

Vancouver Tabloid

Vancouver Retired Teachers' Association AUGUST 2022 Newsletter

WELCOME TO RETIREMENT!

FREEDOM to TRAVEL!

As one is free from a regular school day, now one is free to travel. What is a favourite or essential item to take with you? Inside on page 4 you will find some advice as to what to bring.



COME JOIN US for your FIRST or FOREVER year of Retirement Lunch with new and familiar friends this Tuesday Sept. 13

in person at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, 3811 Point Grey Road. Come alone or bring a friend. Guest speaker, **Diana Cruchley**, (see right) writer, educator and author, will describe the need to "Get My Documents Together- An Introduction to the *Absolutely Indispensable Binder*". The menu is on page 6; wine is available for purchase. **Pre-registration is required.** **New Retirees pay only \$20 for this event.**



Our **BOOK SWAP** continues: bring a book from your summer reading; and take a book or just take a book. **There will be a Door Prize!**

BOOKSWAP



WELCOME BACK LUNCH TUESDAY SEPT. 13—11 AM

Register by Tue. Sept. 6 and Pay \$40/\$20 New Retiree
PAY BY CHEQUE - Registration form ON BACK PAGE
Dave Ellis, 2086 Newport Avenue,
Vancouver, BC. V5P 2H8
P:604 327-7734 or email vrtatreas@gmail.com
OR
PAY ONLINE

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vrta-september-lunch-and-speaker-tickets-403855301077>

NOTE: online payment includes fee for processing

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President's Greetings

Vancouver Tabloid



Welcome back to you all, our new retirees and returning members! I hope that you all had a good summer, despite the heat waves!

I look forward to working with our new executive and cohort of volunteers. We especially appreciated Elaine Anderson and Norma Westrom helping with the membership list this summer after Dave H. Smith had to resign due to ongoing family and work issues. A big Thank you to you three for the time and dedicated effort you have done and are doing to update our membership lists, which are used to distribute the TABLOID and provide timely communication emails. You are greatly appreciated.

As we start our new year, we ask you to consider being Leaders by stepping forward to fill in the two executive vacancies: a new membership chairperson and a second vice president. That's how I started out on the executive and I have learned so much from our meetings, the lunches and the new friends I have made. We have a lot of fun! PLEASE do apply to join the executive by contacting our secretary dennyottewell@outlook.com

If you cannot join the executive then we invite you to participate in our workshops and/or our Activities: Walking, Strolling, Book reading. Details are further down on this page of the TABLOID. Or please just do JOIN US at our lunches - we have only four each year – and I want to meet you.

-Edie Wood



The first meeting of the new Executive for 2022-23 brought smiles from left Rebecca Aikman, Denis Ottewell, Lizette Pappas, Diane Smith, Dave Ellis, Edie Wood, (behind) Les Rowe, Sheila Pither, Norma Westrom, Ros Kellett, Barb Mikulec Away: Marilyn Rushton

LEADERS for Activities

VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB: Diane Smith frandia@shaw.ca—3rd Wed at 2 pm
-*Contact vrta.president@gmail.com to start Second Book Club

STROLLERS: Norma Westrom normawestrom@hotmail.com—Wed 10:45 am

WALKERS: Margaret Yoshida margyoshi@gmail.com—Wed 10:00 am

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Membership— VACANT

SUBMIT EMAIL CHANGES TO:

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VancouverTabloid@gmail.com

Members at Large

Winola Chu, Barb Mikulec,
Lizette Pappas, Sheila Pither,
Les Rowe,

Diane Smith, Norma Westrom

Volunteers

Ora Fraser, Lois Paterson, Ali Pollard

WEBSITE: www.vrta.ca

Calendar

**Please feel free to join us - *Notify
vrta.president.e@gmail.com*

NOTE: Most events start 10 AM

Sept. 13 Tue. Welcome Back Lunch

Sept 29-Oct 1—BCRTA Conf & AGM

Oct. Workshop (TBC)

Oct. 18 Mon. Exec. (TBC) Hybrid

Oct. 28 Fri. TABLOID deadline

Dec. 6 Tue. —Christmas Social (TBC)

VRTA AGM and SOCIAL



Linda Rizzardo (from left), Helen Low, Sheila Pither and Elaine Anderson preparing to receive the first course.



