



NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA BRANCH OF THE
B C RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



THE TRUANT

November/December 2022

President's Message

As my first message as Co-President, I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone who is reading this to take an active role to participate in your organization in any ways you can, big or small.

You can contribute an article to The Truant, you can join the Delta DRTA Facebook group page, give feedback and suggestions to DRTA, donate to the DRTA annual scholarship fund, join one of our committees, join our board, or just simply come out to our social events.

Remember, keeping the brain active and healthy is to exercise regularly, learn new things, and stay social. Truly, retirement is not an end, but a new beginning, and I invite each and every one of you to explore the journey of retirement with your colleagues by actively participating in your DRTA. Make DRTA as part of your retirement.

Finally, for myself and on behalf of the whole DRTA board, I'd like to wish everyone and your family Merry Christmas, Seasons Greeting and Happy Hanukkah. May the season bring peace and joy to the whole world.



Peter Yang, Co-President

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The DRTA is hosting a Christmas Luncheon on December 14th, 2022.



Please come and celebrate the start to the holiday season with us!

For the first time, our luncheon will be held at the new Cascades Casino which is located on the old site of the Town and Country Inn, just south of the Massey Tunnel. (6005 Highway 17A, Delta)

The Luncheon will be held on the Conference (or upper) Level of the Casino Building beginning at 11:30 am.

There is open air and under cover parking. The parkade has signs leading to the casino entrance. When you get to the main lobby, take the escalators upstairs.

The Buffet will include:

Artisan Bread Rolls with butter; 4-5 salads; Wild Rice Pilaf and Whipped Yukon potatoes; Vegan assortment; Ham and Turkey; Festive Cakes and cookies; Fresh Fruit; Tea and Coffee

If you wish to attend, send your name to **drtaevents@gmail.com** by **Tuesday, December 6, 2022** (and you will receive an acknowledgement in return e-mail). Please indicate your membership status.

Subsidized price is \$35.00 for DRTA members, and \$40 for non-members – cash or cheque only, thanks.



President's Report, November 2022

Our Fall Luncheon was held on October 6th, 2022. We had a total of 40 members who participated in the DRTA subsidized luncheon. Everyone enjoyed the three-course luncheon at the RiverHouse Restaurant & Pub in Ladner.



This was our first in-person social event since the beginning of Covid. The in-person social was truly enjoyed by all attendees. (Please read Mary-Jo Ohl's write-up of the event, below.)

Our guest speaker, Lisa Hansen, from the Johnson Insurance group, gave us an update on the BCRTA's Group Extended Health and Prestige (travel insurance) program. It was very informative. *(Details of her Information can be found in the rest of the newsletter.)*

Let's not forget that any event would not be successful without all the work done to support it. A big thank you goes to Yvonne Chard and the many others who had worked to make this luncheon such a success, by giving their time, ideas, and energy. It simply could not have been as successful without all the help.

The DRTA board had a brief extraordinary meeting after the luncheon to debrief and to begin planning for our upcoming December luncheon. *(Please see the information in this newsletter.)* Hope to see you there at the event.

Delta Retired Teachers October 2022 Luncheon

An excited group of 40 retired Delta teachers converged on The RiverHouse Restaurant on Thursday, Oct 6. It was the first social of the DRTA since Covid. A delightful afternoon was spent connecting with people who once taught together. Memories were shared along with newsy updates. The delicious food was secondary to the common bond we shared. There were draws for a number of gifts and the roses on the tables. A speaker, Lisa Hansen, from Johnson Insurance, gave a PowerPoint presentation comparing the extended medical and dental packages from Greenshield (the TPP option) and Johnson Inc. (BCRTA members option). People were very interested in the travel benefits, are we going somewhere soon? Hand outs were provided, helping to explain the pros and cons of the two packages. If you know someone who wasn't there, but would enjoy a social afternoon, please encourage them to join us in December.

