



THE TRUANT

IN THIS EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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FEATURED MEMBER:

LEN SHANE

RIDDLES

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WORDS OF WISDOM

"The music is not in the notes, but in the silence between."

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

President's Message, August 2020

I am at the computer waiting for the Executive meeting on Zoom to begin. I never expected to have to become an electronic meeting facilitator when the job of President came to me. But even in old age, sometimes the challenges of the times can be met.

As news that the opening of schools has been delayed until September 10th, the DRTA has also been forced to **suspend this year's "No Bell Brunch"** which was originally scheduled for September 8th. With its cancellation came a new situation, unforeseen even last May with the assumption that we would be able to pick up where we left off once this Coronavirus episode was over. How ill-informed/short-sighted of me to not realize that this situation was going to be with



us for a while. As an association categorized as a non-profit (or not-for-profit) organization, there are rules that govern how we operate. Although we cannot, for health reasons, meet in person, we must still conduct elections of Table Officers for 2020-2021. This meeting will be accomplished using Zoom later in October. If you want to be part of the meeting, please let me know so I can get you on the list to be invited.

deltaretiredteachers@gmail.com

The BCRTA is holding their Annual General Meeting online this year due to COVID-19. Val Windsor and I will be the DRTA's delegates as no-one else in the DRTA membership volunteered to join us even for the 2-hour business session on Saturday morning, October 3rd. The Delta RTA allows for 3 delegates to attend the AGM. Early on in my membership, I took the opportunity to attend an AGM, which allowed me to better understand what good the organization does for BC's retired teachers. It was not like the BCTF AGMs that I had gone to when I taught. There was no atmosphere reminiscent of a political rally or preparing for job action. We were just meeting other retired teachers from all over the province, introduced to speakers whose topics were relevant to us now that we were not in the classroom and really doing things that interest us, and discussing how to better connect to our members. It was soon after that I needed to step up to keep the DRTA functioning and growing. In these 8 years, the DRTA has grown from less than 300 to more than 525 members.

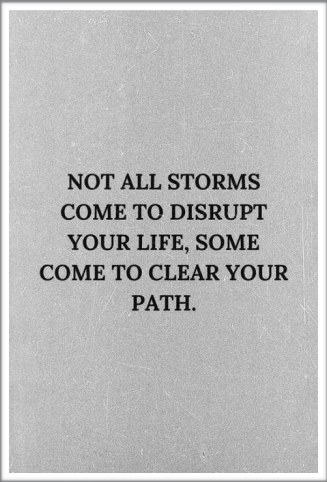
If you want to see the Delta RTA continue to exist and grow, more of you are going to have to get involved and help support fellow members. The first and easiest way to do this is to volunteer to be on the Executive Board as a Member-at-Large. There is nothing easier and it is not time-consuming, but **vital to keeping the DRTA alive**. Please consider getting involved. Contact me if you would like to help.

Fiona has created a fun newsletter with humour scattered throughout. It seems necessary to brighten up our days during these unusual times.

Pat.

MEMBERS SPEAK!!!!

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING DURING LOCKDOWN



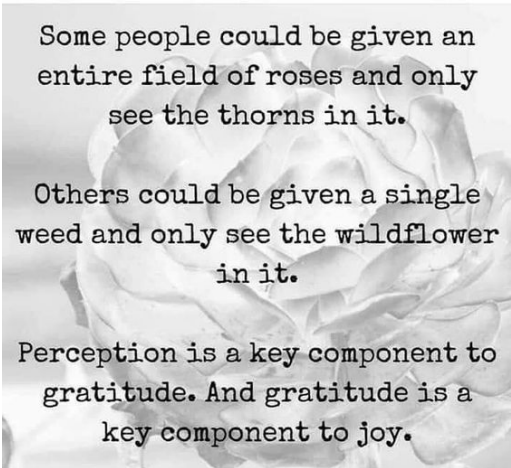
NOT ALL STORMS
COME TO DISRUPT
YOUR LIFE, SOME
COME TO CLEAR YOUR
PATH.

While most of us have been reading, watching movies and going for walks, there has been a variety of creative and caring pursuits happening among our members.