Speaker Karen Cooper answered questions from the crowd after lunch.

Over 40 members and guests came to the stately Royal Vancouver Yacht Club for lunch and the AGM June 7. Speaker Karen Cooper, Assistant Editor of the BCRTA PostScript, explained her role helping Chief Editor Tim Anderson to review all POSTSCRIPT submissions. She works directly with the writers of the successful submissions, giving each suggestions on how to improve the article for clarity, meaning and interest. Karen loves doing this work and wants us ALL to consider contributing. She urged us to participate in the BCRTA Writers workshop, now available at BCRTA website:

<https://bcrtc.ca/writers-workshop-june-2022/>

Newly retired teacher, Jennifer Rogers, (see below) gave an update on the latest financial crunch by the Vancouver School Board that plans to cut the Cooking classes at her Alternate school and shared a petition. The VRTA AGM went smoothly and Policies and Procedures were revised. The AGM reports and minutes were published in the MAY TABLOID, available on VRTA website. A new executive was elected—see page 2—with room for two more: Membership and 2nd VP . Do consider joining!



First time attendees, Karin Bernauer and Susan Dallyn, enjoyed the busy lunch events.



Jennifer Rogers (from left), Ros Kellett, Karen Cooper and Edie Wood pose at the request of Denis Ottewell. Tabloid Photographer Extraordinaire,



Retired secondary teachers (from left) Walter Shynkaryk, Dr. Chandra Madhosingh & Ken Arndt rekindled friendships.

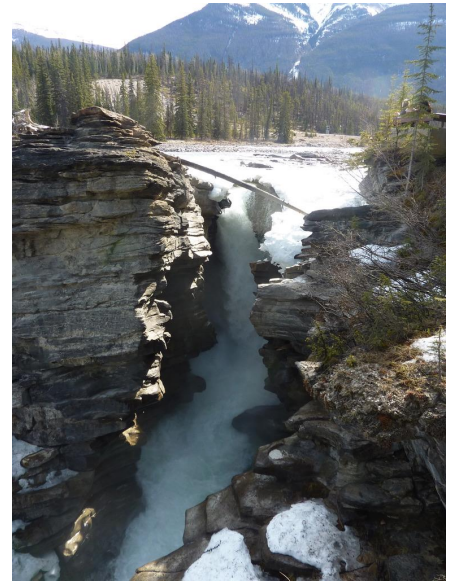
What do I take when I Travel?

TAKE THE CAR!



VRTA Treasurer Dave Ellis and wife Brenna took the car to go to Edmonton for his Aunt's 100th Birthday, riding the ferry across the Upper Arrow Lake to Galena Bay.

When travelling, one wants to be prepared to reduce travel stress. Read on for advice from colleagues on an important item to take, whom to take with you and how to travel in a smart, comfortable way. Perhaps the best advice is wearing comfortable clothing, as the VRTA Walkers did in July around the Langara Golf course during the heat wave. Clearly identifying your flight luggage at crowded airports is a great idea as COVID becomes less virulent and travel increases.



There was an impressive volume of water cresting over the Athabasca Falls near Jasper, Alberta when Dave visited in April of this year.

TAKE COMFORTABLE CLOTHING



TAKE A HAT!