Representing us and providing information and opportunities for social connections is the new board. Many thanks to Annie Coblin and Peter Yang Co-Presidents, Lois Wilkinson - Treasurer, Margaret Jensen - Secretary, Peter Scurr - Heritage, Communication Chair, Pat Thiesen - Membership, Past President, The Truant Editor, and Member-At-Large, Yvonne Chard - Social Chair, Myna Webster - Scholarship Chair, and Angelika Hedley - our newest Member-At-Large. They represent over 500 DRTA members. In fact, we won third prize for the greatest percentage increase of members in the over 500 local category last year at the BCRTA AGM!

We are already looking forward to the Christmas function.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary-Jo Ohl



DRTA's First in-person gathering in over 30 months, October 6, 2022

DRTA Board Meeting Notes from November's Meeting

Your DRTA Board met for its regular meeting on November 9, 2022 via Zoom. While we have resumed in-person meetings for the most part, we used Zoom this time because one of our key members was out of the country.

Welcome Angelika Hedley back to our Board! – Angelika is now a Member-at-Large. The meeting was attended by Peter Yang (Co-President), Lois Wilkinson (Treasurer), Yvonne Chard (Social Committee Chair, Communications), Peter Scurr (Heritage), Pat Thiesen (Past President, The Truant Editor) and Margaret Jensen (Secretary)

We discussed the October luncheon, and were gratified that feedback received was positive! It was definitely a pleasure to be able to see past workmates and friends again.

Our Budget is in healthy shape, as we have not been able to host luncheons for several years now. The cost for members to attend the December luncheon will be subsidized from our funds, and we are planning to have the event in the new Gateway Casino at Highway 99 and 17A (the location of the old Town and Country Inn) on December 14. Information will be coming out soon about this.

We are also investigating the possibility of some kind of District recognition of teachers who retired during the pandemic years, when the District's usual Retirement events were cancelled. We are hoping to have further information about this to share soon.

Our next meeting will be held in February of 2023. - Margaret Jensen, DRTA Secretary



The Art of “Zoom” -ing

The DRTA Board is getting very good at it.



Your Delta Retired Teachers Association Board

Co-Presidents: Annie Coblin (acoblin@hotmail.com) and

Peter Yang (py2010@telus.net)

Treasurer: Lois Wilkinson (rlwilk@telus.net)

Secretary: Margaret Jensen (sloughside@gmail.com)

Past President and Truant Editor: Pat Thiesen (deltaretiredteachers@gmail.com)

Members-at-Large: Yvonne Chard (ycretired17@gmail.com)

Angelika Hedley (ahedley@telus.net)

Report from the BCRTA



The Richmond Hilton Hotel hosted more than 100 BCRTA Branch in-person delegates and a dozen or more virtual delegates to its 77th Annual General Meeting and Conference on September 30 to October 2nd. Delta sent both Co-Presidents, Annie Coblin and Peter Yang and Val Windsor to the event. Prior to the official opening of the Conference, the Thursday evening gathering was an opportunity for all to get re-acquainted and visit with representatives from BCRTA's Advantage Programme Partners.

CONFERENCE DAY - Friday morning began with a traditional acknowledgement and meaningful personal story from Burnaby teacher, Shishona Austin. We then heard from Sue Lantz, the Founder and Managing Director for "Collaborative Aging" using a link to her Toronto office about how each of us need to plan ahead and to make choices for "Aging in the Right Place" using 5 practical Strategies. The delegates were treated to a humorous talk outlining Noel Bentley's belief that "Everyone Has a Story". To conclude the morning, Lisa Hansen from Johnson's Insurance up-dated the delegates about what's new in BCRTA's insurance programmes.

Following the lunch break, the delegates heard from

a) out-going President, Grace Wilson's give her synopsis of what the BCRTA accomplished over the last year,

b) ACER/CART Past President, Gerry Tiede, who presented the news on the national front, and

c) from Dave Scott, Membership Committee Chair, who announced the winners of the growth in membership by Branch size. (Delta again won another prize for the percentage increase in membership for Branches with more than 500 members.)

The afternoon concluded with individual break-out groups meeting for Zonal talks. For many of the delegates, this gathering is the best part of the entire event as the sharing of ideas and plans inspire the Branches' leadership to get their year underway.