Some members have been making masks and sharing them with family and neighbours, others have been caring for them by doing their shopping or just checking in with them daily.

Some members have had 'fun' learning new ways of communicating with their families digitally and yet others have been enjoying tending a garden.

If you haven't done all the jobs you wanted to catch up on, don't worry - you're not alone. It seems that the pandemic has thrown us into a state of limbo, where it is difficult to make plans and we feel somewhat stressed to just make sure we are able to get our groceries and stay safe inside our homes. People have said that it seems to take longer to do things that we used to do without much thought.



Some people could be given an
entire field of roses and only
see the thorns in it.

Others could be given a single
weed and only see the wildflower
in it.

Perception is a key component to
gratitude. And gratitude is a
key component to joy.

One of our members who is making good use of his time, is Leonard Shane. His story and examples of his work are on the next page.



Leonard Shane

Sharing my art is just one of the many pleasures I derive from this hobby. Who would have thought that when my Mom gave up after 6 months of trying to teach me piano as a 14 year old and then resorted to sending me to an artist friend of hers for painting lessons, that I'd end up so entranced with creating magical art at my age, 19 years after retiring!

Early on in Covid, I decided I would do one painting a day to rise above this scourge we all have to deal with. Sure enough, much to my surprise, eleven weeks later I am up around 80 paintings, albeit many about 8 x 11" in size, as the walls of our house have no space left and next - it's hanging art on the ceiling!

The result of all of this is that I'm rising early and working with bright colours, creating wonderfully cheerful art, many of young children, and it's getting my mind in a good state to start each day. If you go to my website,

lenshaneart.com and look under 'New Work' and then look in my 'Gallery' at paintings #300 and up you can see samples of what I am creating. In fact it seems painting daily is rapidly improving my artistic creations!

Here are a few samples of my work, which I also post early every morning on Facebook. Interestingly, many of my Facebook friends say the first thing they do each day is look for my posts, as they lift their spirits!



Leonard Shane, we all agree. How colourful and happy your pictures are. -Fiona

Continued Learning in the Age of COVID

Third Age Learning at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (TALK) will be offering online courses for the 50-plus age group in Fall 2020.

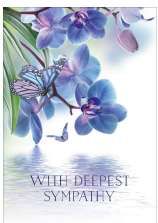
TALK is a volunteer-run organization that has offered courses in partnership with KPU for more than 20 years. This fall, TALK's course offerings will include the Dark Web, Freedom of the Press, Tax Considerations for Seniors, The Arches of Chinatown and much more.

Enrol using <https://www.kpu.ca/talk>

ElderCollege Delta has become a self sustaining, community-based volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing life long learning and personal growth through a relaxed approach where no prior experience is necessary. The courses are short, stimulating with no pressure and no exams. Registration will open for our Fall 2020 semester in September after the courses have been determined..

You can register online eldercollegedelta@gmail.com or over the phone at 604- 943-0262 or in person at our new office inside the Tsawwassen Centre Mall, Delta, BC.

Sad News















Earlier this month, Shannon Hack, a retired Delta teacher, passed away at a time and place of her choosing. She had been suffering from the effects of ALS. Our sympathies go out to those who knew and loved her.

RIDDLES

FREE PRINTABLE TheQuietGrove.com

School Themed LUNCHBOX JOKES

<p>Q: What is a Pirates favorite subject?</p>  <p>A: Arrrrrr</p>	<p>Q: Why did the music teacher need a tall ladder?</p>  <p>A: To reach all the high notes!</p>
<p>Q: Why was the teacher wearing sunglasses to school?</p>  <p>A: Because her students were so bright!</p>	<p>Q: How do you get straight A's in school?</p>  <p>A: With a ruler!</p>
<p>Q: Where do you put smart hot dogs?</p>  <p>A: On Honor Roll!</p>	<p>Q: What did the pencils say to each other?</p>  <p>A: How you're sharp!</p>
<p>Q: How do athletes stay cool during a game??</p>  <p>A: They sit near the first!</p>	<p>Q: Why was the book in the hospital??</p>  <p>A: It broke it's spine!</p>
<p>Q: Why was the Math book always unhappy?</p>  <p>A: Because it was full of problems.</p>	<p>Q: Why is six afraid of seven?</p>  <p>A: Because 7 ate 9!</p>
<p>Q: How do Bees Get to School?</p>  <p>A: On a School Buzz.</p>	<p>Q: What is the Smartest State in America?</p>  <p>A: Massachusetts because it has 4 A's and a B!</p>

