

William F.M. Haight

His early education was received at Aylmer Public and High Schools. Here he developed an interest in science, which was later reflected at the University of Western Ontario, where he received a B.A. General Science; B.Sc. Honour Zoology; and a M.Sc. Biochemistry. After a year of PhD courses, he joined the staff of Queen's University, as a research associate. The problem was to find the effect of alcohol on the liver of rats. The result was that an adequate diet plus vitamins maintained the animals in good condition.

A career shift occurred in 1952 with his marriage to Helen and his registration at O.C.E. in Toronto. They both taught for two years at Patterson Collegiate in Windsor. This was followed by a move to St. Thomas where Bill taught for the next thirty years at Central Elgin. His former science teacher had advised saving notes for the first two years for indefinite use. Alas, the courses kept changing.

An interest in music began with piano lessons with Helen Barnum, and the clarinet with Alfred Grimes (Aylmer Boys' Band). He was active in the St. Thomas Evening Music Club (past-president); as a tenor in the Trinity Anglican Choir and as an organizer of musical concerts at the St. Thomas-Elgin Art Gallery. He was a founding director and past president of the Art Gallery and also the first chairman of the Local Architectural Advisory Committee in St. Thomas. His interest in heritage led to the formation of the restoration group of the pioneer Anglican church. He and Dave Fisher produced several theatre events. At present he sits on the Trillium Committee at Western, which organizes concerts for the London Art Gallery.

His interest in STO started with activity in the OSSTF branch at Central Elgin and service at the District level. After retirement, he joined the Executive of the Elgin STO as a caller. With some arm twisting he progressed through successive offices to the President's chair. He was President during the negotiations to separate Oxford and Elgin. He was particularly interested in developing the idea of life memberships and reports that 'I am glad to see that the program has been successful!' He is, of course, a life member and expects to be around for an indefinite period. He and Helen return to St. Thomas frequently (now London residents) to maintain community contacts.

Best Wishes - Elgin STO