **Janice Lang** (a former CRC Photo Lab employee) providing excellent photographic and video services for that campus partner.

For the benefit of the Friends of CRC, I maintain a personal collection of all images (barring those deemed to be confidential/restricted) for their use. Please feel free to email me at john.brebner@brebner.com for any historical images.

Please send any additional information or corrections about this article... I'd like to add it to the Friends' Web Page of historical memories.

John Brebner
Friends of CRC Archivist

EDITOR'S CORNER

Before I got into telecommunications, I spent several years in the Persian Gulf in the oil and power generation business. This was when Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Doha were still fishing villages. Before that I did some research in Kenya on the anaerobic fermentation of industrial organic waste for the production of methane. Ever since I have taken a keen interest in energy.

Over recent years I have become increasingly concerned about the lack of good science and sound economics in the fields of alternative energies. A typical example is the way the government of Ontario, like many other administrations, are pouring large sums of money into subsidizing solar and wind energy, which the taxpayers are paying for.

Most of this, in my opinion, is a waste of money. Neither of these technologies can ever become more than a small fraction of our energy supplies and neither have a snowball-in-hell's chance of becoming cost competitive without large subsidies. Both require a full-capacity conventional generating system to back them up because of their intermittent nature, resulting in a massive additional capital cost.

It is my contention that we will burn every bit of recoverable fossil fuel, sooner or later, and that the speed at which we do this will vary very little whether we have intensive programs to slow the process down or not. Consequently, all of the resultant CO₂ will eventually enter the atmosphere. Thus the total CO₂ in the atmosphere at the end of the fossil fuel era will be approximately the same, no matter what speed we burn it at. I will admit that given time some CO₂ seems to vanish, probably into the deep oceans, but this is insufficient to destroy the argument that it will eventually all be burned and that most of the resultant CO₂ will enter the atmosphere.

So why are we bothering to try, with little success, to slow down the consumption if it is not going to make much difference? It seems to me that the only important questions are what are we going to do to maintain our high energy lifestyles when all of the cheap recoverable fossil fuels are gone and how are we going to deal with the consequences of global warming, if warming there be and if it be, will it be all bad? Wind and solar cannot contribute significantly to this – we must have a very large-scale, continuous supply. My best guess, and it is only a guess, is that we will use technology based on nuclear energy and water electrolysis and a hydrogen-based system for the base load and some clever chemical hydrogen-synthesis or cryogenics to produce the liquid fuels necessary for transport.

So it is my contention that we are wasting resources and money on bad science and poor economics in exploring solar and wind options which are fundamentally unable to meet the long-term needs.

I'll be glad to publish scientifically and economically sound rebuttals and comments

Colin Billowes