Following the event dinner, delegates, friends and guests were treated to the videos of the conversations Tim Anderson, editor of PostScript Magazine and BCRTA Executive Officer, had with the 3 winners of the PostScript awards. (The videos can be viewed on the bcrt.ca website.)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING –

9:00 am Saturday morning, delegates met for the R.R. Smith Memorial Fund AGM. With the unfortunate passing of Sheila Pither, a new Board was elected to serve. They will be overseeing the distribution of the donations to remarkable projects taken to support children around the world and in BC. They disbursed \$47,100 in grants in 2022.

9:30 am The delegates were called to attend the business of the AGM. Prime-most was to elect a new Executive Board for 2022-23. As the Table Officer positions were achieved through the succession process, the bulk of the election business was to determine which applicants for the 7 open Director positions would complete either a 1- or 2-year term in office. Your editor, as a sitting Director, will complete her second year of a 2-year post.

The discussion surrounding the motion to increase the annual fee to members was lively, but not heated. Tim Anderson, the ED, gave a Power-Point presentation about what fees might have been had there been a COLA – Cost of Living Allowance - involved back in the year 2000 (when the fee was \$33.00). The fee would have increased to \$52.00 by 2022. The motion from the Board of Directors was to raise the annual fee by \$3.00 to \$45.00 with the COLA attached. A few delegates from the Island group considered and then moved that we set the September 2023 fee at \$52.00. The biggest debate was not over the increase but about the clause to include COLA. Very few delegates were against either the raise or COLA inclusion

and so it passed overwhelmingly. This change comes into effect next year and will allow for the increase in costs of up-grading and integrating computer software and services to members. We moved to continue with MNP as our auditors. The meeting concluded with new President, Arnie Lambert, thanking all for attending, either in-person or virtually and for the work done for all members across the Province. Meeting concluded just as lunch was ready.

Here is your BCRTA Executive Board for 2022-2023

Table Officers

President - **Arnie Lambert**
1st Vice President - **Caroline Malm**
2nd Vice President - **Dave Scott**
Past President - **Grace Wilson**

Directors- Inside the Lower Mainland

Barb Mikulec – elected to two-year term
Linda Watson– elected to two-year term
Rosalind Kellett – elected to a one-year term
Pat Thiesen - now in 2nd year of a 2-year term

Directors - Outside the Lower Mainland

David Denyer – elected to a two-year term
Stephanie Koropatnick – elected to a two-year term
Charlene Hodgson – elected to a one-year term
Margaret Sutton – elected to a one-year term

Please consider becoming one of Delta's 3 delegates for next year's AGM. It's a worth-while way to learn many things about our valued Association. – Pat

Change of Address or Circumstance - Email or any other change of address?

Go to the BCRTA website www.bcrta.ca and click on the link Change Your Member Information. The DRTA will be notified of the changes by the BCRTA. You can also phone Laurie in the office at (604) 871-2260. You could also directly let the DRTA know of your change(s) at deltaretiredteachers@gmail.com

BCRTA Insurance Up-grades available through Johnson's Insurance

DRTA members learned about the significant improvements to the Prestige EHC and Travel Insurance package offered exclusively to BCRTA members from Lisa Hansen when she spoke at the October 6th luncheon. Here are some of the topics she covered.

Coverage improvements include:

- **No more age banding on extended health coverage.** (Age does affect travel rates.)
- **Hearing aid claim limits will rise by 40%,** with an ability to claim with greater frequency. Coverage will change from \$1,000 every five years to \$1,400 every four years.
- For members born after 1940, plan **drug claim maximums will increase:** \$1,500 plan will rise to limit of \$2,000. The present \$3,500 plan will rise to a limit of \$4,000.
- Availability of **home delivery of prescriptions** for a low \$6.99 dispensing fee (see the Express Scripts services page at <https://pharmacy.expressscripts.ca/BCRTA>). Includes 24/7 access to a pharmacist. Ideal for your medications that need a 90-day supply.
- Much **better pricing on 93-day Prestige travel coverage.** Increase your trip length maximum from 62 to 93 days within the Prestige plan, for a modest price.
- **Trip cancellation will now INCLUDE COVID coverage.**
- **Rate reduction option:** choose to add an optional \$1,000 deductible to out-of-province health costs for significant overall rate savings. You will continue to enjoy first-payer coverage up to \$5 million, and with no change to your trip cancellation coverage.