Some Brain Teasers:

1. The Kitchen Sink: Each of the words below can be completed by placing the name of a kitchen object in the space shown:

EX-----D

OC ---Y

IM-----ENT

-----ONESTY

2. An Even Exchange: Can you find four consecutive even numbers so that the sum of the first two numbers is 22 and the last two numbers is 30?

Many of our words and phrases have their roots in Latin.

An appropriate saying for teachers is: Discendo Discimus, which means "by teaching, we learn." Can you match all of these Latin phrases with their meanings?

Ad nauseam:	seize the day
Bona fide:	through my own fault
Carpe diem:	the position being reversed
Caveat emptor:	and the rest of such things
Cum laude:	to the point of sickness
E pluribus unum:	with honour
Et cetera:	out of many, one
Per diem:	the stiffness of death
Mea culpa:	in good faith
Vice versa:	light from the north
Per se:	let the buyer beware
Acta, Non Verba:	for each day

Answers on P. 16

Dum Spiro, Spero - "while I breathe, I hope."

Protecting yourself from COVID-19 Frauds and Scams

(Information provided by Seniors First BC formerly BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support)

What are the most common COVID-19 frauds and scams?

According to Seniors First BC, the most common COVID-19 scams targeting the public are:

- phone calls
- text messages
- phishing (fraudulent) emails
- door-to-door canvassing
- fake charities
- fake websites
- social media
- online shopping.



What should you do if a fraud or scam is suspected?

Seniors First BC recommends not responding back to any attempted communications, do not answer the door if you are not expecting a visitor or package, ensure you are purchasing from reputable websites, and do your research before shopping online. **Do not click on website pop-ups and close the page immediately if one appears on your screen.**

How can fraudulent activity be identified?

Official organizations will not send threats, errors or warning messages and will never give you a reason to panic unnecessarily. Scammers have ways of making themselves appear extremely legitimate. **They may impersonate well-known organizations, taking advantage of official symbols or logos.**

How can you protect yourself from scammers?

Never give out personal information such as credit card numbers, banking information, passwords or social insurance numbers, **unless you have contacted someone for services and verified their identity first**. Scammers will often tell you not to call family members or the police but to deal only with them. It is important not to listen to this advice. Reach out to a family member, trusted friend or call your local police department if you are concerned. If you have not initiated a request, delete it. If it was important, they will contact you again.

How do you report fraudulent activity?

Suspected frauds and scams can be reported to:

- The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at antifraudcentre.ca or 1-888-495-8501
- Your local police department by filing a non-emergency report (do not call 911)
- Your local bank/financial institution and credit card company
- The National Credit Bureau to place a fraud alert on your credit reports (Equifax Canada 1-800-465-7166 or TransUnion Canada 1-800-663-9980)
- The National Do-Not-Call List at lnnte-dncl.gc.ca or 1-866-580-3625

Where can you learn more?

Seniors First BC operates the Seniors Abuse and Information Line (SAIL), a BC-wide program with trained intake workers ready to talk to you in confidence about abusive situations of any kind involving older adults.

Seniors First BC also provides free legal services to older adults age 55+ who cannot afford a lawyer.

To connect with Seniors First BC for the SAIL line or to book legal services, call 604-437-1940 or toll-free at 1-866-437-1940, available 7 days a week (excluding holidays) from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.



The Music or songs we'd like to hear again

So many of you had wedding songs but there was also quite a variety of genres. Many of you suggested groups and singers, with the disclaimer that anything by that singer would be worth listening to again; like Meatloaf, Beatles, Bon Jovi, Stones, Neil Diamond, The Eagles and John Denver.

We had everything from Elvis to Andy Grammer, so here's a selection. See how many you know and like!

