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Bill Warnick Returns with Monthly Column

I'm back, and I am going to ramble a bit in this article! It has been nearly three years since my last regular article. There has been a bump or two along the way, but I think I am back in form. Local history has always been my subject and will continue to take the lead in future articles, but I do wish to swerve off subject from time to time and write whatever bounces into . . . or should I say out of my head. It may be fact. It may be fiction and at this point I am not yet sure if I will enlighten you as to which is which. I have always attempted to find the humour in things, often to the unintentional detriment of others! To that end I may write a bit about my upbringing. My siblings and I had a less than ideal rearing which makes for lots of stories. Having parents that did not follow Dr. Spocks' theories was not all bad. In fact some of their antics and forms of discipline were humorous, but only in hind site. On occasion I will find something from my childhood that those involved are okay with my putting to print. Some items will remain securely and privately snuggled close to our own chest!

Next month; if the editor is willing, I will place a hockey photo into my column asking you to name the players. This project has been on my plate for nearly four years and it is time I make a stab at getting some names. Put your older hockey hats on and think Dunnville area players. If you think of someone else who may know who is who please forward the photo on to them. But hang on, that is next month!

It is unfortunate that our paper has lost one of its fine reporters in the name of Doreen Hoover. Doreen was one of a few Chronicle reporters to whom I sent my items of interest and she was always first to move and shake things up to get me coverage. Good luck Doreen in whatever endeavors you choose to try. You will do well wherever you go.

There are two people who influenced my desire to write and maybe even affected my style a bit. They are Lorne Sorge whom you know from this paper, and of course his Remember When series. The other is a distant relative of mine by the name of Fred Howe who wrote "Remember When" type article in the Hamilton Spectator during the 1960's. Fred wrote a bit snooty,. . . you know like if you met this fellow you would be afraid to ask him a question because he would be sure to snap at you, suggesting in his cynicism that you should already know the answer for that really dumb question. That said, there was still something about his style which made you feel he was sitting across from you, maybe having a beer or shot of something much stronger and rambling on about the good-old-days. On the other hand, Lorne seemed to be inviting you to ask him more about his subject and you feel comfortable having a conversation with him. My hope is that I strike the middle ground between these two very capable story tellers.

It seems I have written enough for this month. Please look for my monthly articles and let either the editor or myself know what you think. I will forward all comments on to him regardless of their content unless you request otherwise. You may reach me at wwarnick@cogeco.ca or phone me a 905 549-6086