

# BEYOND THE BLACKBOARD

ERT  
ERO

DISTRICT 24 – SCARBOROUGH AND EAST YORK



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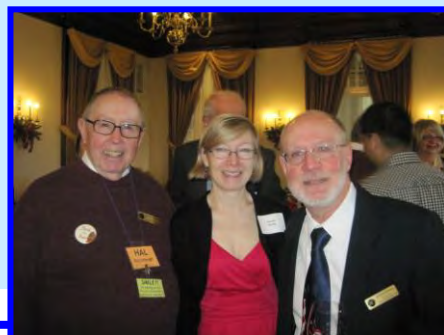
## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, DECEMBER 4, 2013



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~ photos by Hal McCullough



# DISTRICT 24 EXECUTIVE 2013 – 2014



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**Teachers plant seeds of knowledge that bloom forever.**





## FROM YOUR EDITOR



Welcome to winter!  
It certainly got off to a brutal start for many in the GTA with the two ice storms, lots of snow, power outages and well-below normal temperatures. All that ice and no drink to put it in!...

I daresay that for those of you who enjoy this season, then you must be feeling right at home this year!!

We had a really good response from our Fall newsletter in getting members to sign up to get **Beyond the Blackboard** on-line. These folks are helping the district redirect funds from the printing of our newsletter to other areas where funds are needed. We now have **295** members who are each saving our District approximately **\$6.75** a year.

If you have still not decided to "take the plunge", perhaps now is the time to do so. You'll help save us money; you'll be helping the environment; you'll have a copy that's easy to store; you'll have information that may not be in the paper version; you'll have a copy that's in full colour - there are so many positives to our on-line edition!!

To get this version, all you need do is send me an e-mail with a quick note to say you'd like to get the newsletter on-line. Send it to: [hal@powergate.ca](mailto:hal@powergate.ca) (with the subject line: **RTO - NO NEWSLETTER** please) Include your full address and phone number - we'd hate to remove the wrong person from the paper edition mailing list!

And if you decide that getting in on-line really does not suit your needs, simply send me another e-mail and we'll put you back on the mailing list.

When I receive your request, I will reply to your e-mail. I do send an e-mail to everyone who reads the newsletter on-line to let them know when it has been posted to our website. You will receive such notification anywhere from 1 to 2 weeks **BEFORE** members get their copy through Canada Post. Yet another advantage of reading it on-line!

**NEW** From the Simon Leibovitz, Director of Administrative and Member Services and Dianne Vezeau, Membership Database Administrator: **The Provincial Office does not accept notices of address changes of**

**members from third parties, such as District Executive members. Changes must come directly from the member or the member's Power of Attorney form (accompanied with a Power of Attorney if RTO/ERO or Johnson Inc. does not have one currently on file).**

Phoning or e-mailing and Executive member merely slows down the process, and we can not contact them for you. We would ask that you contact Spadina yourself! Diane and Simon's contact information is in the box to the right!



And finally, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed being the editor of our District newsletter for the past 11 years! It has



been a blast!! But like all good things, they come to an end. As of June 30, 2014, I will be stepping down as

your Editor - the Summer 2014 issue will be my last!

I will be turning the reins over to... Now that's a good question!! We are looking for someone who would be willing to take over the job of Newsletter Editor for District 24. If you think you'd like to give it a try,



please contact our President George Denny, or Past-President, Donna Hubel, and let him or her know of your interest. (Their contact information is on page 2.) Should you decide to toss your hat into the ring, I'm more than willing to help you through your first effort (even the Summer issue if you feel ready to take it on!).

Please remember: preparing the newsletter will require a large commitment of your time - I average about 3 weeks putting together each edition of our newsletter: gathering all items for publication; formatting the newsletter; doing last minute fixes and corrections with the Executive and the printer; readying it for the website; assembling all the photos that also go to the website; keeping track of who wants it on-line, and lots more. And with 3 newsletters a year, you are looking at tying up a large block of your time. But I have enjoyed it!! It has been a lot of fun!! If you are interested, I have a "Job Description" sheet that I have put together that will give you a good idea of what is entailed in this portfolio. My e-mail address is at the left. Subject line: **RTO - JOB DESCRIPTION** please. **24**

### DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU?...



- ☺ You're moving?
- ☺ Your address information is incorrect?

**YOU MUST CONTACT RTO YOURSELF!**

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**Our thanks go to those members who remember to update their information with us.**



## BRIDGE REPORT



Our District bridge group continues to meet Tuesdays, 12:30-3:30, at Ellesmere Community Centre, 20 Canadian Road, opposite Costco.

Just before Christmas we had our fabulous pot luck luncheon...just

take a look at those goodies in the photo. Then it was followed by even more fun-hands of bridge. And now we are continuing to play into our spring sprint.

New members with a working knowledge of the game are always welcome. If you would like to be referred to some bridge lessons, so you can join us in the future, please phone Terry or Dale Smith, 416.438.0430, for more information. If by chance we miss your call... please phone again!

For the fall season, our cumulative score winners were:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Carlton DeRyck | 2. Marianne Massey |
| 3. Jane Humphries | 4. Cathy Slama     |
| 5. Dale Smith     |                    |



And now for our Bridge joke:

### Why The Cleaning Lady Quit...

A cleaning woman was applying for a new position. When asked why she left her last employment she replied, "Yes, sir, the wages were good, but it was the most ridiculous place I ever worked. They played a game they call BRIDGE, and last night a lot of folks were there.

As I was about to bring refreshments, I heard a man say "Lay down and let's see what you got."

Another man said "I got strength, but not much length."

And then another man said to a lady, "Take your hand off my trick."

I pretty near dropped dead just when a lady answered, "You forced me. You jumped me twice when you didn't have the strength for one good raise."

Another lady was talking about protecting her honour. And, two ladies were talking and one said, "Now it's my turn to play with your husband while you play with mine."

Well, I just got my hat and coat and as I was leaving I hope to die if one them didn't say, "Well, I guess we can go home, this is our last rubber!" **24**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This year we were "thrown" into the winter season with temperatures well below normal (-29C at my cottage) and piles of snow even while the calendar indicated that we were still in the season of autumn. Next, we were hit with freezing rain just before Christmas

which resulted in massive black-outs. Many, many residents were without power over Christmas. As I write this, there is another black-out in downtown Toronto. These events leave us wondering, "What's next?" This is winter in Canada, eh?

The November meeting of the Toronto Districts Council (formerly known as the "Four Districts") included a discussion of a possible joint meeting in 2014. Further information will be forthcoming.

The annual Christmas Luncheon, held at the Scarborough Golf and Country Club on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, was very well attended. Indeed, so many members sent in coupons following the Luncheon's publication in the Summer newsletter that a waiting list was created within a couple of weeks. Once again, members of D24 enjoyed a delicious Christmas buffet lunch and had an opportunity to visit with others who were celebrating an early Christmas. Scarborough Golf and Country Club is a wonderful location to enjoy a social time. We thank Marilyn Hodge and all those who worked so hard to make this occasion very special.

Our first executive meeting for the winter season was held on Thursday, January 9. We were saddened to have received a letter of resignation from our Newsletter Editor, Hal McCullough, on the day prior to our meeting. We are now looking for a person who has a flair for editing and who might be interested in assuming this position on our district executive. If you are at all interested, why not join us for our next meeting and learn about our wonderful organization as well as our district. Hal has indicated that he would be happy to assist anyone who is interested in this position.



Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6, at McCowan Retirement Residence, beginning at 9:30AM. Light refreshments are served at 9:00AM and all RTO members of D24 are welcome to attend. Perhaps you might like to

join us and decide you'd like to become an Executive member. We may have the positions of newsletter editor and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP open at the AGM in May.

I wish all members of D24 a very happy and healthy New Year. Enjoy your retirement! **24**

~ George Denny

- ☺ When ancient wall sculptors finished their work, it was a relief.
- ☺ Paleontologists thought they'd found new evidence of a missing link, but it was just another fossil arm.

## I REMEMBER JOSEPH...

My name is Genevieve Johns. I am in my 2<sup>nd</sup> year of retirement and I've been enjoying the social functions like the luncheons held by the RTO and RWTO. Somehow last year I didn't apply on time for the most gala occasion I'd heard so much about – the Christmas luncheon at the Scarboro Golf and Country Club. So, this year I applied early and got tickets. This is one event I won't ever forget and for several reasons... the main one being meeting up with a very special person who had entered into my life many years ago.



**He recognized me right away - I did not recognize him. This was a fully grown man, a young, handsome, suave gentleman that introduced himself to me. I was so shocked!**

He was a former student I had taught in Holy Spirit Catholic School fourteen years ago, he told me, in Grade 5. Joseph Khargie is his name. He seemed to come out of the blue and called out to me. He recognized me right away - I did not recognize him. This was a fully grown man, a young, handsome, suave gentleman that introduced himself to me. I was so shocked! I was speechless! How could this be? These were all old, retired teachers (I'll speak for myself!) around me and here was this young man. He seemed so thrilled and at once tried to bring me up to speed with his life.



You see, Joseph was one of those highly active kids who easily got into all kinds of mischief and frequently found himself in all kinds of troubling situations. As a teacher, I quickly found a solution to this dilemma. I had Joseph come into my class each morning before school started and wash the boards, fix the classroom and help to get things ready. He was so diligent and responsible that these developing qualities spilled into the rest of his day in the classroom and in the yard. I was very fond of Joseph from the very beginning of the school year and knew he had so much potential. In the staff room I started to hear the other teachers say good things about Joseph which made me so happy.