HATS, those cranial coverings are my favourite wearables. For every occasion required, I have used and worn hats. From baby tie-ons to shade coverings, my hats have included many toques, a variety of caps and other head coverings. An all-around hat is the Tilley of which I have three! For dressier occasions, I have three stylish hats; and I even have a pith helmet for a costume party! I like to doff my chapeau and smile, as an act of courtesy to someone special. **-Denis Ottewell**



Wearing loose comfortable clothing and sturdy shoes is important to Walkers: From left to right, Back row (standing): Anne-Marie Carlson, Susan Dickson, (front) Chin Yen Lee, Joan Shields, Anne Lennon, Susan Harman, Carla Boaz, Kaz Yoshida, Betty Kosel. Front row (kneeling) Laara Ynea, Edie Wood, Barb Mikulec, Lanbor Fan Wong, Monique Wong, Elaine Anderson

TAKE A GOOD COMPANION

VRTA Volunteer Ali Pollard writes: "I take my daughter, a mother and absolutely fabulous organizer!. She helps me with the ArriveCan app and recently, getting a recent COVID test. Unfortunately the results came back 6 minutes too late, we missed our flight and spent two days getting home from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Thankfully my daughter helped with all these adjustments! **-Ali Pollard**

TAKE MY CAMERA

Hello everyone from beautiful Greece! VRTA Social Coordinator Lizette Pappas is on an extended tour of Greece, visiting relatives and friends of her daughter-in-law, husband and her side of the family. Currently she is on the island of Zakynthos in the Ionian Sea, east

of Athens, and the home of her daughter-in-law. Soon she will go on to Thessaly then the island of Naxos, her birthplace. Lizette comments: "Greece, it is packed with tourists and Greeks alike. It feels like the flood gates opened and streams of people descended upon Greece like never before. This is no

wonder, the waters are crystal clear, the beautiful beaches with white sand are magnificent, the food is to die for and the hospitality of the Greek people is known throughout the world. Yes all the prices are definitely more expensive...but Greece needs this influx".

-Lizette Pappas



Lizette Pappas (left) hiked up this hill on the island of Zakynthos, Greece, for spectacular scenery. To her right is her daughter in law Mavra and their friend Vicky.



Navagio Bay Beach is one of the most spectacular beaches on Zakynthos, reported Lizette, with its crystal clear blue and turquoise waters and white sands.



A packed beach on Zakynthos. "If you decide on a holiday to Greece you will not be disappointed, I guarantee it. Enjoy your summer wherever you are", says Lizette.

TAKE MY FITBIT

I always take my Fitbit watch. It encourages me to be active and walk as well as keeping track of heart rate. When I reach 10,000 steps, it displays fireworks! - **Barb Mikulec**

TAKE MARKED LUGGAGE

VRTA First VP Marilyn Rushton, excited about their Viking European River Cruise this September, is preparing to downsize their luggage to carry on only for their flight, with easy identification (see right) "We found a terrific store "Travel Smart"...for backpacks, packing cubes and zippered cloth bags for toiletries".

—Marilyn Rushton



If you have bumpy plastic luggage make sure you put clear gorilla tape (it's like super scotch tape) over the ends and middle to pin down the red strips to make your luggage unique! **-Ken Rushton**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BEWARE SOPHISTICATED PHONE SCAM

HOW I GOT MY FIRST NAME

I was named for my aunt, my mother's younger sister, Lois. She filled the house with laughter! Starting at age 19, I was invited to ride with her all the way down to her home in Los Angeles and be on my own with her for a week or so. I had such adventures! I liked having the same name as her, she was so much fun! My name is not so familiar these days and I get called Louie or Louis or even Louise. The correct way is Lois "Low s"!

-Lois Paterson

Ed. Note—Due to lack of space, this contribution was missed in the MAY TABLOID.

HELLO GRANNY?! I need your help!