Contact Johnson Insurance at 1.855.616.6708 or visit bcrta.johnson.ca if you want more information on how to change from the Green Shield Extended Health Plan offered when you retired.

Participate in Focus Groups re: Green Shield Coverage

Are you enrolled in the Green Shield Canada extended health and/or dental program? The Teachers' Pension Board of Trustees wants to hear from you.

The board is currently reviewing the pension plan's retirement group health benefits program. Your voice is important to the board as it completes this review.

There will be two opportunities to provide input:

1. In 2022, sign up for a chance to take part in a focus group or individual interview to discuss your experience and what matters most to you.
2. In 2023, take part in a membership-wide survey.

To learn more and sign up for the chance to participate, visit

<https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/modernizing-retirement-health-coverage>.

From Terry Small's article on "The Science of Hope"

Hope is important for your brain. It turns out that a feeling of hopefulness changes your brain. Your brain pumps chemicals when experiencing the sensation of hope. These chemicals can block pain and accelerate healing. Hope, which involves belief and expectation, causes the brain to release neurochemicals called endorphins and enkephalins which actually mimic the effects of morphine. The result is that the brain can overcome hurdles and move to a place of recovery. In scientific terms, hope and recovery are not causally connected, but they are correlated. Terry believes hope is as vital to the brain as the oxygen we breathe.

Times are difficult these days. A feeling of hopefulness can make a real difference!

What should I do for my brain? Feed your brain stories that paint a clear picture of hope.

Stories are the #1 brain state changer on the planet! Stories do far more than entertain.

Neuroscientists believe that our brains are wired for stories. Stories captivate your brain.

They release emotions that are inextricably tied to those of the story's characters. Brain scientists call this "narrative transport".

Storytelling has become a casualty of our busy, hectic pace of life. Parents, leaders, teachers....everyone should tell more stories. Remember a story is not a story until it is told.

As Noel Bentley said in his talk with delegates at this year's Conference, learning how to tell stories is a skill to re-learn and practice. Your own stories of hope are just waiting to be told.

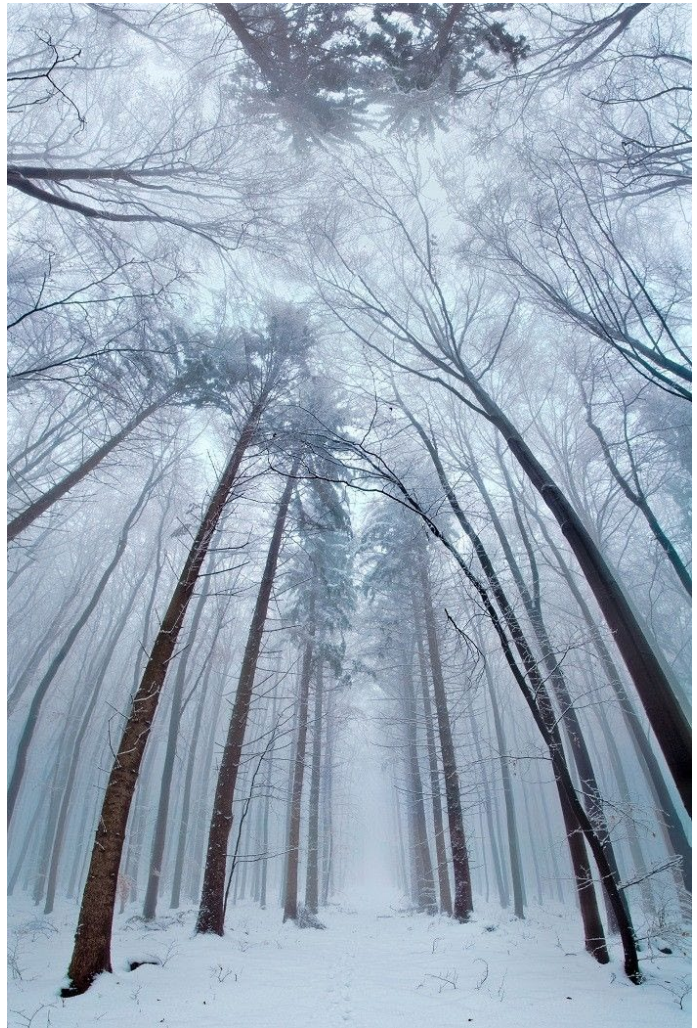
Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

by Robert Frost, 1922

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.
My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.