That year, on the last day before Christmas vacation, during our class party, Joseph did a rap song and dance about me with a group of his fellow classmates. It was so well done, with background sounds and beats and his one pant leg rolled up to his knee. How cute he was! He looked like one of those *Little Rascals* you see on those old TV movies. How proud I was of Joseph. I often wondered what became of him. He stayed in my mind for many years to come. I even spoke about him often when reminiscing to my colleagues and friends.

So why was Joseph at this luncheon? He has hooked up with Marilyn Hodge to work with youth and it was she who brought him to celebrate with us. How nice of her! Joseph is everything you'd ever want to see in your former

students. He is bright, vibrant, energetic, innovative, enthusiastic, full of excitement, hardworking and has such a good positive spirit in him. As part of his paid job, he has taken on many projects working in the community to serve youth in need, liaising with the police, community workers and even recruiting his siblings and family members to work with him and support him in his endeavours. As soon as he sees a need he finds a way to fill it.

Like many young people of today, Joseph had his cell phone readily at hand, adding me to Facebook, Twitter (I think), and to his list of phone contacts. Really tech savvy, don't you think? He then filled me in on his other classmates that I taught; even showing me their pictures on his phone! It was very interesting.

Apart from the awesome food and good company at my table, meeting up with Joseph at this luncheon was such a wonderful experience. Not everyone has had the chance to see the fruit of their labour from many years ago. I have Marilyn to thank for this, for without her, it would not have happened. Thank you Marilyn and have a very happy New Year. All the best to you, Joseph and never give up. You are truly your mother's pride and joy! **24**

~ Genevieve Johns

## ...AND A COMMENT FROM JOSEPH

Meeting my grade 5 teacher at the Christmas Luncheon this past December was fantastic. I was honoured to be invited by my close friend, Marilyn Hodge, and to assist in any way possible. Being out of school for almost a decade now, I was looking forward to the possibility of seeing some familiar faces. When Mrs. Johns walked in the room, I knew, without a doubt, that she was my grade 5 teacher. It had been over 15 years since I had last seen her, but when someone makes a difference in your life, you tend to remember. As I walked up to her, she recognized me before I could even say "Hi". It was all smiles and reminiscing from then onwards.

You never know how your words and actions will affect someone in the future and I can definitely say that Mrs. Johns has positively affected me. I was somewhat of a "trouble-maker" in my school days and, of all my teachers, she knew just how to handle me. Whether it was cleaning boards, a gentle reminder about respect, or just encouraging words, Mrs. Johns was, and is, one of my inspirations! Thank you. **24**

~ Joseph Khargie



*l-r:  
Genevieve Johns  
Joseph Khargie  
Marilyn Hodge  
Carole Killoran*



## HEALTH REPORT



Newly retired teachers and others who were employed in the education system are regularly joining RTO and subscribing to our Extended Health Plan. If you have personal questions about the plan please e-mail me or leave me a detailed phone message, and I will get back to you promptly. Following are the responses to some frequently asked questions by our members.

### **Are you covered if illness occurs during part of your trip and you have still another leg of the trip to go? For example, on a land stay followed by a cruise.**

If an eligible medical emergency arises and you must return home, the other leg of your trip is eligible for trip interruption expenses, up to a total of \$6,000 per person.

### **How long do I have to submit a claim?**

Normally, all claims must be submitted no later than the end of the calendar year following the year in which the expenses were incurred; i.e. December 2014 for last year's expenses.

### **Are Dental Specialist fees a covered expense?**

No. Johnson recommends that a pre-determination is submitted to their Plan Benefits Claims department prior to receiving treatment from a Specialist to determine the amount that would be eligible for reimbursement under the RTO Dental Plan.

### **Should you carry travel insurance coverage even when travelling within Canada?**

Yes. Although inter-province agreements are in place, OHIP may not cover all the emergency medical expenses charged in the 'host' province.

### **My physician confirms that I can travel even with my current medical condition. Will the RTO Travel benefit cover me if I have an emergency resulting from this health condition?**

Your physician's authority does not override RTO's policy. If your condition would not be considered stable according to the policy, a medical emergency related to this condition would not be covered. Familiarize yourself with the exclusions and limitations of the medical stability clause (found inside the front cover of your Travel Booklet)

### **I am the surviving spouse of a retired teacher who passed away. I have remarried, and would like to know if I can have my new spouse and his/her children enrolled in my existing RTO policy.**

Yes. They can be enrolled if they apply within the 60 day eligibility period, in this case, 60 days from the date the surviving spouse remarries. Enrolment after that period will result in limited claims allowances for the first year.

### **Are my premiums tax deductible?**

Yes. They are considered medical expenses, as are claimed expenses not reimbursed by your private plan.

### **Can my spouse/children telephone Johnson Inc. for my specific claim payment information?**

If you would like Johnson to communicate with your spouse or child you must send this request in writing, due to privacy legislation. Only you are able to make changes to your coverage unless Johnson Inc. has an original or notarized copy of the general continuing Power of Attorney for Property (which will be returned to you) on file.



**DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS OR COLLEAGUES OVER AGE 65 WHO ARE STILL WORKING?** Please let them know that RTO permits coverage under the Semi-Private Hospital, Extended Health Care and Dental Plans for active employees who no longer have board coverage due to their age. Any active educator is able to access RTO's Long Term Care Plan prior to their retirement as well.

**IF YOU HAVE YET TO SIGN UP WITH ANNEMARIE MCKEE TO RECEIVE DISTRICT 24'S E-NEWS, PLEASE DO.** Each issue (sent monthly excluding those months with a printed newsletter) includes recent information on a variety of health topics or web sites that maybe of interest to you. For example, stay informed with award-winning medical and health information and tools for healthy living from Mayo Clinic experts by signing up for their newsletter at:

<https://newslettersignup.mayoclinic.com> **24**

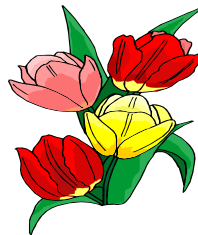
*~ Marilyn Tregwin, D24 Health Rep*

## THE LUNG ASSOCIATION...

- ❖ is among Canada's longest standing, most respected not-for-profit health promotion organizations
- ❖ is a leader in the prevention and control of chronic lung disease, asthma, tobacco cessation and prevention, and air quality and its effects on lung health
- ❖ provides education and support to people living with lung disease in Ontario
- ❖ is a registered charity that relies on the generosity of donors and educational partners across the province
- ❖ has invested more than \$27 million into lung health research carried out in Ontario

Check out their many programmes and services that can help you and your family at [www.on.lung.ca](http://www.on.lung.ca).

### **Tulips are Ideal for Sensitive Lungs!**



The tulip, the Lung Association's signature flower, is low fragrance and non-allergic, which allows it to be enjoyed by everyone, especially people with breathing difficulties. Around Ontario, the Tulip Day campaign is the week of **March 3, 2014**. By purchasing tulips you are supporting lung health research and programmes for people who desire to learn more about managing and living with lung disease. **24**

## DISTRICT 24 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2013



Once again, the success of the Christmas Luncheon held at the Scarboro Golf and Country Club on December 4, 2013, with 200 people in attendance, is always dependent on the assistance of several District 24 members and sometimes other volunteers. My sincere thanks are extended to the following District 24 members: Fernando Goncalves, who printed the name tags, Judy-Anne

Tumber, who wrote the place cards by hand, Linda Jarvis and Elaine Aprile, who set up the name tags and place cards as well as welcomed the guests as they arrived, Donna Hubel and Wendy Hooker, who directed guests at the top of the stairs, George Denny, who gave the official welcome, Bob Cook, who said the grace, and Bonnie Clarke, for issuing cancellation cheques and for paying the bill.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank my friend, Joseph Khargie from the 4Life Foundation, who stood guard at the Bistro door waiting to assist the guests who used the ramp to enter the building, and who also assisted me with several other duties.

Last, but not least, Blaguna Evrovski, the Catering and Beverage Manager and her staff for always doing such a wonderful job for us every one of the last 13 years in which I have arranged the Christmas Luncheon. They definitely go beyond the call of duty, catering to every one of our numerous requests.

For the first time that I am aware of, a former student of one of our District 24 members met up with his Grade 5 teacher at the Luncheon. Please read their heart-warming stories on page 5. **24**

*~ Marilyn Hodge, Goodwill (Cards)*

## GOODWILL (Cards) SPRING 2014 NEWS



Every year, each 90<sup>th</sup>, 100<sup>th</sup> and older birthday celebrant is honoured with a special card and a donation to Breakfast for Kids given in his or her name. In 2013, twenty-six members celebrated a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, three celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup>, three celebrated their 101<sup>st</sup> and two celebrated a 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

This year, Walter Perry P.S., a TDSB school in the Brimley-Eglinton area of Scarborough, was chosen to receive the birthday celebrants' funds. At Walter Perry, they run a breakfast programme for 60 students and a morning meal programme for approximately 460 students, including the 60 students who also receive the breakfast. A cheque for

**\$950.00** was delivered to the school on Tuesday, November 12, 2013. (Photos on page 19 and our website.)

During the past year, in addition to the 34 birthday cards, sixty sympathy cards and twenty "Thinking of You" cards were also sent out. In December, Christmas cards were sent out to 231 members who were 85 years and older. Thanks are extended to Trudy Sutton, a friend and District 24 member, who wrote up half of the 2013 Christmas cards again this year.