VPD ALERT

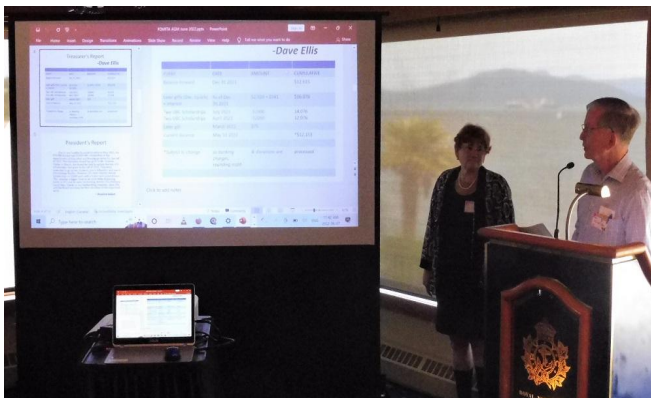
In the first week of August this year, a gentleman in his 70s living in metro Vancouver was scammed \$90,000 over the course of 4 phone calls and several days in which he made three bank withdrawals to rescue his pleading "grandson needing bail to get out of jail right now". The scammers work as a pair, with one acting as the distraught grandson and the other as a police officer or doctor to verify the "grandson's" claim of distress. They intimidate the victim by saying there is a GAG order in place so that the grandparent must not tell anyone, even the bank teller, why

the money is being withdrawn or the grandson will be jailed immediately.

This Grandparent Scam is prevalent in Vancouver right now, with the average amount of money taken from a victim between \$8000 and \$15000 each week. Due to embarrassment, few victims are reporting this scam. Thus the Vancouver Police Department are reaching out to Blockwatch members with a new **Coffee with a Cop** series, featuring conversations with VPD police officers/detectives on various topics. Check with your local Blockwatch Captain for more details.

-Ros Kellett's notes from VPD live session Aug 10

FOVRTA AGM



Dave Ellis, Financial officer of FOVRTA, speaks to the financial report at the FOVRTA AGM. President Ros Kellett looks on. Two UBC scholarships were funded this past year: one in Education; the other in Nursing with geriatrics focus.

The Friends of the VRTA held their AGM at 11:30 am on June 7. The reports, accounts and budget had already been sent in the MAY TABLOID. A short video made by the UBC Awards department showed recent Scholarship recipients paying tribute to the FOVRTA. One young man in UBC Education confessed that he had considered dropping out of UBC because he didn't have the money to continue. No wonder there is a teacher shortage! This was a stark reminder of how important FOVRTA scholarships and bursaries are to UBC Education and Nursing Geriatric students.

- Ros Kellett

*LUNCH Menu – Sept 13

*subject to change

Soup of the day
Mixed Greens Salads
BC Ling Cod, Lentil Ragout
Mushroom Ravioli
Pie & Nanaimo bar

**Donate to the
scholarship
fund today!
(see vrta website)**

Live Stage Offerings

September to November



Fall 2022 offers both variety and excitement. The **Arts Club Stanley** series for 2022-23 begins with the comedy **Peter Pan Goes Wrong** from Sept.8th to Oct.16th. The **Granville Island Stage** begins with **Mom's The Word: Talk-in' Turkey** from Oct.27th to Dec. 24th. **Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre** presents **Redbone Coonhound**, a play about race, power and privilege. It runs from Oct.6th to Oct.30th. Check artsclub.com or phone 604-687-1644

Broadway Across Canada is presenting the musical **Jesus Christ Superstar** at the **Queen Elizabeth Theatre** from Nov.15th to 20th. Check broadwayacrosscanada.ca Also, check out **National Theatre Live from London** which offers **Much Ado About Nothing** in selected cinemas starting Sept. 8th. Then **Jack Absolute Flies Again** begins Oct.6th and **The Seagull**, Chekhov's tale of love and loneliness, scheduled for Nov.3rd.

Metro Theatre's first fall offering is Alan Ayckbourn's **Round and Round the Garden** from Oct.1st to

Oct.16th. Then **the Importance of Being Earnest** runs from Nov.5th to Nov.20th. Both productions run from Thurs. to Sat. evenings at 8:00p.m. with three Sun. matinees at 2:00p.m. Check metrotheatre.com or phone 604-266-7191.

