

F O U N D E R S

It improves with age

by Anne Wright

Founders may be the oldest college but many are of the opinion that like a bottle of good wine it has mellowed and improved with age.

Founded in 1965 it was the first college to be built at the new campus.

Veteran fourth year students — the first pioneers — still reminisce about their freshman days — when muddy Founders was York and muddy York was Founders — when sawhorses and rough benches substituted for tables and chairs in the new dining hall — when York campus was a vast expanse of land interrupted only by a few buildings: Founders College, Burton Auditorium, Steacie Science Library, Farquharson Science Building and Lecture Hall A.

Today the college system at York Campus is a reality and Founders is only one among four. "Nevertheless we have now reached the stage where each of the existing colleges can begin to define itself by competition — intellectual, athletic and in other areas of undergraduate life," wrote Professor John Conway, Master of Founders College, in Foundations '67.

This emergence of individual college identity has become increasingly apparent over the last year, especially in the case of Founders.

"Founders Council is composed entirely of students," says FCSC president John Stiff. "We have no faculty, masters or fellows on our council and are responsible to no-one but the student body."

Four hundred freshmen registered in Founders, Tuesday, September 10 making a total enrolment of 1100 students, in the college.

To help combat the confusion of Orientation and the first few weeks of classes, over forty senior student tutors were appointed by the Council.

Their function, says Gary Mahar, third year rep, is basically to familiarize the freshmen with York campus; to acquaint them with the workings of the university as a whole and Founders College in particular. The tutors are mostly third and fourth year students.

And if you are a freshman you probably will encounter a thousand and one dilemmas — but don't worry about it.

Turn out for Orientation, urge the-people-in-the-know.

Thursday is frosh convocation and an opportunity to meet the master and fellows of the college.

Monday, September 16, Orientation gets into full swing. Founders Coffee House, newly christened The Cock n' Bull, is the scene of a grand re-opening complete with live entertainment. Folksingers Martin and Sally will play for the evening. The coffee house has been completely renovated over the summer in the English pub-style tradition. A favorite meeting-place day or night, it always needs extra volunteers to help serve coffee and donuts. Weekends it's frequently the scene of lively folk concerts — so if you like strumming the old guitar, don't hesitate to bring it along.

Intermedia paint-in happening

Monday evening, 7 p.m., is also the appointed hour for the great paint-in happening in Intermedia. Intermedia — remember that word, you'll be hearing a lot of it this year. Situated in Room 011, it's Founders very own creativity room. Commencing at the beginning of October, various art exhibits — professional and non-professional — will be on display throughout the year. F. C. S. C. Cultural Affairs Director Dianne Gillespie says there's a strong possibility that the popular Thursday evening film nights will be continued again this year.

Miss Gillespie is also optimistic about establishing a campaign to redecorate Founders "sterile and ugly" social and debates room. However, she admits that finances are slim. As the college's Cultural Affairs Director she plans to encourage students to use this room, regardless of decor, to its full potential. Informal drama groups, poetry readings and folksinging groups will hopefully add some of the "social" to a room otherwise used almost exclusively in the past for lectures, discussion and "debates".

The annual Art Contest, including photography, sculpture, and painting, will be held again this year, most probably after Christmas.

For free instruction in art under the excellent supervision of Ronald Bloore, enquire at Stong House, the barn-art studio located on campus at the corner of Keele and Steeles.

Tuesday, September 17, there's a Narcotics Symposium at 3:30 in Founders J.C.R. (Junior Common Room) followed by a splash party in the phys. ed. building at 7 p.m. and a Frosh Hop at 9 in Founders Dining Hall.

Speaking of phys. ed., Founders placed second last year in inter-college sports. Archery, golf, field hockey, basketball, even table tennis — whatever your specialty, there just might be a place for you on the college team. For more information see Founders Athletic Reps Judy Galbraith or Rudy Riske.

Wednesday is Monte Carlo night. Don't laugh, last year it was one of the highlights of orientation — a chance to gamble recklessly (with paper money) and win good prizes (a teddy bear?) at the same time.

A folk concert with recording artists Merv and Merla Watson is scheduled for Thursday night, 8 p.m., in Founders J. C. R.

And for Friday, September 20, the last day of orientation, Founders has joined forces with the other colleges to put on a grand finale dance. Featuring the famed McCoys and the Staccatos, it will be held in the Ice Rink and commences at 8:30 p.m.

And that's the end of orientation, but really only the beginning of the year. For Founders to be an enjoyable and stimulating place to work and play it needs the enthusiasm and co-operation of each and everyone of its students. Clubs, committees, sports teams and drama groups can only be successful if you participate.

If you're a day student, get to know people in residence. Founders residence consists of seven houses — four for men and three for women, with 36 residents per house. Each house is under the supervision (and I use the term loosely) of a don, usually a grad student, who works with the elected house executive to maintain harmony and order. Visiting hours are extremely liberal and there's usually a party going on somewhere during the week end.

Fountain, the college rag

Fountain, the college rag, is at present of questionable value. Admittedly it has seen better days, but new and enthusiastic staffers can work wonders for any paper's morale. Designed as a college magazine, Fountain includes college news, editorials, a literary section and several rather erratic columns written by several rather erratic columnists.

Dazzled by gaudy signs plastered all over the college? They're the colourful result of the spray paint machine, Founders own pet investment.

If you feel you have a creative flair for advertising, why not join Founders Communications Committee, chaired by F.C.S.C. first vice president Mike Ryerse. In addition to operating the spray paint machine, this active committee puts out Foundations, the college handbook, and supervises the "Today, Tomorrow and Weekend" board situated above the conveyor belt in Founders Dining Hall. Here you'll be kept up to date on all events happening for the week in your college.

Founders, as you'll discover in your rambles, has the usual quota of card rooms, common rooms, pool rooms and study halls (to change the tone slightly) — also a music room, social and debates room and three tiny soundproof rooms for typing, practising the violin or letting off steam.

"My main objective as Founders president," stresses Stiff, "is to formalize the college and tie up all the loose ends. This is not the year for far-reaching ideals. It is the year for striving for better organization, establishing a few traditions, and setting up a complete constitution for Founders."

"Founders Council hopes to involve the Fellows in the college by inviting them to give informal lectures on the topic of their choice," he continues. "But first and foremost, we want to get the frosh out to activities. We hope to do this partly through the senior student tutor system."



A view of Founders' men's and women's residence as seen from the south-west. No-one lives there yet except the south-west wind.