

# RIVERSIDE

## REFLECTIONS

Newsletter of the New Westminster  
Retired Teachers  
July 2023



The Retreat - 1861

### The President's Comments

by Kerry Babiuk

As this year draws to a close, and I realize the completion of my first year as your President and ten years of being your Communications Officer, I am left pondering that age old question, "What is my purpose in life?" Having a purpose in life can help one make important decisions and help define their goals. It can influence your behavior and creates meaning to your life. Life's purpose is unique for each and every one of us. For some people, their purpose is connected to their work, for others it is family or friends. Yet others find their purpose in religion. For a select few, their purpose can be found in all of these. Finding one's purpose in life can be as difficult as the age old question of, "Why am I here?" The answer is not obvious and is often confused with reaching some of our short term goals. But do these goals give you lasting happiness or do they just leave you with the feeling of, "What do I do next?"

Finding your life's purpose can be difficult. It can be fraught with feelings of anxiety, failure, self-doubt, or even worse, that we don't deserve the joy that comes with self-fulfillment. So, why bother? According to research, people who have a well defined purpose in life live longer. They tend to have fewer heart problems, less instances of dementia, and even sleep better. Therefore knowing your purpose can lead to more happiness and a greater sense of fulfillment. Things that can help you find your purpose are: self-reflection(knowing and believing in yourself), identifying the things that bring you true joy, and learning to live life in the present. This can be accomplished by trying many different things, such as: volunteering, doing something nice for a neighbour, surrounding yourself with positive people, trying different activities(painting, learning a language or playing an instrument), and above all else, being kind to yourself and knowing that you are worth it.

Life's purpose is a journey and it one that most of have been struggling with since we were children. Know that once you have found it, you will no longer ask, "What is my purpose?"

### NWRTA PICNIC

On Wednesday, June 21st, the NWRTA held a picnic at Lower Hume Park. There was live entertainment, Karl Moser and his band of singing pals, a friendly game of Family Feud, lunch, and our year-end AGM which included the election of our Executive for 2023-2024(see page 7). The Executive has a new Member-at-large, Roxsane Tiernan. Unfortunately we no longer have a secretary as Dave Scott has moved to the Island.

Open the attachment for photos of the picnic

### The Retreat

(Opening photo)

The opening photograph shows "The Retreat," the first saloon in Sapperton. It

was opened early in 1861 by Fred Howson and J. Hilliard for the convenience of the Royal Engineers at the camp. The Royal Engineers camp was located on the site where the B.C. Penitentiary was started in 1877, completed in 1878, and closed in 1980 after 108 years in operation. After closing, the land was sold and developed as a residential area. All that remains of the original "Pen" is the Gatehouse which became the Castle Neighbourhood Grill, the Coal House which can be found in Sapperton Landing Park, and the original Centre Block which presently houses some offices and the cemetery. This opening photo is from the New Westminster Archives. This is item IHP7776 and can be located at:

<https://tinyurl.com/4aaxfppk>

### 2023/24 NWRTA Possible Meetings

#### Hell with the Bells or Hallowe'en brunch

Tuesday, September 5th or  
late October

#### Baskets for Bursaries

late November/early December

#### Love is in the Air ???

Early February

### THINGS TO DO AROUND TOWN

#### PNE

August 19 - Sept. 04th, 2023

Everything from Super dogs to Monet art exhibit.

Senior Gate pass - \$14 in advance or \$16 at the gate.

There is also live entertainment at the Chevrolet Stage. Performers include: Boney M, Doug and the Slugs, Blue Rodeo and many more. Price for these concerts are extra.

#### New Westminster Farmers Market

Every Thursday from 3 -7pm in Tipperary Park.

#### Bard on the Beach

This runs until September 30th. Four of Shakespeare's plays are featured: *Julius Caesar*, *As You Like It*, *Henry V*, and *Goblin: Macbeth*.

Cost: \$30 - \$75

#### Abbotsford Airshow

This runs from August 11th -13th. The price of admission is between \$12.00 and \$215.00.

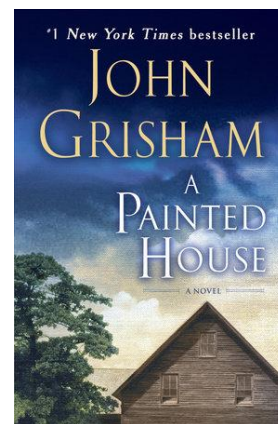
### THE BOOK CORNER:

#### A Painted House

*A John Grisham novel*

Where were you in '52?? 1952 that is...