It is difficult to believe that this remarkable work is only 100 years old. Frost's work is principally associated with the life and landscape of New England (but it works for us as well) - and, though he was a poet of traditional verse forms and metrics who remained steadfastly aloof from the poetic movements and fashions of his time - Frost is anything but merely a regional poet. He is a quintessentially modern poet in his adherence to language as it is actually spoken, in the psychological complexity of his portraits, and in the degree to which his work is infused with layers of ambiguity and irony.

In Memoriam

Louise Mary Pollock passed away

"Retired Delta teacher, Louise Mary Pollock, passed away Aug. 30th, 2022. She taught in Delta for over 30 years until her retirement in 1995. Louise loved teaching and made great connections with her students and colleagues throughout her career. Louise will be dearly missed by her daughter Cyndy Pollock, her son, Brad Pollock, her 4 grandchildren and extended family and friends."



PARENT, Jane Corbet (Faldwyn) (nee Wycherley) 1935 - 2022

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of our beloved mother, grandmother and wife, Jane Parent. Jane passed away on Sunday, October 16, 2022, at the age of 87.

Jane leaves behind her husband Paul Parent, daughters Carolyn Latzen (nee Clark), Janice Smith (nee Clark), and her three grandchildren.

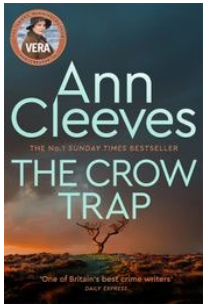
Born May 29, 1935, in Premier Mine, BC, Jane grew up in North Vancouver and graduated from North Vancouver High School. She earned a diploma in teaching through the Provincial Normal School program in the mid 1950s later earning a Bachelor of Education from UBC in 1968. She moved to the South Surrey White Rock area as a young wife and mother in 1962 and spent many years as a primary school teacher, working first in the Surrey School District and later in Delta, retiring in 1992.

Jane loved life and was most happy spending time with family and friends. Her passions included reading, listening to music, and helping out with her grandkids. She was a kind and generous person with a beautiful smile, and she will be greatly missed.

Some Recommendations for Your Winter Reading

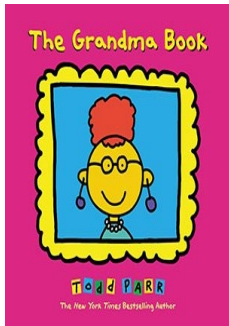
From Pat Thiesen

Vera Stanhope Mystery Series by Ann Cleeves



Beginning with “The Crow Trap” and for 7 more British Police procedurals, the reader is thoroughly engaged by the eventful life and brilliant mind of Detective Inspector Vera Stanhope. All of these novels have been produced for television, verifying their depth. Brenda Blethyn performs as Vera. Look for other terrific mystery series by Cleeves – Inspector Ramsay, Shetland Island, and her latest “Two Rivers”.

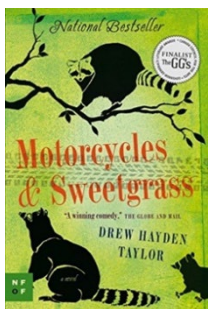
The Grandma Book by Todd Parr



"Some grandmas have a lot of cats. Some grandmas have a lot of purses. Some grandmas give advice . . . others help their neighbors." Although there are many kinds of grandmas in the world, they all like to spend time with their grandchildren and give them lots of kisses. There is also a companion, The Grandpa Book, showing the many different ways love is shared with grandchildren.