As I was working on the other half of the 2013 Christmas cards, I wondered how many cards District 24 had sent out to our members in the eleven years that I have been doing them, so I decided to look back through my records. What I found out was that 1,912 Christmas cards have been sent out to District 24 members in the past 11 years. The least number of cards sent out was 130 in 2003 and the highest number sent out was 231 in 2013.

At this time, I do not have an up-to-date membership list to know how many, or the names of, those who will be celebrating a special birthday between January and June 2014. Their names will appear in the Summer 2014 issue of **Beyond the Blackboard**.

When I am notified, Get Well, Thinking of You, or Sympathy cards are sent to members or their families. Please inform me if you know of anyone who should receive a card:

Marilyn Hodge  
416.284.9984

E-mail: [mjhodge@sympatico.ca](mailto:mjhodge@sympatico.ca)

Please use the subject: **RTO - GOODWILL 24**

*~Marilyn Hodge, Goodwill (Cards)*

## GOODWILL TELEPHONE COMMITTEE



We are desperately in need of telephone volunteers to assist us in phoning our older members, those retiring on or before 1998.

We attempt to contact these members to make sure they are receiving their newsletters and to let them know we are thinking of them.

It would require a few hours of your time, just once a year. If you can help us, please contact me by e-mail at: [lynneh@i-zoom.net](mailto:lynneh@i-zoom.net) or by phone at: 705.738.4557.

Please use the subject: **RTO - GOODWILL**

Your help would be greatly appreciated. **24**

*~ Lynne Horvath, Goodwill (Phones)*

*Clip Art from Google images*

**Number of members in District 24 as of  
January 22, 2014: 2735**





## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Peter Vanderyagt 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

At the January 2013 executive meeting, Peter Vanderyagt was appointed as the interim 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President District 24. He was duly elected at the district's AGM in May, 2013. As well Peter is chair of the Award's Committee and the Service To Others Programme.

Peter is a Toronto boy! He spent his early (diapered) years growing up in the Pape and Danforth area of downtown Toronto. However he spent his elementary years in many parts of Toronto: K-6 in Brock Ave. P.S. and Kent P.S., Gr.7 at Queenscourt P.S. in Mimico, and moving to Scarborough he attended Gr.8 at General Brock P.S. and Gr. 9 at R.H. King C.I.

His family moved to Fenelon Falls due to his father's deteriorating health. There Peter learned to adjust to small town life and thoroughly enjoyed his Grade 10-13 years at Fenelon Falls District High School. Then he moved on to Peterborough Teachers' College for the one year certificate programme and learned how one teacher can teach eight grades in a one room school!

After successfully completing the required programme at the college, he followed his future wife JoAnn to Scarborough. The first senior official from the Scarborough Board that Peter met was Craig Lougheed "The Iron Duke". Craig oversaw the signing of Peter's first and only teaching contract.

He was one of six new teachers hired to fill positions in Inglewood Heights P.S. What a start to his career. The new staff worked well together and had the wisdom of experienced teachers to lead them through the numerous guides and the mandated marking scheme (remember the Bell Curve so much in vogue at the time). So very different from today's student evaluation programme!

Peter spent 35+ years teaching in many schools across Scarborough: Inglewood Heights P.S., Highbrook Senior P.S., chairperson at Jack Miner Senior P.S. and West Rouge P.S., two years leave to be the OPSTF District President, followed by chairperson at Burrows Hall Jr. P.S, vice principal at Malvern Jr. P.S. and Wm. G. Miller Jr. P.S. and principal at North Agincourt Jr. P.S. - the last two being French Immersion schools. His final two years in the teaching profession were spent as the OPSTF District President once again. This was a particularly difficult time for teachers across the province as they had to contend with the Mike Harris government and live through a very long strike. On the plus side, Peter says that there was always a collegial working relationship with senior Scarborough education officials and this strike drew all parties even closer. The impact on teachers, students and parents was always a serious consideration to everyone through this dramatic and often traumatic time in education.

It was only after completing his first two year term as OPSTF Scarborough District President that Peter was convinced that his goal of remaining as a classroom teacher had changed. Serving as district president, he had the opportunity to meet and work with many vice-principals, principals and senior officials across Scarborough and Metro Toronto. Their

leadership and influence on education in their respective roles was a career-changer for Peter. After returning to the classroom, Peter began the process of applying for the positions of vice principal and principal.

With the constant urging of Rick Wilcox, his teaching partner at Burrows Hall Jr. P.S., Peter enrolled in a Masters of Education Program at Niagara University. While taking courses at the university he met up with a number of Scarborough teachers who later became superintendents of education.

Soon Peter was appointed as a vice-principal at Malvern Jr. P.S. and Wm. G. Miller Jr. P.S. (duo track French Immersion). With the untimely passing of the principal of North Agincourt Jr. P.S. Peter was appointed principal. The wonderful staff at this school taught Peter how a committed and caring group of parents and teachers can overcome traumatic events in a positive and loving, manner. The staff also taught Peter to be more humble and accept that he isn't always right!!

The events and decisions made during Peter's two years in the district federation office could fill a book. Suffice it to say, the legislation impacting education by the Conservative provincial government at that time convinced Peter that he should enter the political scene and run as a Liberal candidate in the 1999 election. Thus his first year of retirement was consumed with preparing and running as the provincial Liberal candidate in the riding of Scarborough East.

While unsuccessful in this bid to seek political office, Peter was still committed to serving the public good and continued to volunteer. Since his retirement, as well as being very involved in his church, Peter has been active in the following organizations: The Guild Renaissance Group, the East Scarborough Storefront Executive, the Port Union Waterfront Festival Committee, the Scarborough Renaissance Conference Committee, Liberal riding executives, Spiritual Care Visitor at the Scarborough Hospital, and the Caring Alliance Advisory Board and Chair. In July 2012 Peter received a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award for his contributions to the community. In early 2013 he, along with a number of others from across Canada was nominated for the Samara - Canada's "Everyday Political Citizen Award". This group is a non-political charitable organization that works to improve political participation in Canada.



Peter and JoAnn have recently celebrated 47 years of marriage. This union brought forth two lovely daughters Deanna and Julie Ann. Like many young people who received their university training in another city, they elected to work and establish roots elsewhere. They both live in Vancouver which gives Peter and JoAnn many opportunities to visit at least three times a year! Of course having two grandchildren gives them even more reason to travel west. Good health and opportunity have allowed Peter and JoAnn to travel the world. Their preferred method of travel has been cruising and this continues to help them reach many parts of the globe. Next year they will travel to South Africa and spend three weeks on an overland tour that includes a number of safari adventures. **24**

\* Peter's unedited "biography" will be found on our website.



## PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES FOR 2014

- NOTE: we have reverted back to the individual coupon for each activity.
- All the coupons for these events will be found on pages 12 and 13.
- Please be sure you, and everyone in your party, have read and understood, the Waiver as printed on page 14 of this newsletter. Everyone participating in the activity must sign the coupon.
- When you have decided which activity or activities you wish to participate in, fill out the appropriate coupon(s) and send it/them to that activity's facilitator.
- Facilitators' names, and their contact information, will be found embedded in the write-up for each activity.
- For Kennedy Commons (east side of Kennedy Road, south of the 401) bus pick-up... park your vehicle in the area of the Mr. Greek restaurant.
- Look for our coach – it's usually emblazoned with either Mary Morton Tours OR Pacific Western.



### **LUNCHEON AND TRAVELOGUE... Thursday, April 24, 2014 at the Scarboro Golf and Country Club, 321 Scarborough Golf Club Road, Scarborough**

**COST: \$26.00**

**PROGRAMME: EGYPT: A Month Before the Revolution**

**SPEAKERS:** Bonnie and Doug Clarke.

**LUNCH:** Chicken. Please note: This is NOT a buffet lunch.

**FACILITATOR:** ANNE-MARIE ELLIS-TAYLOR ~ ONE GUILDCREST DR., SCARBOROUGH, ON M1E 1E2. PHONE: 416.261.5190

**E-MAIL:** [a.elltay@bellnet.com](mailto:a.elltay@bellnet.com). COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: RTO—DISTRICT 24.

**WAIVER:** NO WAIVER NEED BE SIGNED.

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014**



### **CRAZY FOR YOU... Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at the Stratford Festival, Stratford**

**DEPART:** KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; RETURN: 6:30PM

**COST: \$135.00**

**PROGRAMME:** Tony award winning *Crazy for You*, featuring the music of George and Ira Gershwin was written in 1992 and is based on their 1930 musical, *Girl Crazy*. If you enjoy a lively musical comedy with singing and dancing to great music, you are in for an enjoyable time celebrating love and mayhem.

**LUNCH:** Buffet at Damen's Restaurant in St. Mary's.

**FACILITATOR:** PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

**E-MAIL:** [paula.chambers@rogers.com](mailto:paula.chambers@rogers.com). COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: RTO—DISTRICT 24.

**WAIVER:** ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 14.

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2014**



### **SOUTH PACIFIC... Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at the Drayton Festival Theatre, Drayton**

**DEPART:** KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; RETURN: APPROX. 6:30PM

**COST: \$125.00**

**LUNCH:** Benjamin's in St. Jacob's. Make your choice at the restaurant.

**PROGRAMME:** In a South Pacific Island paradise, a love story between a spunky Navy nurse and mysterious French planter is put to the test when faced with the stark realities of prejudice and a world at war. The legendary score features such classics as "Some Enchanted Evening", "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair", "Bali Ha'i" and "This Nearly was Mine". A riveting musical theatrical experience that covers the spectrum of human emotion, South Pacific became only the second musical to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

**LUNCH:** Benjamin's in St. Jacob's.

**FACILITATOR:** PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

**E-MAIL:** [paula.chambers@rogers.com](mailto:paula.chambers@rogers.com). COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: RTO—DISTRICT 24.