The novel, *The Painted House* is set in the summer and early fall of 1952. Written by John Grisham, the story is inspired by his childhood and growing up in rural Arkansas. But wait....many of us will equate novels penned by Grisham to be of the legal thriller genre...*The Pelican Brief*, *The Firm*, *The Rainmaker*, to name a few.



*The Painted House* is definitely not a legal thriller. It is a suspenseful read however....a story that unfolds in the farm country of the Arkansas Delta.

It's a story about the cotton harvesting season as told through the eyes of a seven-year old boy named Luke. He lives with his parents and grandparents on a farm in the cotton fields, in a house that's never been painted. Hmm....and what might that mean in rural Arkansas in the fifties.

As life on the farm moves toward the cotton-picking season, complete with heat, rain and exhaustion, seven year old Luke sees and hears things not usually witnessed by a young lad and for which he is totally unprepared. Add in Mexican cotton pickers as well as a family from the Ozarks, and you have the makings of a story that may have you keen to keep turning the pages.....to be part of Luke's journey as the hot, tiring and sometimes adventurous weeks pass by. As you are reading, you may even ask yourself now and then, why is this book called *A Painted House*?

So for a new twist on a John Grisham novel, pick up a copy and settle in for adventure as seen through the eyes of young Luke.

by **Devon Codesmith**

## **AND YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW MUSIC**

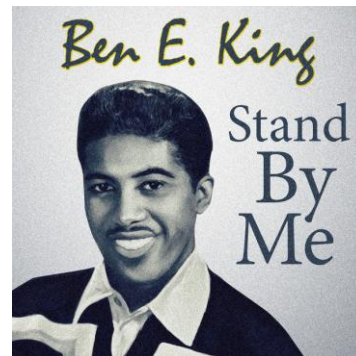
...Edition#12

Contributed by: Seedy

By now we should be able to dispense with the long explanatory introduction – we simply wish to show you how a well-known tune can be “personalized” – changed, if you will, by the artist or the arranger. A tune that may not interest you in one form may delight you in another. In this instance, we started with *Stand by Me* – a classic which I’m sure many of you remember. This has been covered many times, but we are looking for different interpretations. But, even then, I had a lot to choose from. So, here goes:

Firstly, we found the original. In this instance, the video includes some interesting background. I recognize the clips from the movie, but who are these young people? Please drop the editor a note if you know the relevance of these people as they pertain to this tune. Or, just enjoy a GREAT

tune and lyrics about lifelong friendship: [Ben E. King - Stand By Me. - Official Music Video - Bing video](#)



Next, my wife's favourite (and therefore my favourite) by Earl Grant. When we were dating (how long ago was THAT?!?) we used to go down to a nightclub in Vancouver and enjoy his show. We marvelled at how he could play the piano with one hand while playing the Hammond B3 with the other! To help you imagine this, he had them at right angles, so he could play the treble part of one instrument with his left hand while vice versa on the other! A compleat musician, Shakespeare would say. Have a listen, hope you enjoy. [Earl Grant = Stand By Me - YouTube](#)

Now, my REAL favourite, especially when I'm trying to get going in the morning, this is the one, you'll see (I mean hear) what I mean. Spoiler alert: terrific trombone, terrible tenor. [Lucky chops in grand central stand by me - YouTube](#) Hope you enjoyed that as much as I do!

Looking ahead, we have in the planning stage, *A Tribute to Ian Tyson*: both his written work as sung by others and written by others but sung by him; and if I can get enough material, *A Canadian Christmas*. If you can help me out with a quirky Christmas tune covered by a Canadian, or have an idea for a column, please let the editor know.

## **DINING WITH PATRICIA**

### Happy Patio Weather

If you are in the mood for a drive or cycle to Steveston and need sustenance, try Happy



Hour at The Catch. This modern restaurant has a large deck overlooking the Fraser River. Happy Hour is from 3-5:30 pm. There are about a dozen food items on the menu as well as various beers, cocktails and wine. The Caesar was spicy and flavourful with the salted rim. The dry roast pork spare ribs, feta and tomato flatbread, and gyoza were delicious. Our friends also enjoyed the salmon and chicken sliders and shrimp appetizer. Before or after your restaurant visit, take a walk along the scenic waterfront. The fish boats on the dock also sell fresh seafood which varies with the season.

