

## Music

### Brian Rading – Class of 1965



Brian, along with Peter Fallis, were original members of “The Staccatos”, which became better known as the “*Five Man Electrical Band*”. Originally formed in 1963, in Ottawa, the original line-up featured singer/disc jockey Dean Hagopian, (vocals; 1963-64), Rick 'Bell' Belanger (drums), Les Emmerson (vocals, guitar), Vern Craig (guitar; 1963-68), Mike 'Bell' Belanger (2nd drums; 1968-73), Ted Gerow (keyboards; 1968-73) as well as Brian Rading (bass; 1963-73) and Peter Fallis (1963-65). They become so involved with the then fledgling group that they put their education aside— temporarily for Peter who was by then in Grade 13 but not so for Brian, then in Grade 12.

### Peter Fallis – Class of 1964



Head Boy in 1962-63, Peter Allan Kent Fallis would dabble with a musical career as a founding member of The Staccatos before returning to high school and then on to university, Next came careers in land assembly, property management, as a restaurateur and now as an owner/CEO of TelASK Technologies Inc. He lives in Ottawa and is married to Linda Dicaire. They have a daughter,

Shalta.

### **John Pulkkinen – Class of 1966**

John Pulkkinen attended Hillcrest from 1961 to 1966 but is now known as John Alexander, and was the lead singer for Ottawa's seven-piece band, 'Octavian', during the members' formative years in high school of 1969. Their first professional gig was at the Chaudiere Club in Aylmer, Quebec for members of Satan's Choice. The band fell apart in 1979. John changed his name to John Alexander and went to work for MCA Records. He signed Alanis Morissette to the label in the early '90s and brought her to the attention of producer Glen Ballard to make the multi-million selling 'Jagged Little Pill'. Alexander is the Senior Vice-President of Membership for ASCAP in the United States.

### **Barry Brown - Class of 1969**

Barry Brown who attended Hillcrest for one year in 1964, was part of the award-winning 'Family Brown', performing vocals, playing the guitar and writing songs. The 'Family Brown' made its early appearances in the Ottawa Valley and, by 1970, had begun to tour across Canada, performing in clubs, at fairs and in concert. It was seen between 1972 and 1985 on a nationally-syndicated TV series, initially 'Call It Country', then 'Country Way', and 'Family Brown Country' and in 1989-90 with Ronnie Prophet on 'Ronnie 'n' the Browns'. Both shows originated from CJOH-TV, Ottawa. Barry is a member of the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame and won many song-writing awards and Junos. Barry still lives in Ottawa and writes music to this day

### **Georgette Fry**

Like many of the Hillcrest Alumni, Georgette was a military brat, and enjoyed a life of postings in, St. Jerome, Quebec, Britain, France, Germany, Kingston and Ottawa. While in Ottawa, Hillcrest was fortunate enough to have her and subsequently is now a member of our "Famous Hawks" Section .

Georgette began writing songs while she was in London and upon returning to Kingston she received a recording grant from the Ontario Arts Council which resulted in her first album "Rites of Passage" which was nominated for a Juno award in 1995. Her second album "Georgette – Live" went on to earn her the Jazz Report Award for Blues Musician of the Year and two Real Blues Magazine Awards for Best Canadian Vocalist for 1997 and 1998. In 1998, Georgette was awarded another Ontario Arts Council Grant, which resulted in her third album "Let Me Drive". In 2004, Georgette received the Real Blues Awards for "Best Blues Songwriter", "Best Blues Release – Female Artist" and "Best Canadian Blues Vocalist (Female)". In 2006, CBC's "Saturday Night Blues" awarded her the

“Great Canadian Blues Award”. Later that same year “Real Blues Top 100 Blues 100 Blues, Soul, Gospel and Zydeco” Chart had her ranked as #12. Georgette’s latest album “back in a moment” was released in 2007 to critical acclaim. Georgette currently can be found at “Brandees” the last Thursday of every Month, she recently hosted the ‘Winter Folk Camp 2011’ where she hosted a weekend of song and somehow manages to be the Director of “Shout Sister!” Choir in Kingston, Brockville and Picton.