Anne Murray's - 'May I Have This Dance for the Rest of my Life' was Peter Leaf and Sonja Whitehead's wedding song. So appropriate.

See how many of these make you hum or dance and bring a smile to your face as you remember:

Elvis - Blue Suede Shoes

Peter, Paul and Mary / Roberta Flack - The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face

Simon and Garfunkel - Bridge Over Troubled Waters

Everly Brothers - All I Have To Do Is Dream

Roy Orbison - Crying

Linda Ronstadt - Blue Bayou

K.D. Lang - Hallelujah

Neil Young - Harvest Moon

Beatles - Hey Jude

Righteous Brothers - Unchained Melody

Carole King/James Taylor - You've Got a Friend

Louis Armstrong - What a Beautiful World

Judy Collins - Both Sides Now

Andy Grammer - Don't Give Up On Me



FUN FACTS

With around 200 countries and more than 7.5 billion people, the world is full of interesting, fun, and fascinating people, places, and things. In the land of the Kiwis, for instance, you'll find the highest concentration of pet owners on the planet. And over in Nicaragua, you'll find one of the only two flags in the world that features the colour purple. Hungry for more facts about the world and its ever-growing population? Read on to learn some interesting facts about our world.

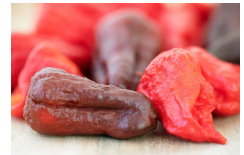
North Korea and Cuba are the only places you can't buy Coca-Cola.



There are more twins now than ever before.

One out of every 30 babies born is a twin!

The hottest chili pepper in the world could kill you!



It's called the Dragon's Breath Chili and was originally developed as a topical anaesthetic.



France is the most visited country in the world.

In 2019, France welcomed 86.9 million people. Spain was the second-most popular destination, followed by the United States, China then Italy. La vie est belle!

When you put one of your best-behaved students near one of your most "interesting" students
[#studentprobs](#)

The Canary Islands are named after dogs, not birds.

In Spanish, the area's name is Islas Canarias, which comes from the Latin phrase Canariae Insulae for "island of dogs."



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Member-at-large	Annie Coblin		acoblin@hotmail.com

If **you** are interested in applying to work for other members of the DRTA, please contact Pat Thiesen deltaretiredteachers@gmail.com

Haiku

Breezes orchestrate

Wind-chimes melodious sounds

Music fills the air.

By Laurie Ginn

Play the Radio

Get up and dance all night long

Music heals the soul

By humble b.





Words We Became Aware of in 2020

1. COVID-19 - coronavirus disease 2019: a potentially severe respiratory illness caused by a coronavirus and characterized by fever, coughing, and shortness of breath.
2. novel coronavirus - a coronavirus that has not previously been detected or reported such as COVID-19.
3. asymptomatic - (of a disease or other medical condition) presenting no symptoms or evidence of illness or abnormality: - (of a person with a disease or other medical condition) experiencing no symptoms or evidence of illness or abnormality
4. PPE - personal protective equipment: specialized clothing or other wearable gear that minimizes one's exposure to sources of illness or injury, and in medical contexts helps to inhibit the spread of infection to others.
5. fomites -In pathology. inanimate objects whose surfaces can become contaminated with pathogens when touched by the carrier of an infection and can then transmit the pathogens to those who next touch the surfaces.
6. social distance – as a noun - a safe or appropriate distance or amount of space between two people or between people in a group, - or as a verb – a) to maintain a safe or appropriate distance from other people, especially to slow the spread of a contagious illness or disease; - b) to place or keep at a safe or appropriate distance from other people.
7. Epidemic - a disease affecting many persons at the same time, and spreading from person to person in a locality where the disease is not permanently prevalent.
8. Pandemic – (of a disease) prevalent throughout an entire country, continent, or the whole world; epidemic over a large area.