**WAIVER:** ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 14.

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014**



### **AGM/SPRING LUNCHEON... Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Q-5515, 3474 Kingston Road, Scarborough**

**COST: \$20.00**

**PROGRAMME:** We begin the day with our Annual General Meeting - on the second floor. (An elevator is available for your use.) There will be reports from our Committee Chairs followed by the election of the

Table Officers for 2014. Members attending the **full AGM meeting** will have their \$20.00 cheque returned to them. *NOTE:* If you are bringing a non-member, please remember to attach a separate cheque for their meal, as the luncheon cost can not be refunded to non-RTO guests.

**9:30:** Doors open **10:00:** Coffee available, including decaf **10:30-11:30:** AGM **11:30:** Bar opens  
**12:15:** Luncheon

**LOCATION:** Q-SSIS at Kingston and Markham Roads (north-west corner) - there's lots of parking!

**LUNCH:** You will have your choice of chicken or salmon. Indicate your choice on the coupon. Be sure to indicate any food allergies you might have when you send in your coupon.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** We will have **STEVE BRINDER** to "tickle your funnybone" and have you leaving with a smile on your face and a giggle or two to share over the coming days! (AND JUST WHO IS STEVE BRINDER? SEE PAGE 13!)

**CONTACT:** SUSAN WATSON ~ 18 Springbank Ave., Scarborough, ON M1N 1G3. PHONE: 416.698.3030

E-MAIL: [siwatson5@bell.net](mailto:siwatson5@bell.net) COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**

**WAIVER:** NO WAIVER NEED BE SIGNED.

**DEADLINE:** **Friday, May 9, 2014**

### **MYSTERY PRODUCTION... Thursday, June 19, 2014 at the Dunfield Theatre, Cambridge**

**DEPART:** KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; **RETURN:** APPROX. 6:30PM

**COST:** **\$134.00**

**PROGRAMME:** You will be in your seats for a mystery production. Alex Mustakas, Artistic Director has unveiled an ambitious 2014 season but due to strict licensing agreement, it still cannot be disclosed. He states that we must add this show to our bookings and we won't be disappointed. He also says that we will be as excited and thrilled by this production as he is!

**LUNCH:** *Cambridge Mill.* Salad, spice-crusted NY striploin, charred onions, red wine jus, and apple crisp.

**ADDITIONAL EVENT:** Refreshments at the Cambridge Tourism Centre followed by a one hour guided coach tour of Cambridge.

**FACILITATOR:** PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

E-MAIL: [paula.chambers@rogers.com](mailto:paula.chambers@rogers.com). COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**

**WAIVER:** ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 14.

**DEADLINE:** **FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014**



### **1000 ISLANDS CRUISE... Thursday, September 11, 2014 sailing from Gananoque**

**DEPART:** KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; **RETURN:** APPROX. 7:00PM. COFFEE STOP ON YOUR OWN EN ROUTE.

**COST:** **\$94.00**

**PROGRAMME:**

**1:00PM** Enjoy a Luncheon Cruise with the Gananoque Boat Line. Sit back and relax while you enjoy the breath-taking scenery of the beautiful 1,000 Islands. While on board, a hot buffet lunch featuring tasty chicken breast is included. You can peruse the gift shop on site.

**3:30PM** Return to the Dock.

**FACILITATOR:** \* PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

E-MAIL: [paula.chambers@rogers.com](mailto:paula.chambers@rogers.com). COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**

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**DEADLINE:** **FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2014**



### **MAN OF LA MANCHA... Tuesday, September 30, 2014 at the Avon Theatre, Stratford**

**DEPART:** KENNEDY COMMONS AT 9:30AM ; **RETURN:** APPROX 7:30PM

**COST:** **\$154.00**

**PROGRAMME:** At 2:00 you will be in your seats to enjoy the musical "Man of La Mancha". Featuring the timeless anthem "The Impossible Dream", Man of La Mancha follows the saga of the aging Miguel de Cervantes, playwright, poet and tax collector, who finds himself in a dungeon in Seville awaiting trial by the Inquisition for an offence against the Church. When his fellow prisoners try to confiscate his few possessions, including the uncompleted manuscript of his most famous work, the novel Don Quixote, Cervantes defends his masterpiece by proposing that he present it to them as a play. To this end, Cervantes and his manservant transform themselves into Don Quixote and his fiercely loyal servant, Sancho Panza, recruiting prisoners to take on the roles of other characters. What follows is a stirring tale of the mad Quixote and his obsessive quest to attain the impossible dream.

**LUNCH:** Buffet at *The Queen's Inn* in Stratford.

**FACILITATOR:** MARILYN TREGWIN ~ 41 RAVENCLIFF CRES., TORONTO, ON M1T 1R7 PHONE: 416.493.3757

E-MAIL: [m.tregwin@rogers.com](mailto:m.tregwin@rogers.com) COUPON IS ON PAGE 13. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**



**WAIVER:** ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 14.

**DEADLINE:** **FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2014**



### **CABARET... Friday, October 17, 2014 at the Shaw Festival**

**DEPART:** KENNEDY COMMONS AT 9:15AM ; **RETURN:** APPROX 7:15PM

**COST:** **\$133.00**

**PROGRAMME:** At 2:00PM, it's show time at the Festival Theatre for Cabaret. "Glittering musical. Welcome to the Kit Kat Klub, the hottest nightclub in Berlin. American Cliff Bradshaw has just arrived in town. When he meets nightclub singer Sally Bowles and the club's mysterious emcee, his life is turned upside down - just as the world is about to turn upside down, with Hitler on the rise. Hailed as a rare musical that both challenges and entertains, it premiered on Broadway in 1966 and ran for over 1100 performances, winning numerous Tony awards including Best Musical"

**LUNCH:** *Betty's Restaurant* in Chippewa. Order from the menu.

**FACILITATOR:** DONNA HUBEL ~ 23 KEMPELL CRES., NORTH YORK, ON M2J 2Z6 PHONE: 416.490.1861

E-MAIL: [dhub@sympatico.ca](mailto:dhub@sympatico.ca) COUPON IS ON PAGE 13. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**

**WAIVER:** ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 14.

**DEADLINE:** **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2014**



### **FALL LUNCHEON AND CRAFT SALE... Thursday, October 23, 2014 at Q-SSIS, 3474 Kingston Road, Scarborough**

**COST:** **\$20.00**

**LOCATION:** Q-SSIS at Kingston and Markham Roads (north-west corner) - there's plenty of parking!

**BAZAAR AND CRAFT SALE:** HOORAY!!! Craft Sale... Once Again! We are looking forward to the return of crafters from last year's event and, hopefully, the addition of some new crafters who would like to sell their wares at our Fall Luncheon on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. We look forward to some great shopping!

**CRAFTERS:** If you have items - e.g. - craft, baking, preserving, jewellery, etc. (please no "White Elephant" items) that could inspire others to begin their birthday, Thanksgiving, Hallowe'en, Christmas or just personal indulgence shopping... then now is the time for you to sign up! (CRAFTERS - SEE PAGE 13.)

**CRAFT SALE:** Begins at 10:30AM and continues after lunch.

**BAR** opens at 11:30AM and **LUNCH** will be served at 12:15PM

**CONTACT/FACILITATOR:** SUSAN WATSON ~ 18 SPRINGBANK AVE., SCARBOROUGH, ON M1N 1G3 PHONE: 416.698.3030

E-MAIL: [siwatson5@bell.net](mailto:siwatson5@bell.net) MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**

**CRAFTER INFORMATION AND COUPON:** COUPON SHOULD BE SENT TO: CARMELA GAUDET, 43 SADDLEBACK COURT, TORONTO, ON M1B 2M3. PHONE: 416.283.8151 E-MAIL: [carmelagaudet@rogers.com](mailto:carmelagaudet@rogers.com) COUPON IS ON PAGE 13. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO—DISTRICT 24.**

**NO WAIVER** NEEDS TO BE SIGNED.

**DEADLINE:** **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2014**



PLEASE CONSIDER GOING "**SCENT FREE**".

MANY OF OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE ALLERGIC OR SENSITIVE TO SCENTED PRODUCTS WILL APPRECIATE BEING ABLE TO "BREATHE EASILY" ON THE COACH OR IN THE THEATRE.



- ✓ Please cut your coupon(s) with scissors.
- ✓ When filling out your coupon, be sure to check your food choice (where applicable).
- ✓ Make all cheques payable to **RTO-District 24.**
- ✓ Post-date your cheque to the activity's deadline!
- ✓ Friends, relatives and neighbours are welcome to join us on our excursions.
- ✓ Please plan to arrive early. Traffic can be unpredictable.