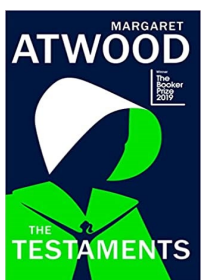
From Margaret Jensen

Motorcycles and Sweetgrass by Drew Hayden Taylor



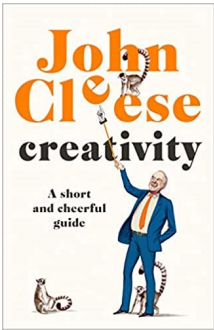
Nanabush (the Trickster) who has disguised himself as a rakish young motorcycle rider, visits an old woman he had befriended decades earlier. He finds himself attracted to her daughter, and takes her side in her efforts to protect a newly granted plot of land from development.

The Testaments by Margaret Atwood



This follows The Handmaid's Tale and is equally gripping. Told from three perspectives – that of a child growing up in Gilead, and of one of the Aunts, and of Baby Nicole, it chronicles the rise and fall of Gilead. It's useful but not really necessary to read (or re-read) The Handmaid's Tale first, as The Testaments is gripping on its own.

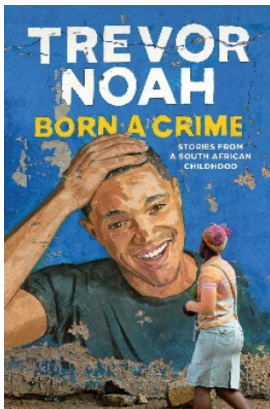
Creativity by John Cleese



A great little book. Amusing (of course since it's by John Cleese) but it has some great ideas for quieting the chatter and allowing creative juices to flow. It's short and sweet and surprisingly practical!

From Val Windsor

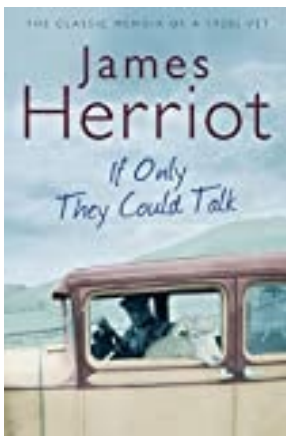
Born a Crime by Trevor Noah



Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. *Born a Crime* is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother—his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

From Sheila Gair

All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot



This time around Sheila had so many suggestions, I decided to focus on just one – the wonderful series of books by Scottish/English Veterinarian James Herriot, the pen name of James Alfred Wight, OBE, FRCVS, that she will pick up when needing a reminder of the “softer” days.

“I have the series All Creatures Great and Small, also on TV now, both the old and the new versions some fifty years apart. But the stories are wonderfully calming, very funny in parts; Each chapter a mini story in itself, and with all the talk of the countryside and landscape and the wonderfully painted local people, the perfect book to pick up and just flip

open. I find these books 100% calming, soothing and make me feel homesick a bit and ready to dip in again.”

There are 8 books in the original series.

FUNDING OUR Retired Teachers SCHOLARSHIPS



We would like to thank all of you who donated to the Delta RTA Scholarship Fund last year. As COVID-19 and other health concerns continue to disrupt our normal collection of scholarship funds, your direct assistance is needed again this year. We are again asking for your help by sending a donation to the Delta School Board's Finance Department at the School Board Office. You could consider this a delayed present to 1 or 2 of Delta's amazingly talented and qualified graduating students.

The Finance Department isn't set up to accept e-transfers or credit card donations, so please use **cheques or hand-delivered cash**. Any donations over \$25 will receive a **tax receipt** from the District. All donations must be submitted before **January 13, 2023** as the student application forms go out to students early in February and we'd like to let them know the amount for this year's scholarship.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Send your cheques to the Delta School District @ 4585 Harvest Dr., Delta, BC V4K 5B4 with a notation that the funds are for the DRTA Scholarship 22/23. Direct your envelope to the Finance Department.

Did you Know?

