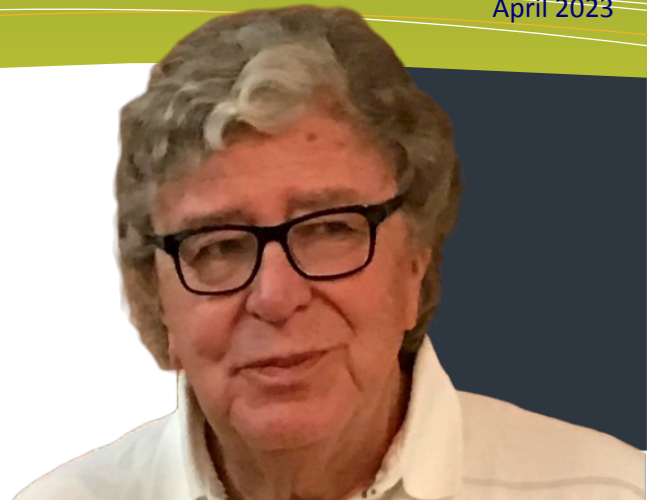




Spring Newsletter

District 7
Windsor-Essex

April 2023



President's Message

Welcome to Spring! I think! As everyone exits hibernation or possibly an active winter, I am sure everyone is looking forward to the coming warmer months ahead.

RTO/ERO District 7 has numerous activities, meetings and gatherings on our agenda. We have Breakfast Club meetings every month. We have an RPW (retirement planning workshop) on April 22 for future retirees. Our Annual meeting and lunch is on May 11, also at the Serbian Centre. We have a Trip to Turkeyville U. S. A. On May 9 which is SOLD OUT! followed by trips to Stratford in June and Petrolia in July. Fun and Fellowship is on June 1 and our Golf Tournament is June 26. See pages in this Newsletter for complete details.

District 7 is here to help you, our members. Please! If you have any questions or problems with Benefits, membership or other areas, just give one of the executive or myself a call or email. We will try to help as best we can or at least point you in the right direction.

On a personal note, I am so proud of our members and our monthly Breakfast Club. Started a dozen years ago with myself, Judy and the Robertsons we are now a thriving group of 20 plus. It's so good to see a mixture of new retirees and those with a few years under their belts. Thanks to all who join us and we welcome new members at any time.

I Love Canada! My parents arrived as immigrants on a snowy Monday in June many years ago (Gander, Newfoundland). I embraced Canada as mine and hope and wish the best to all future immigrants. As we approach Canada's 146th birthday, I, as a proud Canadian, am thankful for living in a great Country.

Have a great summer. Be Safe and Be Happy!

Bill

Publication
Mail Agreement
#40052373
Editor: Paul Barber

PAST PRESIDENT
Margaret Clarke

PRESIDENT
Bill Bowden

PRESIDENT-ELECT /
1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Judy Bowden

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Gina Marcon

SECRETARY
Michael Oddy

TREASURER
Margaret Clarke

ASSISTANT TREASURER
Jim Sparrow

The full slate with contact information can be found on the last page

Website
<http://district7.rtoero.ca>
Facebook
<http://facebook.com/RTOEROdistrict7>
RTOEROdistrict7

RETURN TO:

RTOERO District 7
1963 County Rd 27
South Woodslee, ON N0R 1V0



Publication Mail Agreement

District 7
Windsor-Essex

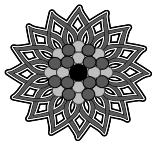
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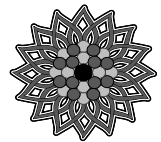
RTO/ERO DISTRICT 7



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AND
SPRING LUNCHEON**



THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023



**SERBIAN CENTRE – KOSOVO HALL
6770 TECUMSEH ROAD EAST**

11:00 A.M.

-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Join us for an opportunity to meet your District Executive, ask questions, express concerns, participate in the governance process.

11:30 A.M.

-SOCIAL

12:00 P.M.