**REMINDER: THESE 2 ACTIVITIES ARE ALSO LINED UP FOR YOU FOR THE FALL OF 2014.**  
**FURTHER DETAILS WILL APPEAR IN OUR SUMMER NEWSLETTER.**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<b>Golf Tournament</b>	Lothar Maier	Mill Run (Siloam - Uxbridge)	September 9, 2014
<b>Christmas Luncheon</b>	Marilyn Hodge	Scarboro G&CC	December 3, 2014

**✂ COUPON: LUNCHEON & TRAVLOGUE**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....  
 PHONE #: .....  
 SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ \$26.00 EA = .....  
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES..... NO.....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014** HM

**✂ COUPON: CRAZY FOR YOU**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....  
 PHONE #: .....  
 SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ \$135.00 EA = .....  
**E-MAIL:** .....  
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES..... NO.....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**  
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16: .....  
 SIGNATURE  
 SIGNATURE

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2014** HM

**✂ COUPON: SOUTH PACIFIC**  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....  
 PHONE #: .....  
 SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ \$125.00 EA = .....  
**E-MAIL:** .....  
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES..... NO.....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**  
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 SIGNATURE

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014** HM

**✂ COUPON: AGM/SPRING LUNCHEON**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....  
 PHONE #: .....  
 SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ \$20.00 EA = .....  
**MEAL CHOICE:** Chicken: ..... or Salmon: ..... Please check   
**E-MAIL:** .....  
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES..... NO.....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2014** HM

**✂ COUPON: MYSTERY PRODUCTION**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....  
 PHONE #: .....  
 SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ \$134.00 EA = .....  
**E-MAIL:** .....  
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES..... NO.....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**  
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16: .....  
 SIGNATURE  
 SIGNATURE

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014** HM

**✂ COUPON: 1000 ISLANDS CRUISE**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....  
 PHONE #: .....  
 SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ \$94.00 EA = .....  
**E-MAIL:** .....  
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES..... NO.....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**  
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16: .....  
 SIGNATURE  
 SIGNATURE

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2014** HM

☺ Broken pencils are pointless.



**✂ COUPON: MAN OF LA MANCHA**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....

PHONE #: .....

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ **\$154.00 EA** = .....

E-MAIL: .....

WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES ..... NO .....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**  
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16: .....

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2014**

HM

**✂ COUPON: CABARET**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....

PHONE #: .....

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ **\$133.00 EA** = .....

E-MAIL: .....

WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES ..... NO .....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**  
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16: .....

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2014**

HM

**✂ COUPON: FALL LUNCHEON**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2014**

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.



NAME (PRINT): .....

PHONE #: .....

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT): .....

# OF TICKETS: ..... @ **\$20.00 EA** = .....

MEAL CHOICE: Chicken: ..... OR Salmon: ..... Please check

E-MAIL: .....

WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES ..... NO .....  
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2014**

HM

**BAZAAR AND CRAFT SHOW**  
**at our Fall Luncheon...**  
**Thursday, October 23, 2014**



Vendor tables will be available for **\$25.00** each.  
 Set-up starts at 9:30AM. Sale begins at 10:30AM.  
 Sales will take place before and after our Fall Luncheon.

To reserve a table, contact Carmela Gaudet at:  
[carmelagaudet@rogers.com](mailto:carmelagaudet@rogers.com) OR 416.283.8151

Please mail the Vendor Coupon (below) and cheque,  
 payable to RTO - District 24, to:  
**Carmela Gaudet, 43 Saddleback Court,  
 Scarborough ON M1B 2M3**  
 along with a brief description of what you will be selling.

**VENDOR COUPON: BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2014**

Cut out (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME: .....

PHONE #: .....

E-MAIL: .....



PLEASE INDICATE THE SALE ITEMS THAT YOU WILL BE BRINGING  
 TO OUR BAZAAR: .....

SEND YOUR CHEQUE AND THIS COUPON TO: **CARMELA GAUDET,  
 43 SADDLEBACK COURT, TORONTO, ON M1B 2M3**

HM



**STEVE BRINDER... Great Entertainer...**  
**Coming to our AGM/Spring Luncheon!**

Not only is Steve Brinder one of Canada's funniest stand-up comedians, he is also a TV host, TV reporter, actor, a very popular school teacher and a much sought after keynote speaker at educational events. With 30 years of teaching under his belt, he can connect with those in the various stages and positions in the educational world. He makes you feel comfortable and connected, as he, through the gift of story, shares the joys, humour and challenges that we all have experienced by being in Education.

Grab your friends and bring them to the AGM/Luncheon on May 22<sup>nd</sup>... You'll laugh until you cry!

- ☺ I was going to look for my missing watch, but I could never find the time.
- ☺ I just read an ad for a job inspecting mirrors; I could really see myself doing that.

**THE WAIVER:  
Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release...**

~ Provincial Executive, January 2010



The participant in (the "Event") acknowledges and agrees that RTO/ERO, including District 24, will not be responsible for any loss, injury or damage of any nature, including death, howsoever arising in connection with this trip/excursion/event. Participants in the Event are therefore hereby advised to carry their own insurance in connection therewith.

By signing the activity coupon and in consideration of the participant's attendance at the Event, the participant hereby releases and forever discharges RTO/ERO, District 24, and their respective directors, officers, members, agents, employees and volunteers (collectively, the "Releasees") from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, and demands (collectively, the "Claims") from any loss, injury or damage of any nature, including death which has arisen or may arise from the participant's attendance at the Event, unless such loss, injury or damage has arisen as a result of the sole negligence of one or more of the Releasees.

Any claims arising out of the participant's attendance at the event will be governed by the laws of Ontario, Canada, and the participant consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts in Ontario, Canada in any such action.



Third party items are presented for information only and endorsement is neither intended nor implied.

**GOLDEN YEARS GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

**Meets monthly at the Birkdale Community Centre.**

For more information contact Elaine Aprile by phone at: 416.267.2670 OR by e-mail at: [elaineaprile@sympatico.ca](mailto:elaineaprile@sympatico.ca)



**BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

**The meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month, except December, at 7:30 PM at the McCowan Retirement Centre (formerly the Kingsway Arms), 2881 Eglinton Avenue East at McCowan Rd. in Scarborough. There is a bus stop at the corner of Eglinton Ave. and McCowan. Free parking is available on the south side of the building.**

For more information, please call:  
Marilyn: 416.284.9984  
Peggy: 416.269.7575



**CLUB 48**

**Club 48 is an association of retired teachers** who meet socially nine times a year from October to June, usually the afternoon of the second Wednesday of the month.

For further information contact: Christine Newhouse at: 416.924.5226.



**OPSMTF**

**OPSTF is the former elementary (men) teachers' federation.** We hold a reunion every two years. We are attempting to identify former members to invite them to our reunion. If you have any questions or require more information contact me at 416.638.2239, [hmoscoe@gmail.com](mailto:hmoscoe@gmail.com) OR our chair, Dave Kendall, at 613.335.4319 [davidckendall@yahoo.ca](mailto:davidckendall@yahoo.ca).

[Louiseawing@bell.net](mailto:Louiseawing@bell.net) - Alumni Reunion Committee



**LOOKING FOR INFORMATION?  
HERE ARE SOME USEFUL WEBSITES...**

- Alzheimer's Society: [www.alzheimer.ca](http://www.alzheimer.ca)
- Canadian Association of Retired Persons: [www.carp.ca](http://www.carp.ca)
- Canadian Cancer Society: [www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca)
- Canadian Diabetes Society: [www.diabetes.ca](http://www.diabetes.ca)
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind: [www.cnib.ca](http://www.cnib.ca)
- Heart and Stroke foundation: [www.heartandstroke.ca](http://www.heartandstroke.ca)
- Parkinson Society of Canada: [www.parkinson.ca](http://www.parkinson.ca)
- Service Canada: [www.servicecanada.gc.ca](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca)
- Canadian Government: <http://canada.ca/en>
- Ontario Government: [www.ontario.ca/](http://www.ontario.ca/)
- Health Canada: [www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca)
- Ontario Health and Long Term Care: [www.health.gov.on.ca/en](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en)
- Ontario Driver's Licence: [www.ontario.ca/driving-and-roads/driving-and-roads](http://www.ontario.ca/driving-and-roads/driving-and-roads)
- Ontario Road Conditions: <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/traveller>

- ☺ Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.
- ☺ Cartoonist found dead in home. Details are sketchy.
- ☺ I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.





## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AS AT 31/12/13

	<u>Budget 2013</u>	<u>Dec. 31, 2013</u>	<u>Budget - 2014</u>
<b>Bank Balance:</b>	\$2,656.52	\$6,656.52	\$5,128.47
<b>Investments:</b>			
GIC Face Value – Matures 17.12.15	\$5,131.72	\$5,131.72	\$5,131.72
GIC Face Value – Matures 16.1.14	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
<b>Income:</b>			
Provincial Grant	\$36,367.00	\$37,403.88	\$37,200.00
Bank Interest	\$0.00		
Breakfast for Kids – Golf Tournament	\$150.00	\$7,150.00	\$0.00
Interest Income (GIC)	\$40.00	\$143.32	\$0.00
Provincial Grant (STO)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
GIC Redeemed	\$4,000.00		\$0.00
Donations Received (Gold Sale)	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	\$43,213.52	\$51,503.72	\$42,328.47
<b>Expenses:</b>			
<b>Disbursements – Administration:</b>			
Bank Charges	\$200.00	\$281.28	\$200.00
Executive Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$2,860.95	\$3,000.00
President's Discretionary Fund			\$500.00
District A.G.M.	\$250.00	\$493.71	\$500.00
Office Expenses	\$400.00	\$392.44	\$400.00
Senate Meeting	\$2,500.00	\$3,022.76	\$3,000.00
Archives	\$50.00		\$50.00
Election Expenses (Provincial)	\$0.00		\$0.00
<b>Member Services – Communications:</b>			
Goodwill, District 24 (Cards)	\$2,000.00	\$1,523.77	\$1,200.00
Goodwill (Phoning)			\$200.00
Membership	\$1,000.00	\$634.64	\$1,000.00
Recruitment, District 24	\$2,000.00	\$1,954.71	\$2,000.00
Newsletter (4 issues: Mailing, Printing, Postage )	\$18,000.00	\$20,733.74	\$18,000.00
Toronto District Levy	\$1,000.00	\$1,008.00	\$800.00
Political Advocacy	\$0.00		\$100.00
<b>Member Services – Programmes:</b>			
Day Trips	\$1,000.00	\$1,316.00	\$1,000.00
Spring Luncheon/AGM	\$4,000.00	\$3,200.00	\$3,000.00
Fall Luncheon	\$500.00	-\$330.43	\$500.00
Christmas Luncheon	\$125.00	-\$9.59	\$200.00
Health Seminar	\$500.00	\$355.67	\$500.00
Bridge Club	\$500.00	\$510.05	\$500.00
District Awards/Gifts	\$100.00	\$277.55	\$500.00
<b>Service to Others (STO):</b>			
Breakfast for Kids	\$150.00	\$8,150.00	\$0.00
Provincial Approved Project	\$0.00		\$0.00
District 24 Projects	\$0.00		\$0.00
<b>Total Debit:</b>	\$37,275.00	\$46,375.25	\$37,150.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	\$43,213.52		\$42,328.47
<b>Current Bank Balance/Anticipated:</b>	\$5,938.52	\$5,128.47	\$5,178.47



Please direct any questions or concerns to our treasurer, Bonnie Clarke. Her contact information can be found on page 2.