The Delta Retired Teachers Association has 18 Life Members. Each has reached at least 90 years of age or been designated as an Honourary Life Member of the BCRTA. We are so pleased to acknowledge them and their contributions to the education of thousands of former Delta School District students. (*indicates honourary life member)

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Irene Armstrong | Peter Bohmert | Jean Burfoot |
| Mary Campbell | Joan Clark | Henry Cupido |
| Solveig Fee | *Sheila Gair | Donna House |
| John Husdon | Hollis Kelly | Marjorie King |
| Ben Nuttall-smith | Lawrence Perkins | Maria Triplett-sitter |
| Floyd Wartnow | Clifford Weir | Elfrieda Wheaton |



Now that the holiday season is upon us, those of us choosing toys for children (Grandchildren? Great-grandchildren? Nieces? Nephews? Neighbours? etc. etc.) might be wondering how to navigate the choppy waters of toy stores with their plethora of choices. Here are some interesting thoughts --

An article in The Walrus grabbed my attention. Written by Matthew Braga, “How Do You Make the Perfect Toy?” * is a fascinating examination of toys that have lasted in popularity despite the onslaught of branded toys that match up with computer and television programs. Braga references a study from 2015, conducted by Timpani Toys at a university in the U.S.A.** Both the Walrus article and the study summary are fascinating reading, but here is a quick look at their findings.

The Simpler the Better: e.g. A simple doll vs. a doll that does the talking for a child will result in more imaginative play.

Open-ended: e.g. blocks that can be made into houses, cars, castles and so on vs. toys that have one function only.

Non-realistic: sets of Legos or other building toys, vs. toys that have one function only (e.g. sets of plastic dishes)

The authors of the study felt that Construction Toys (blocks, Lego, Tinker Toys and the like) and Replica Play Toys (such as small people, animals) encouraged children to be flexible and creative in play.

The best toy in the referenced study? A Wooden Cash Register. Researchers found that “a wooden cash register encouraged children to talk about buying and selling items, whereas an electronic one with lights and sounds encouraged them to press buttons instead – more entertainment than engagement”.

So bring on the Lego! The Tinker Toys, Blocks, and Log Sets!

Margaret Jensen

* Braga, Matthew. “How Do You Make the Perfect Toy.” Walrus, September/October 2022. <thewalrus.ca>

**Center for Early Childhood Education, Eastern Connecticut State University. “2015 Timpani Toy Study.”

<www.easternct.edu/center-for-early-childhood-education/timpani/timapni-2015.html>

Fun and Games Pages

Trivia Quiz - for Baby Boomers

1. Did Captain Kangaroo sport bangs?
2. How many years was the Suez Canal closed after the 1967 War? 4, 6, or 8 years
3. What rock and roller celebrated his 40th birthday July 26th, 1983?
4. Who played Perry Mason, the defense attorney on TV, who invariably proved his client innocent, from 1957 to 1966?
a) Earle Stanley Gardner b) Raymond Burr c) William Hopper d) Raymond Massey
5. What comedy team performed the skit "The Scarlet Pimpernel" on *The Ed Sullivan Show*?
6. What 10,000-word story by Richard Bach was turned down by 18 publishers before it appeared in 1970?
7. What country did Biafra try to separate from?
8. What Broadway show debuted the song *People*?
9. What symbol was designed around the stylized semaphore letters N and D?
10. What TV Starship was powered by dilithium crystals?

Personal Scattergories

For each of the categories listed, think of a word or phrase beginning with each letter on the left. Count 1 point for each correct answer. A score of 15 is good, and 21 is excellent.

| | SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC | ROOMS | EUROPEAN CAPITALS | BEVERAGES | HISTORICAL PEOPLE |
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CHANGAWORD

- Change WEST to WING (4 steps)
- Change LOVE to BOAT (5 Steps)
- Change GOOD to EATS (6 Steps)
- Change EVER to WOOD (7 Steps)

CRYPTOGRAM FUN

A cryptogram is a message written in a code in which each letter is replaced by a different letter throughout the message, every “S” might be coded as a “G”, for example. No letter stands for itself or for more than one other letter, so when you know the code for a letter, write the answer letter over the coded one wherever it appears in the message.

From Beverly Sills

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Use this chart to keep track of the letters as you discover them.

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | I | | | | | | P | H | | | | | |

Tri-Bonds for all

For each trio of words, can you find the common bond that connects them?