On the west end of the river walk, the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Museum is a great place to learn more about the fishing and processing history of BC.



Enjoy!  
Patricia

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Imagine you had a bank account that deposited \$86,400 each morning. The account carries over no balance from day to day, allows you to keep no cash balance, and every evening cancels whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out every dollar each day!

We all have such a bank. Its name is Time. Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, as lost, whatever time you have failed to use wisely. It carries over no balance from day to day. It allows no overdraft so you can't borrow against yourself or use more time than you have. Each day, the account starts fresh.

Each night, it destroys an unused time. If you fail to use the day's deposits, it's your loss and you can't appeal to get it back.



ToonClips.com #1640 service@toonclips.com

There is never any borrowing time. You can't take a loan out on your time or against someone else's. The time you have is the time you have and that is that. Time management is yours to decide how you spend the time, just as with money you decide how you spend the money. It is never the case of us not having enough time to do things, but the case of whether we want to do them and where they fall in our priorities.

### TEST FOR SENIORS

*Use those "aging" grey cells and keep them active! Beware of the obvious.*

1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. What was the third child's name?
2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall and he wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?
3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
4. How much dirt is there in a hole... that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?
5. What word in the English Language... is always spelled incorrectly?
6. In California, you cannot take a picture of a man with a wooden leg. Why not?
7. What ended in 1896?
8. If you were running a race, and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?

9. Which is correct to say, "The yolk of the egg are white" or "The yolk of the egg is white"?
10. How many months have 28 days?

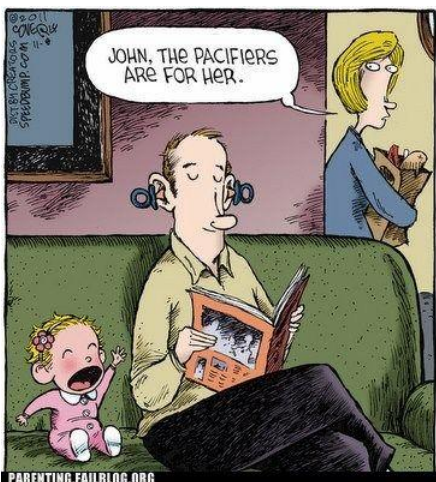
## KERRY'S TOONIES WORTH

or

## One Step Away from Relevance

### Dad Jokes

1. If you boil a funny bone, it becomes laughing stock. Now that's humerus.
2. So if a cow doesn't produce milk, is it a milk dud or is it an udder failure.
3. What is the best way to cook an alligator? In a crock pot.
4. A shop assistant fought off an armed robber with a labelling gun. The police are now looking for a man with a price on his head.
5. The nurse says to the doctor, "There is a man in the waiting room who thinks he is invisible. What should I tell him?" The doctor replies, "Tell him I can't see him today."
6. There is nothing like a meteor shower to rock your world.
7. I went to a fancy English hotel. Or rather, a great Brit-inn.
8. They may look distant on a map, but Ireland is just one C away from Iceland.



## Growing older

Nine Important Facts to Remember as We Grow Older:

9. Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
8. Life is sexually transmitted.
7. Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
6. Men have two motivations: hunger and hanky-panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.
5. Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
4. Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
3. All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
2. In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
1. Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.

## Home schooling in my day

1. My mother taught me: TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. *"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."*
2. My father taught me about: TIME TRAVEL. *"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"*
3. My father taught me: IRONY. *"Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about."*
4. My mother taught me about: the science of OSMOSIS. *"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."*
5. My father taught me: the CIRCLE OF LIFE. *"I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."*
6. My mother taught me about:

ANTICIPATION. *"Just wait until we get home."*

7. My mother taught me: GENETICS. "You're just like your father."

8. My mother taught me about: my ROOTS. *"Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"*

### Man's best friend



I locked by Dad out of his car while it was running and when he was writing an \$80.00 cheque to the locksmith, I rolled down all the windows so I could get a better look at what they were doing.

### And the fight was on

After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for my Old Age Pension. The lady behind the counter asked me for my driver's license to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized that I had left my wallet at home. I apologized to the lady and said I would come back another day. She said to me, "Unbutton your shirt." So I opened my shirt revealing my silver chest hair. She said, "That's proof enough for me" and she processed my application. When I got home, I excitedly told my wife what happened and she said, "You should have dropped your pants and you might have gotten Disability as well." And then the fight started.