Cryptogram Puzzles

1. UNR IRHU EPQ UL DTOV QLFZHRAD TH UL ALHR
QLFZHRAD TO UNR HRZMTCR LD LUNRZH.

Mahatma Gandhi

2. IWOO BW POV T DLZRU. URPCN BW POV T
ZRBRBIRZ. TOMLAMR BW POV T ARPZO. Benjamin Franklin.

3. UNR RPHTRHU EPQ UL PMLTV EZLOK OLURH TH
ORMRZ LWRO QLFZ BLFUN POV HTOK. ENPU P
BTHUPYR UNPU ELFAV IR. Pete Seeger

Clue: I=B. R=E. N=H. S=J. A=L. O=N. W=P. Z=R. U=T. F=U. M=V

Musical Trivia

1. Which female singer released "Rolling in the Deep?"
2. What musical group performs on Jimmy Fallon's talk show?
3. I was born in 1923. My band was The Drifting Cowboys. My hits included "Moanin' the Blues" and "Cold, Cold Heart". Who am I?
4. The sackbut was an early form of which musical instrument?
5. Elton John's 1976 hit "Don't Go Breaking My Heart" was a duet with which vocalist?
6. Which popular singer is referred to as "the Boss"?
7. What are the Amati family known for?
8. Who sang "Bye Bye Love"?
9. Which Elton John song did The Beach Boys record in 1991?
10. Who was the first country artist to sell over 10 million copies of an album?
11. Justin Timberlake started his career as a member of what band?
12. What musician won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2016?

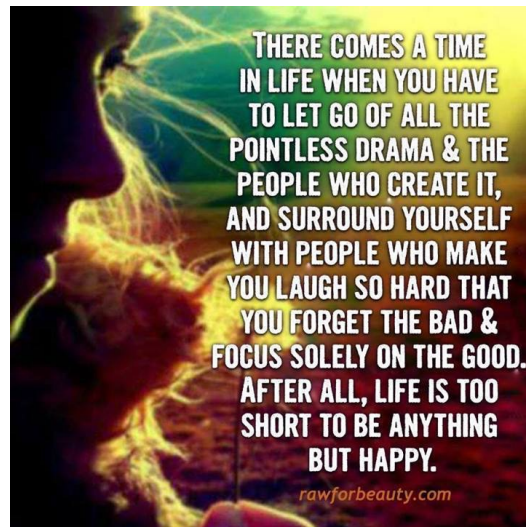
SOME WORDS OF WISDOM

Kindness is in our power even when fondness is not.

-Henry James

The most important trip you may take in life is meeting people halfway.

-Henry Boyle



Today I bent the truth to be kind, and I have no regret, for I am far surer of what is kind than I am of what is true.

-Robert Brault

Treat everyone with politeness, even those who are rude to you, not because they are nice but because you are.

-Roy T. Bennett

Never look down on anyone unless you are helping them up.

-Rev. Jesse Jackson



Answers to School themed lunchbox jokes: (Groaners!!)

1. Aaaaart. 2. Because the students were so bright. 3. On Honour rolls. 4. They sit near the fans 5. Because it was full of problems. 6. On a school buzz. 7. To reach the high notes. 8. With a ruler 9. Wow! You're sharp. 10. It broke its spine. 11. Because 7 ate 9 12. Alabama, because it has 4 A's and a B.

Answers to Brain Teasers:

exPAND. imPOTent. occCUPy DISHonesty

2. $10 + 12 = 22$ and $14 + 16 = 30$

Answers to Latin root words:

Ad nauseam: To the point of sickness;

Carpe diem: Seize the day;

Cum laude: with honour

Et cetera: And the rest of such things;

Per diem: For each day;

Rigor mortis: The stiffness of death;

Per se: In itself

Bona fide: In good faith;

Caveat emptor: Let the buyer beware;

E pluribus unum: Out of many, one;

Mea culpa: Through my own fault

Aurora Borealis: morning light from the north;

Vice versa: The position being reversed

Acta, Non Verba: Actions, not words;

Cryptograms - Answers

1. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

2. Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

3. The easiest way to avoid wrong notes is to never open your mouth and sing. What a mistake that would be.

Answers - Musical Trivia

1. Adele 2. The Roots 3. Hank Snow

4. Trombone 5. Kiki Dee 6. Bruce Springsteen

7. Their violins 8. The Everly Brothers 9. Crocodile Rock

10. Garth Brooks 11. *NSYNC 12. Bob Dylan

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN, BE SAFE!