## IT'S NOMINATION TIME AGAIN! WE NEED YOUR HELP!



At the AGM on May 22, the nominating committee will be presenting a number of people for table officer positions. If you would like a challenging experience, please send your name to me as a self-nomination.

The general membership is invited to come to our next executive meeting (all are welcome), see how we operate and enjoy the stimulation.

Some of our committee chairpersons would like a change so we are looking for volunteers to assist and possibly take over the portfolio at a future date. If a portfolio doesn't interest you, join us as a member-at-large and help on various committees.

We are always looking for someone to help with recruiting and if you think that you have a knack for getting people to join our great association - RTO - please e-mail your self-nomination to me at [dhub@sympatico.ca](mailto:dhub@sympatico.ca) or call me at 416.490.1861.

You will enjoy the experience and we have lots of fun planning events for you as well as getting information to the membership about pensions, insurance and travel. At the moment the following positions are vacant:

- ⊙ **Second Vice President**
- ⊙ **Political Advocacy** - Chairperson, Gloria, has always kept up well informed about current issues.
- ⊙ **Membership/Recruitment** - Chairperson, Les, would like a change.
- ⊙ **Newsletter Editor** - Hal will be moving on to other things after the Summer Newsletter so we desperately need a news editor.
- ⊙ **Members-at-Large**

For those who are leaving the executive of District 24, thank you for all the time and hard work that you have contributed to our district over the years. **24**

~ Donna Hubel, Chair of the Nominating Committee

~ Some clip art from Google Images



### And on the lighter side...

- ☺ Never trust an atom. They make up everything.
- ☺ I saw a kidnapping today, but decided not to wake him up.
- ☺ I've had amnesia for as long as I can remember.
- ☺ I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- ☺ What do you call a dinosaur that smashes everything in its path? Tyrannosaurus wrecks.
- ☺ Someone left a piece of Plasticine in my house. I didn't know what to make of it.
- ☺ Police were called to a nursery where a three year old was resisting a rest.

## IN MEMORIAM



In understanding that each life is a miracle that changes the world, we remember and honour the lives of our departed colleagues and friends.

Ronald S. Allan  
Rachel Bradley  
Lorraine H. Fisher  
Rita Goldsmith  
Donald Weeden

~ to 31.12.13

## WELCOME TO DISTRICT 24 !

To all our new members, we offer you a warm welcome! Whether you are a new retiree or have moved here from another district, we hope that you find District 24 ~ Scarborough and East York a comfortable and happy fit.

Our District motto is:  
"Where Old and New Friends Meet"  
We count you among our friends.



Ewart Austin	Ruth LeBlanc
Frances H. Bissonette	R. Brent C. MacLeod
Susan Chopp	Judy McAdam
Joyce M. Dusenbury	David Morrison
Linda Epping	David Owen
Peter Gillespie	Zita Pooran
Jane Gladwin	Paul J. Rocks
Lily T. Gullins	Josie Romano
M. Jean Humpage	Carla Van Der Kleij
David N. Hutchison	Robert Wills
Robert J. Kachur	



~ to 31.12.13

**To OUR NEW MEMBERS:** May we suggest you sign up to receive our newsletter and our 'monthly' E-NEWS on-line? Details for our newsletter will be found on page 3; details for our E-NEWS are on page 18.



## WHAT A WINTER!...

So how did you fare following the Toronto ice storm?

At the Scarborough Bluffs, many of us had neither heat nor hydro for six or more days. We were so appreciative when the hydro teams arrived. Damaged power lines covered many residential streets and driveways from our fallen mature trees. Properties were littered with branches, torn and twisted boughs and split trees; however, the evergreens fared well. Cars and fences were damaged and water pipes burst, particularly those houses heated by radiators. It was an eerie experience walking our dogs in the evening seeing either house or street lights.



The positive aspect was how neighbours rallied to help one another. Many offered to share their resources such as warmth from their fire places and cooking access from gas stoves or BBQs. We all made runs to Tim Horton's for food, hot beverages and

recharging of cell phones. When the cold was no longer bearable, we found friends, family, motels and hotels to host us when their power returned.

What did we learn? We discovered that we really didn't believe the seriousness of the ice storm warnings. We had a brief experience of how a disaster affects people and appreciated the resources available to us.

Neighbours ran out of salt and environmental salt alternates available from pet food stores. We learned that cat litter helped to provide traction and that a sludge mixture from sugar beets was used on the highways to dissolve ice when salt no longer functions. Emergency resources for three days must be on hand: four litres of water per person per day, non-perishable food for each person, medications, flashlights, batteries, candles and photocopies of family documents. Include food, water and medications for our pets and a means of transporting them and our resources if needed. The Delta Inn on Kennedy Road was a life saver for those of us who had pets and having a CAA membership significantly reduced hotel fees. Don't forget a cash stash as ATM/banks don't necessarily function during emergencies!

In future, check that your trees and wires are not in close proximity, and prune them as needed. Plant replacement trees well away from overhead wires. Ensure that the residences of senior family members have emergency generators and an emergency relocation plan for them. Review your insurance coverage and your supply of warm clothing and bedding. In cold weather when there is no hydro, have your taps dripping or bleed the lines. Have the phone number of a reliable electrician and plumber on hand. If you are planning a trip, have a neighbour check your home on a daily basis and provide emergency contact numbers. Ensure that your gas stove fireplace functions **independently** and is properly vented. Keep the propane BBQs and camping stoves outside at a safe distance from your home and secure additional tanks. Finally, maintain

a good sense of humour and a belief that this experience, someday, will be a unique story to share. **24**

~ Wendy Hooker, D24 Secretary



Some clip art from Google Images

~ photos by Wendy Hooker

- ☺ It was so cold, Tim's was serving coffee on a stick.
- ☺ It was so cold, I chipped a tooth on my soup.
- ☺ It was so cold, polar bears were buying fur coats.
- ☺ It was so cold, we had to salt our hallways.
- ☺ It was so cold, we thought Hell was freezing over!

## SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWS



It's roughly 4 months between newsletters. A lot can happen in that time. Keep informed! Keep yourself up-to date with what's happening in District 24! It's easy to do just sign up to get our **E-NEWS**.

Would you like to contribute to our **E-NEWS**? Share a line to let our readers know what you are doing? Maybe write an article that may be of interest to your retired colleagues? Perhaps provide us with pictures to share?

We currently have 676 members (almost 25% of our membership) receiving our **E-NEWS**! If you have friends who have just retired or who taught/worked in the legacy boards of Scarborough or East York that do not currently receive our **E-NEWS**, please encourage them to do so. Or, if you have friends who are members of RTO District 24 who do not receive our **E-NEWS** ask them to send me an e-mail, with their request to get **E-NEWS**. I can add their names to our database so they can get their own copy.

Remember, **all** retired educational support workers may join RTO/ERO and receive our **E-NEWS**. All they have to do is send me their name and their e-mail address, with a short line saying you would like to get our **E-NEWS**.

My e-mail address is: [amckee.rto@gmail.com](mailto:amckee.rto@gmail.com) **24**

~ Annemarie McKee, E-NEWS and Webmaster

Clip art from Google Images

## AWARDS COMMITTEE

Our District Awards Committee is now seeking your support in recommending names of our RTO members who meet the following criteria to receive "An Outstanding Community Service Award":

- ★ A member of District 24
- ★ An active volunteer during their career and continuing after retirement



Recommended names along with a description of such volunteer activities and length of time committed to them should accompany this submission - i.e. - a team leader for 15 years for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Please include your name and e-mail address so that the Awards Committee can contact you for clarification of your recommendation or more details about their volunteer experience.

All recommendations should be sent to the Chair of our District Awards Committee by no later than **March 29, 2014**. The selected recipient(s) will be invited to our District AGM and recognized with: a certificate, a small token of appreciation and a photo opportunity for release to the media.

Submissions are to be sent to: Peter Vanderyagt, Chair of our District 24 Awards Committee at [2van7844@bell.net](mailto:2van7844@bell.net)

~ Peter Vanderyagt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice and Awards Committee Chair

## EAGLE, BIRDIE, PAR AND MORE ... PLEASE READ ON TO KNOW THE SCORE

A golf match is a test of your skill against your opponent's luck.