United Players begins their season with **The Thursday Night Bridge Club**, a play about desegregation in the southern U.S.A. circa 1970. It runs Sept. 8th to Oct.2nd. This will be followed by **Wittenberg**, a comedy exploring the issues of faith and skepticism, from Nov. 10th until Dec.4th. Check unitedplayers.com or phone 604-224-8007.

Studio 58 at Langara opens Season 57 with **Blue Stockings**, an inspiring historic tale, from Oct. 6 to 16. Contact Langara.ca/studio58 or phone 604-323-5511. Other exciting drama productions featuring local talent can be found at **Richmond's Gateway Theatre**: check gatewaytheatre.com or phone 604-270-1812; **U.B.C.'s Freddy Wood Theatre** check theatrefilm.ubc.ca or phone 604-822-2678; and **The Cultch** at thecultch.com or 604-251-1363.

- Ora Fraser

2022 AGM JOKES

-from Internet

Prepared by Rebecca

1. Where do sheep like to go on vacation?
2. Where do cows like to go on vacation?
3. What happens when you cross a snake and a plane?
4. Where is a teacher's favourite holiday destination?

*****Answers*****

1. The Baa-hamas!
2. Moo York!
3. You get a Boeing constrictor!
4. Times Square!

Knock-knock.

Who's there?

*****Answers*****

1. Oscar. Oscar who? Oscar if she wants to go on the trip with us!
2. Cameron. Cameron who? Cameron film are what we'll need to take pictures!
3. Norma Lee Norma Lee who? Norma Lee, we go swimming on Sundays, but we wanted to visit you instead!

THEME & DEADLINE for the NEXT ISSUE - Friday October 28, 2022

HOW DO I RELAX? Tell the newly retired how you relax. Keep this to about 150 words.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send letters, advice, photos or news to editortabloid@gmail.com

Add name, email address & phone number. Keep under 150 words; they may be edited for length and clarity.

Welcome to our New Editor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rebecca Aikman was selected to be our new Editor in July, following an interview process, and started working with Ros in August on this edition. Rebecca comes with years of experience editing many manuscripts and has published a book of short stories. Born in BC she got her BA in Communication Studies in Calgary, then worked in Mexico, Toronto and now Vancouver and was an ESL teacher for two years. She enjoys riding her bike everywhere!



Ros receives gift from President Edie at June AGM upon retiring as Editor on September 1.

MESSAGE from Rebecca This publication is for you, the retired teacher of Vancouver. I look forward to editing this publication and invite you to submit your stories, articles, photographs and contributions to editortabloid@gmail.com. I'll incorporate the best and value reading everything you send. - **Rebecca Aikman**



BCRTA AGM & CONFERENCE—Sept 29, 30 and Oct 1 – at Van Airport Hilton Hotel in Richmond.
-Attendance will be in-person as well as via Youtube

HAS YOUR POSTAL OR EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGED?

Laurie Boyd of the BCRTA prefers that you contact her 604 871-2260 directly or using the ONLINE Form. <https://bcrt.ca/update-member-info/>

Please also NOTIFY VRTA membership. Contact Norma Westrom at normawestrom@hotmail.com.

REGISTRATION FOR SEPT 13 –11:00 AM -LUNCH

Name(s): _____

Ph: _____ Email: _____

Enclose cheque for ___ attendee(s) @ \$40/\$20 for New Retiree
Cheque payable to: **Vancouver Branch—BCRTA**
Or Pay ONLINE—see details on front page

Those wishing vegetarian entrée/special diet, check here _____

See Page 1 for where to send. Register by Tuesday Sept. 6 TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Write a cheque for the LUNCH— Sample shown here:

PAYABLE TO: **BCRTA—Vancouver Branch**

Name (PRINT) _____

Cost of Lunch: (cheque) \$40.00

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

In the Memo line: **VRTA Sept. 13 Luncheon**

Phone No. _____

MAIL TO: VRTA Treasurer, **Dave Ellis**, 2086 Newport Avenue, Vancouver, BC. V5P 2H8