1. The rocks, the hog, the house
2. A guitar, a genie's bottle, a flamingo
3. A mushroom, a ball player, a pop bottle
4. Dentures, bats, stars
5. Brakes, ears, rock bands
6. A duck, the House of Commons, Hillary Clinton
7. King, horseshoe, blue
8. Winston, Davis, Wanamaker
9. Yard, pogo, chop
10. Head, tail, cross

CROSS 'EM OFF

| A | B | C | D |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| NATURALLY | GRIME | THE | BLOND |
| AZALEA | LONGER | STRANGE | KALE |
| SIGN | TURQUOISE | CABBAGE | THE |
| TITLE | WISHING | NUZZLED | BOOK |
| FORBIDDEN | CAULIFLOWER | THE | GRIND |
| LESS | PEPPER | HOPE | GRAPE |
| SILVER | GOOFY | ENVELOPE | IMPORTANT |
| THE | LIONIZE | BONE | BEDAZZLING |
| GREATER | SINGLE | EDUCATION | SLIME |
| TIGHTEN | PASTA | JOB | SQUASH |

1. Cross off all names of vegetables.
2. Cross off all words that contain a least one "Z".
3. Cross off all words in Columns A and C that have eight or more letters.
4. Cross off all words in Columns A and B that contain the letters I, N, G, in any order.
5. Cross off all words in Column B or D that becomes another common word when its last letter is removed.
6. Cross off all names of colours.
7. Cross off any word that is immediately below a word that appears more than once.

Fun and Games Pages – Some Answers

TRIVIA

1. Yes
2. 8
3. Mick Jagger
4. Raymond Burr
5. Wayne and Shuster
6. Jonathan Livingston Seagull
7. Nigeria
8. Funny Girl
9. The Peace Symbol
10. The Starship *Enterprise*

PERSONAL SCATTERGORIES (other answers possible)

SIGNS – Capricorn, Libra, Aquarius, Sagittarius, Pisces

ROOMS – Closet, Library, Attic, Studio, Parlour

CAPITALS – Copenhagen, London, Athens, Stockholm, Paris

BEVERAGES – Coffee, Lemonade, Ale, Soda, Punch

PEOPLE – Caesar, Lincoln, Aesop, Shakespeare, (Samuel) Pepys

CHANGAWORD

west, went, wend, wind, wing

love, lobe, lobs, bobs, boas, boat

good, mood, moos, mops, maps, mats, eats

ever, eyer, dyer, dyes, does, woes, woos, wood

CRYPTOGRAM FUN - A happy woman is one who has no cares at all; a cheerful woman is one who has cares but doesn't let them get her down.

Tri-Bonds for all

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Curling Terms | 2. Have long necks | 3. All have caps |
| 4. They come out at night | 5. All have drums | 6. All have bills |
| 7. Are types of crab | 8. Trophy Winning Cups | 9. Are sticks |
| 10. Types of winds | | |

CROSS 'EM OFF

The longer the title, the less important the job.

GRAY ELEMENTARY

10855 - 80th Avenue V4C 1W4 Tel: 604-594-2474 Fax: 604-594-1731



Gray Elementary is having a “Read the Day Away” Day on Friday, January 13th. On this special day, students in classes throughout the school will spend the day doing literacy-based activities, primarily reading. To encourage continued student engagement in reading and to make the day even more memorable and unique, we would like to invite guest readers to come to the school to read stories to students.

We would like to extend this information to you, and would be very grateful for your support and involvement during our “Read the Day Away” activities. If you would be willing to participate by reading a story to a class or two or by talking about your experiences with books and/or writing to a group of 20-30 students at a time, we’d be very pleased to have you join us on Jan. 13th. Should you choose to join us, you could either bring your own favourite books from home, or I can provide a selection of suitable books you could pick from.

Please let me know if you wish to participate in Gray’s “Read the Day Away” Day. Activities will be happening the entire day, so I will need to know the time you are able to visit, as well as the age group you would most like to visit. I’d be happy to help answer any question you may have.

Sincerely, Kim Watson

School phone: 604-594-2474

kwatson@deltaschools.ca

Please consider contributing articles for future Truant Newsletters. They can be prose or poetry, of any length, or topic, with or without photos. Send them to deltaretiredteachers@gmail.com Thanks.

If you would like to help develop the next Truant, please let me know.

Pat