Building on a solid sixteen year foundation, I would like to invite you and your friends to participate in the "Breakfast for Kids" 17<sup>th</sup> Annual District 24, Golf Tournament. Please reserve **Tuesday, September 9, 2014** and join us at Mill Run Golf Course. In past years, the involvement and support of our members and their friends have helped make these tournaments fun and an integral part of helping students. I am once again asking for your support.

Our tournaments have helped thousands of youngsters in our legacy Boards of East York and Scarborough. Each year several schools in our two legacy Boards are selected by the Toronto Partnership for Student Nutrition to receive the proceeds from our tournament.

Last year's thankful recipients were:

O'Connor P.S. (TDSB - East York),  
Eastview P.S. (TDSB - Scarborough),  
West Hill P.S. (TDSB - Scarborough)  
St. Ursula C.S. (TCDSB) and  
The Hope Centre - Malvern Community



Funds are generated from the players' fees, raffles, golf hole sponsors and a silent auction. Cash donations exceeding \$15.00 will receive a tax receipt. Donations to our prize table or silent auction are other ways members can show their support. I would be more than glad to pick up items for our tournament. Please contact me at 416.298.4996 or [lothar.maier@yahoo.ca](mailto:lothar.maier@yahoo.ca).

Let us work together and make this 2014 golf tournament the best one ever. Everyone enjoys the fun, both on and off the course.

Please remember: A good drive on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole has stopped many a golfer from giving up the game. **24**

## "TEE-OFF" AGAINST HUNGER

Please consider serving as convener for our District 24 "Breakfast for Kids" Golf Tournament starting in 2015. Our current convener, Lothar Maier, will be stepping down after the 17th annual tournament on September 9th, 2014. He is more than willing to work along and/or share any information with any interested future convener. If you are willing to "step up to the plate", please contact Lothar at: [lothar.maier@yahoo.ca](mailto:lothar.maier@yahoo.ca) Two District 24 members have expressed interest in serving on an organization Committee.

Detailed files, contact lists and sample letters are available to help the new organizer(s) along with support from past conveners. The Mill Run Golf Course staff members are also very helpful in all aspects of organizing a tournament. **24**



The Kids are counting on us.  
Let's keep this tournament going!



# CHEQUE PRESENTATIONS

## November 12, 2013

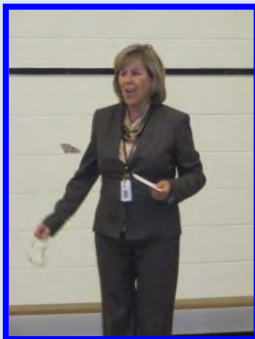
### Lothar Maier for the B4K GOLF TOURNAMENT:



West Hill P.S.  
◀ ▶



Each school received a cheque for \$1630.00



▲ St. Ursula Catholic School ▲



Eastview P.S. ▲ ▶



▶ ▶ O'Connor Dr. P.S.



~ Photo not included: A cheque for \$1,630.00 was also presented to The Hope Centre in Malvern.

### Marilyn Hodge on behalf of District 24's 90+ BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS:



Walter Perry P.S. received a cheque for \$950.00

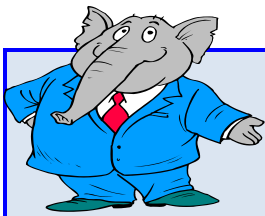
▶ ▶ Walter Perry P.S.



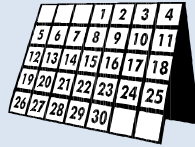
~ photos by Hal McCullough

- ☺ I've advised my friend to see a psychologist. He treats golf as if it were a game.
- ☺ I love golf. I live golf. I dream golf. If only I could play golf!
- ☺ My wife claims that her golf is improving because today she hit the ball in one.
- ☺ My wife says if I don't give up golf she'll leave me. That's bad luck. I know I'm really going to miss her.
- ☺ Last week I missed a spectacular hole-in-one by only six strokes!
- ☺ Real golfers don't miss putts, they get robbed.





## DATES To REMEMBER



EVERY TUESDAY BRIDGE CLUB (STARTING AT 12:30 PM)  
 JANUARY 9: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME  
 JANUARY 29: BLUMA APPEL THEATRE: *LONDON ROAD*  
 MARCH 6: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME  
 APRIL 24: LUNCHEON & TRAVELOGUE: *EGYPT - A MONTH BEFORE THE REVOLUTION*  
 APRIL 30: STRATFORD: *CRAZY FOR YOU*  
 MAY 1: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME  
 MAY 14: DRAYTON FESTIVAL THEATRE: *SOUTH PACIFIC*  
 MAY 12-19: SPRING SENATE  
 MAY 22: QSSIS: *AGM/SPRING LUNCHEON*  
 JUNE 12: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME  
 JUNE 19: DUNFIELD THEATRE: *MYSTERY PRODUCTION*  
 SEPTEMBER 4: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME  
 SEPTEMBER 7: TORONTO: *CIRQUE DU SOLEIL (SOLD OUT!!)*  
 SEPTEMBER 9: B4K GOLF TOURNAMENT  
 SEPTEMBER 10: GANANOQUE: *1000 ISLANDS CRUISE*  
 SEPTEMBER 30: STRATFORD: *MAN OF LA MANCHA*  
 OCTOBER 17: SHAW: *CABARET*  
 OCTOBER 23: QSSIS: *FALL LUNCHEON & CRAFT SALE*

1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF THE MONTH: E-NEWS E-MAILED  
 5<sup>TH</sup> LAST DAY OF THE MONTH: DEADLINE FOR NEXT E-NEWS

**SEASONS CHANGE ON:** MAR 20; JUNE 21; SEPT 23; DEC 21  
**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME:** BEGINS MAR 9; ENDS NOVEMBER 2

➤ EXECUTIVE MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE **MCCOWAN RETIREMENT RESIDENCE** (FORMERLY KINGSWAY ARMS) ON SOUTHWEST CORNER OF MCCOWAN AND EGLINTON. REFRESHMENTS AT 9AM; OUR MEETING BEGINS AT 9:30AM.

**RTO/ERO: Here for you now... Here for your future**  
**DISTRICT 24: WHERE OLD AND NEW FRIENDS MEET.**

## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013

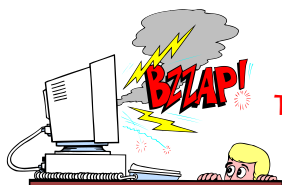


~ photos by Hal McCullough  
 ~ additional photos on our website

THE CONTENT OF THIS NEWSLETTER MAY OR MAY NOT REFLECT THE POSITION OF RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24 OR THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF RTO/ERO. OTHER RTO/ERO DISTRICTS ARE WELCOME TO USE ANY OF THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS NEWSLETTER PROVIDING APPROPRIATE ATTRIBUTION IS MADE REGARDING SOURCE.  
**ARE YOU MOVING? YOU NEED TO CONTACT DIANNE VEZEAU AT RTO. PLEASE SEE PAGE 3 FOR HER CONTACT INFORMATION.**

**RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24**  
**c/o HAL McCULLOUGH**  
**62 CHESTER CRES**  
**PORT PERRY, ON L9L 1K8**

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**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR SUMMER'S BEYOND THE BLACKBOARD IS:  
 FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2014**



The information on the following pages did not appear in the paper version of this newsletter!



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### **Peter Vanderyagt 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President**

At the January 2013 executive meeting, Peter Vanderyagt was appointed as the interim 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President District 24. He was duly elected at the district's AGM in May, 2013. As well Peter is chair of the Award's Committee and the Service To Others Programme.

Peter is a Toronto boy! He spent his early (diapered) years growing up in the Pape and Danforth area of downtown Toronto. However he spent his elementary years in many parts of Toronto: K-6 in Brock Ave. P.S. and Kent P.S., Gr.7 at Queenscourt P.S. in Mimico, and moving to Scarborough he attended Gr.8 at General Brock P.S. and Gr. 9 at R.H. King C.I.

His family moved to Fenelon Falls due to his father's deteriorating health. There Peter learned to adjust to small town life and thoroughly enjoyed his Grade 10-13 years at Fenelon Falls District High School. Then he moved on to Peterborough Teachers' College for the one year certificate programme and learned how one teacher can teach eight grades in a one room school!

After successfully completing the required programme at the college, he followed his future wife JoAnn to Scarborough. The first senior official from the Scarborough Board that Peter met was Craig Loughheed "The Iron Duke". Craig oversaw the signing of Peter's first and only teaching contract.

He was one of six new teachers hired to fill positions in Inglewood Heights P.S. What a start to his career. The new staff worked well together and had the wisdom of experienced teachers to lead them through the numerous guides and the mandated marking scheme (remember the Bell Curve so much in vogue at the time). So very different from today's student evaluation programme!

One of the very first teachers who greatly influenced how Peter should conduct himself as an effective teacher was Joe Walters. Joe loved teaching! He continually demonstrated that interacting with young people through sports and balancing the needs of the children with the expectations of curriculum guides could be done and still have fun.

Peter spent 35+ years teaching in many schools across Scarborough: Inglewood Heights P.S., Highbrook Senior P.S., chairperson at Jack Miner Senior P.S. and West Rouge P.S., two years leave to be the OPSTF District President, followed by chairperson at Burrows Hall Jr. P.S, vice

principal at Malvern Jr. P.S. and Wm. G. Miller Jr. P.S. and principal at North Agincourt Jr. P.S. - the last two being French Immersion schools. His final two years in the teaching profession were spent as the OPSTF District President once again. This was a particularly difficult time for teachers across the province as they had to contend with the Mike Harris government and live through a very long strike. On the plus side, Peter says that there was always a collegial working relationship with senior Scarborough education officials and this strike drew all parties even closer. The impact on teachers, students and parents was always a serious consideration to everyone through this dramatic and often traumatic time in education.