### Happy Anniversary

Their three kids, all successful, agreed to come home for a Sunday dinner in their

honor. "Happy Anniversary Mom and Dad," gushed Son No. 1 "Sorry I'm running late. I had an emergency at the hospital with a patient, you know how it is, and I didn't have time to get you a gift." "Not to worry," said the father. "Important thing is we're all together today." Son No. 2 arrived. "You and Mom look great. Dad, I just flew in from Montreal between depositions and didn't have time to shop for you." "It's nothing," said the father "We're glad you were able to come." Just then the daughter arrived, "Hello and happy anniversary! Sorry, but my boss is sending me out of town and I was really busy packing so I didn't have time to get you anything." After they had finished dessert, the father said, "There's something your mother and I have wanted to tell you for a long time. You see, we were really poor, but we scrimped and saved and managed to send each of you to college. Through the years your mother and I knew we loved each other very much, but we just never found the time to get married." The three children gasped and said, "WHAT? You mean we're bastards?" "Yep," said the father, "And cheap ones, too."

### Fun with the English Language?

1. After my friend turned Vegan, it was like I'd never seen HerbiVore.
2. She only made whiskey, but I loved her still.
3. The word "queue" is just a Q followed by four silent letters.
4. Is the S or the C silent in scent?
5. Why does fridge have a D in it, but refrigerator does not?
6. Why is the letter "W" called a "Double-u" when it is obviously a "Double-V"?
7. Why are Kansas and Arkansas pronounced differently?
8. What is the correct pronunciation of the following words: cough, bough, rough, dough, through and dough?
9. Be careful of what you do in the garden. The potatoes have eyes, the corn has ears, and the beanstalk.



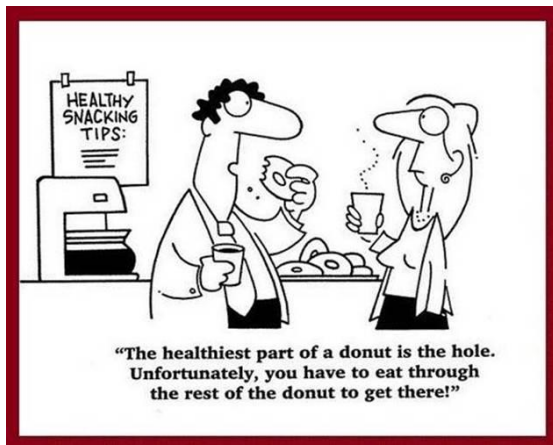
10. Apparently you can't use "beef stew" as a password, it's not stroganoff.

### Deathbed confession

Bernice's husband was in hospice care dying. As she sat beside him, holding his hand, he said in a very weak voice, "There's something I must confess." "Shhh" Bernice replied, "there's nothing to confess. Everything is all right." "No, I must die in peace" he said, "I had sex with your sister, your best friend and your co-worker." "I know" she whispered, "That's why I poisoned you... Now close your eyes."

### Logic at its best

A teacher placed four worms in four different test tubes. The first worm went into a test of beer, the second in wine, the third in whiskey and the fourth worm in mineral water. The next day the teacher showed the class the results of the experiment. The worm in the beer was dead as was the one in the wine and in the whiskey. However, the worm in the mineral water was alive and healthy. The teacher then asked the class, "What did we learn from this experiment?" Good old Johnny quickly replied, "Whoever drinks beer, wine, and whiskey does not have worms."



### Senior's Quiz Answers

1. Johnny, of course.
2. Meat, it's a butcher shop.
3. Mt. Everest; it just wasn't discovered yet. (You're missing the obvious.)
4. There is no dirt in a hole.
5. The word is "Incorrectly"
6. You can't take pictures with a wooden leg. You need a camera to take pictures.
7. 1895
8. You would be in 2nd. You passed the person in second place, not first.
9. Neither, the yolk of the egg is yellow.
10. All of them.

## **NWRTA EXECUTIVE, 2023-2024**

<b>PAST PRESIDENT:</b>	(Sharon Yeadon - President 2018)
<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Kerry Babiuk
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	Karl Moser
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	to be filled???
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Orrie Babiuk
<b>COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER:</b>	Kerry Babiuk
<b>PROGRAMS:</b>	Janet Sammon
<b>COORDINATOR</b>	
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Patricia Tanaka
<b>AT LARGE</b>	
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Jenni Lynnea
<b>AT LARGE</b>	
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Sydney Dean
<b>AT LARGE</b>	
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Roxsane Tiernan
<b>AT LARGE</b>	