Having entered the teaching profession at a time when a university degree was not a requirement, Peter was encouraged by his colleagues to pursue his education. Like many others, Peter chose to take courses extramurally during the winter and use his summer vacation to attend Queen's University. Eventually Peter completed his undergraduate degree at Queen's University at Kingston with a major in geography with special emphasis on urban planning.

Scarborough senior officials made it abundantly clear to him that taking workshops in the evening on Board-led initiatives was a requirement. This encouraged Peter to achieve qualifications in the following Ministry of Education courses: specialist certificates in Health and Physical Education, and Special Education. This was rounded out with general courses in French, art, reading, science and mathematics. Due to his heavy involvement with the former Ontario Public School Teachers' Federation (OPSTF) Peter also promoted and attended such courses as Project T.E.A.C.H. and Project P.R.I.D.E.

It was only after completing his first two year term as OPSTF Scarborough District President that Peter was convinced that his goal of remaining as a classroom teacher had changed. Serving as district president, he had the opportunity to meet and work with many vice-principals, principals and senior officials across Scarborough and Metro Toronto. Their leadership and influence on education in their respective roles was a career-changer for Peter. After returning to the classroom, Peter began the process of applying for the positions of vice principal and principal.

With the constant urging of Rick Wilcox, his teaching partner at Burrows Hall Jr. P.S., Peter enrolled in a Masters of Education Program at Niagara University. While taking courses at the university he met up with a number of Scarborough teachers who later became superintendents of education.

Soon Peter was appointed as a vice-principal at Malvern Jr. P.S. and Wm. G. Miller Jr. P.S. (duo track French Immersion). With the untimely passing of the principal of North Agincourt Jr. P.S. Peter was appointed principal. The wonderful staff at this school taught Peter how a committed and caring group of parents and teachers can overcome traumatic events in a positive and loving,



manner. The staff also taught Peter to be more humble and accept that he wasn't always right!!

The events and decisions made during Peter's two years in the district federation office could fill a book. Suffice it to say, the legislation impacting education by the Conservative provincial government at that time convinced Peter that he should enter the political scene and run as a Liberal candidate in the 1999 election. Thus his first year of retirement was consumed with preparing and running as the provincial Liberal candidate in the riding of Scarborough East.

While unsuccessful in this bid to seek political office, Peter was still committed to serving the public good and continued to volunteer. Since his retirement, as well as being very involved in his church, Peter has been active in the following organizations: The Guild Renaissance Group, the East Scarborough Storefront Executive, the Port Union Waterfront Festival Committee, the Scarborough Renaissance Conference Committee, Liberal riding executives, Spiritual Care Visitor at the Scarborough Hospital, and the Caring Alliance Advisory Board and Chair. In July 2012 Peter received a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Award for his contributions to the community. In early 2013 he, along with a number of others from across Canada was nominated for the Samara - Canada's "Everyday Political Citizen Award". This group is a non-political charitable organization that works to improve political participation in Canada.

Peter and JoAnn have recently celebrated 47 years of marriage. This union brought forth two lovely daughters Deanna and Julie Ann. Like many young people who received their university training in another city, they elected to work and establish roots elsewhere. They both live in Vancouver which gives Peter and JoAnn many opportunities to visit at least three times a year! Of course having two grandchildren gives them even more reason to travel west.

Good health and opportunity have allowed Peter and JoAnn to travel the world. Their preferred method of travel has been cruising and this continues to help them reach many parts of the globe. Next year they will travel to South Africa and spend three weeks on an overland tour that includes a number of safari adventures.

After completing his high school examinations, Peter had applied to the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University. Only at the last minute did he change his mind and made a late application to Teachers College. This decision made all the difference in Peter's life. He has never regretted becoming a teacher. One of the most rewarding professions one could ever have! **24**

### An old Farmer's Words of Wisdom

- ☺ A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
- ☺ Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.



- ☺ Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.
- ☺ It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- ☺ The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- ☺ Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- ☺ Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- ☺ Always drink upstream from the herd.
- ☺ The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.



## SO...YOU WANT A NEW OR USED CONDO? HERE'S A CHECKLIST OF CONSIDERATIONS

- ✓ The golden rule of real estate is - location, location, location - proximity to grocery shopping, restaurants, shops, theatre, public transportation and highways.
- ✓ A south, west or southwest exposure is best for light. Distance from street noise is important.
- ✓ View the shared common elements: lobby, party room, exercise room, patio or terrace, pool, sauna, change rooms, wallpaper in halls, rugs, tile, gardens and visitor parking. The more there are the higher your monthly maintenance fee will be.
- ✓ The management company's record is very important. How long have they been in business? Who else do they manage? Are residents satisfied with the present manager?
- ✓ Security systems at all entrances needs to be ascertained.
- ✓ Underground parking is partly shared but typically you own your own parking space(s). If you don't own a vehicle, buy a parking spot to enhance resale. Purchase a parking space for each vehicle you own. Make sure you see the plans for the parking garage and designate your space in the purchase contract otherwise the developer will designate it. If it is an older condo - view it.
- ✓ Balconies and terraces are considered 'exclusive use common elements'. If you want to make any changes to them, you must receive approval from the Board of Directors.
- ✓ Heating and cooling should be questioned. Some buildings have a 'one pipe system' where there is heat from mid-October to mid-May and air conditioning in between. Other buildings have a 'two pipe system' that allows you to have heat or air conditioning on demand.
- ✓ Lockers should be included or available for sale. They vary in size. Consider buying two adjacent lockers and have them built as a single locker. See where the lockers are located.
- ✓ The developer will supply standard bathrooms, kitchen appliances, washers and dryers, flooring and carpeting. Consider sourcing and supplying your own appliances and save some money. The builder will also supply upgrades such as kitchen cabinetry, marble or granite counter tops, hardwood, tile flooring, crown molding and higher wooden baseboards, extra electrical outlets and extra cable outlets. Many of these are worth adding. These can add significantly to your overall cost but provide added value when you sell.
- ✓ Changes in layout can usually be done when you negotiate your contract. Moving non-bearing walls may cause problems with electrical and plumbing.
- ✓ The monthly maintenance fee covers such things as water, heat, hydro, landscaping, snow plowing, superintendants salary, management fees, security...? Typically the larger the building, the lower the maintenance fee. In new buildings the maintenance fee is estimated and usually ends up being higher once you move in.
- ✓ You will usually pay your own telephone, cable and taxes. Check to see what else.
- ✓ Ask about the tax bill. The location of the condo can greatly influence your municipal tax bill. Ask your realtor for comparables in the area.
- ✓ Hire a lawyer who is familiar with condo law. The Canadian Condominium Institute has a list of legal firms who specialize in condominiums.
- ✓ A new building will not have a Reserve Fund. This begins to accumulate as soon as residents start paying their maintenance fees. Discuss this with your realtor and lawyer. Ask about the size of the fund in mature buildings.
- ✓ Once you have signed a contract for a new unit and put down a deposit it will be held in trust until you close the sale. This can take years and sometimes a building is never completed. A hasty move from your home can lead to disaster.



*~ Ken Drope, D24 member & Board Member, Metropolitan  
Toronto Condominium Corporation 1312*

## RETIREMENT PLANNING WORKSHOPS



~ photo by Wendy Hooker

Pictured here are the folks that prepare and organize RTO/ERO's Retirement Planning Workshops (RPWs) in Toronto for those in the education field that are getting ready to retire. Several of these workshops are held each year to help prepare them for the next exciting stage in their lives. This meeting was held to review the November 7, 2013 workshop – a workshop that had almost 80 participants in attendance. At the same time, they were also preparing for the next two workshops. The dates for these upcoming Retirement Planning Workshops for Educators and Support Staff are:

- ☑ **Thursday, March 27, 2014** at QSSIS Banquet Hall (Kingston and Markham Roads) from 5:00PM-8:00PM. Registration and refreshments start at 4:30PM
- ☑ **Saturday, April 26, 2014** at The 519 Community Centre (519 Church St., Toronto) from 9AM-Noon. Registration and refreshments start at 8:30AM

On hand to represent District 24 at this meeting were Donna Hubel, Wendy Hooker, Bonnie Clarke (the group's secretary), and Les Coombs. Also in attendance from the other 3 Toronto districts were: Mary Ellen Lawless (co-ordinator), Bonnie Hamilton, Bonnie Grossman, Valerie Mah, and Bill Menagh.

Mary Ellen Lawless will be writing an article for an upcoming **Renaissance** issue about what this group does and how they organize flyers ready for mailing to the private schools. **24**

~ Donna Hubel, Past-President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

### Paraprosdakians...

are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and often humorous.



- ☺ Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
- ☺ If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

- ☺ I didn't say it was your fault. I said I was blaming you.
- ☺ You're never too old to learn something stupid.
- ☺ You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
- ☺ To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
- ☺ I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.
- ☺ Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- ☺ To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
- ☺ The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
- ☺ War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

## NEWSLETTER

The next paper edition of **Beyond the Blackboard** should be coming D24 members' way during the first week of July.

If you are an on-line reader of our newsletter, then you will be notified when it has been posted to our website (which should be around the third week of June).

Hope to see you at the AGM on May 22!

Until then,  
Hal McCullough, Editor