-LUNCH

RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023

MARGARET CLARKE

558 DORSET PARK PLACE,

Tecumseh, ON N8N 3N4,

519-735-0727

mtclarke@mnsi.net

DOOR PRIZES

50/50 DRAW



SPRING



Bienvenue à la toute première édition de la page française. Je vous invite à m'envoyer vos idées ou suggestions. Nous comptons actuellement 4 membres bilingues au comité exécutif du District 7

Voyages et Événements

Sex Please We are Sixty : le 9 mai 2023 (Billets déjà vendus) **Cornwell's Turkeyville à Marshall, Michigan**

Un repas incroyable : soupe, salade, dîner de dinde avec tous les accompagnements, suivi d'un dessert délicieux et d'une production à grande échelle de Broadway.

Les invités de Mme Stancliffe reviennent année après année dans sa chambre d'hôtes, et son voisin, le «Bud the Stud» âgé et à la langue d'argent Davis croit qu'ils viennent passer du temps avec lui. Son prétendant potentiel est un chimiste à la retraite qui a mis au point une pilule pour augmenter la libido des femmes ménopausées. Lorsque les femmes mélangent des pilules de Viagra bourgeons avec le "Venusia", nous découvrons que cela a un effet étrange sur les hommes. Cela leur donne tous les symptômes des femmes ménopausées avec bouffées de chaleur, sautes d'humeur et irritabilité.

Camelot : le 12 octobre 2023 **Petrolia Victoria Playhouse**

Entrez dans le monde magique du roi Arthur, la reine Guenièvre et Sir Lancelot et redécouvrez ce puissant tableau enchanteur de la lutte entre la passion et l'aspiration.

Yesterday Once More : le 18 juillet 2023 **Petrolia Victoria Playhouse**

Un joyeux voyage en arrière de 50 ans. L'année 1973 est considérée comme l'une des meilleures de l'histoire de la musique pop. C'était aussi la première année où la maison de théâtre de Victoria était ouverte aux spectacles en direct. Alors faisons la fête comme si c'était en 1973. La musique fabuleuse d'Elton John, The Rolling Stones, Gladys Knight, The Carpenters, Stevie Wonder et tant d'autres.

Rent : le 27 juin 2023 **Stratford Festival**

Situé dans le Village Est de Manhattan dans les années 1990 et inspiré par l'opéra "La bohème" de Puccini, cette comédie musicale rock de Jonathan Larson suit un groupe de jeunes artistes interprètes et philosophes du Village Est alors qu'ils luttent contre les difficultés de la pauvreté, de la discorde suicidaire et de l'épidémie du sida à la recherche de la vie, l'amour et l'art. À noter : recommandé pour les 14 ans et plus.

Pour plus de détails ou pour réserver vos places svp contactez le président, Bill Bowden billben9999@yahoo.ca (au besoin d'information en français vous pouvez contacter Diane Picard diapic50@gmail.com)

Atelier de planification à la retraite le 22 avril 2023 au Serbian Centre

Le District 7 organisera un atelier en personne sur la planification de la retraite le 22 avril 2023. Une session complète couvre ce que vous devez savoir pour vous préparer à la retraite, planifier votre avenir financier, vos prestations de santé y compris les avantages de l'assurance collective et les perspectives de retraite de vos pairs. Ce sera une session bilingue !!

Tournoi de Golf 2023 : lundi 26 juin 2023 Dominion Golf Course 9h30

Nous sommes de retour !!! 9 trous– meilleure balle (26 \$ à pied et 36 \$ avec une voiturette). Faites un quatuor, un trio ou un duo et soumettez les noms de votre groupe. Les participants DOIVENT s'inscrire au préalable auprès de Gord Miall courriel : mgmiall@bell.net 519-944-1061 Un excellent déjeuner est disponible. Veuillez commander avant de partir. De nombreux prix mystères... tout le monde est gagnant !!!



**RTO/ERO DISTRICT 7
SPRING LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING**

DETAILS

PLACE: SERBIAN CENTRE - KOSOVO HALL
6770 TECUMSEH ROAD, E.

DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

TIMES: 11:00 A.M. -ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

11:30 A.M. -SOCIAL

12:00 P.M. -LUNCH

LUNCHEON DISBURSEMENTS

MEMBERS: \$20.00

GUESTS: \$20.00

(the additional \$20.00 will be subsidized by District 7)

MENU

SERVED BUFFET STYLE

- FRESH GARDEN SALAD
- CHICKEN SCHNITZEL
- ROASTED POTATOES
- MIXED VEGETABLES
- PENNE WITH TOMATO SAUCE
- ROLLS AND BUTTER
- COFFEE/TEA
- DESSERT



Please make cheque, made payable to RTO/ERO DISTRICT 7 and return the section below, along with your cheque, by Wednesday, MAY 3, 2023, to our Treasurer:

MARGARET CLARKE
558 DORSET PARK PLACE,
Tecumseh, ON N8N 3N4,
519-735-0727
mtclarke@mnsi.net



LUNCHEON THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

NAME: _____ **RTO/ERO MEMBER:** _____ **GUEST:** _____

NAME: _____ **RTO/ERO MEMBER:** _____ **GUEST:** _____

ADDRESS OF CONTACT PERSON: _____

Are you a new retiree? _____

AMOUNT: \$ _____

VICE-PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Judy Bowden

As usual 2022 was a busy year. I attended the Presidents' and Vice-Presidents' Workshop as well as the Health Benefits' Workshop. The District Presidents and Vice-Presidents continued to meet regularly with the Board via Zoom. We also continued our regular South Region meetings with our Board Liaison also via Zoom with the exception of one in-person meeting hosted by London District. Throughout these meetings District 7's top priority was service to our members. Our regular District Executive meetings also focus on service to our members and our community. We are fortunate to have a great group of Committee Chairs who plan fun and exciting events/trip and who take care of our Grant, Awards and Bursary Programmes. Looking forward to seeing you all at the luncheon.

BILINGUAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Diane Picard

I became Chair of the bilingual committee after the resignation of Marilyn Laframboise, who served for a great number of years and truly hope to continue her great work to promote the bilingual nature of our organization.

August 2022

The French translations for upcoming events and breakfast club dates, as well as "To Hell with the Bell" breakfast were submitted and printed in the August newsletter.

September 2022

Translations will be made for the October deadline of the next newsletter for the breakfast clubs and any travel items.

November 2022

Translations were made for the October deadline of the next newsletter for the breakfast clubs and any travel items.

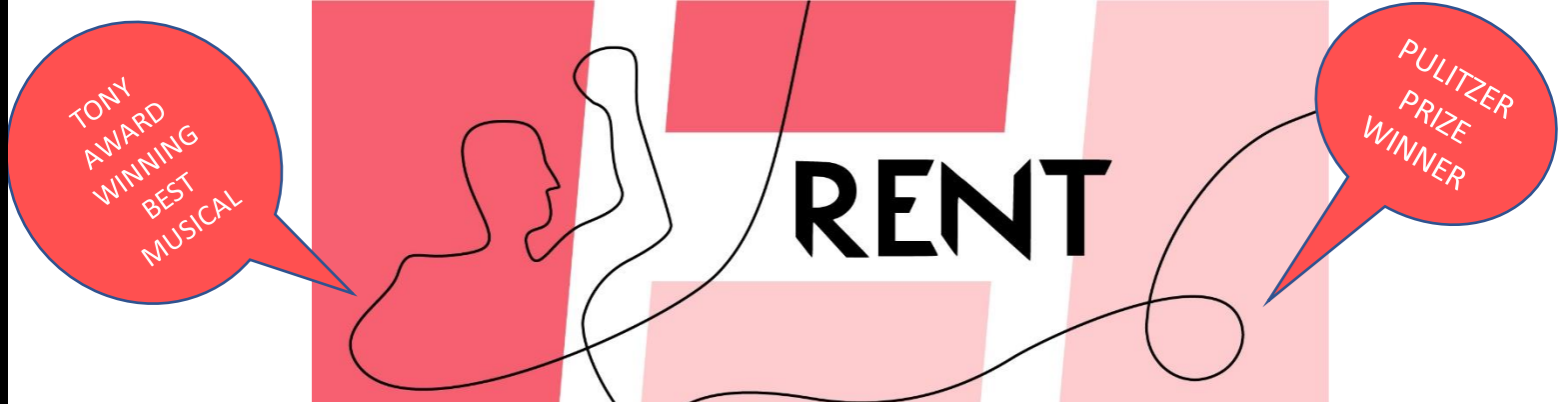
December 2022

I contacted Encore productions to inquire about the possibility of a group tour dealing with the French Connection here in Windsor and Essex County. The company has changed management and so no tours are organized at this time. I will be looking into this in the new year and also the St. Jean celebrations in June.

January and February 2023

No report was issued. Work is underway to create a separate newsletter page in French.

STRATFORD FESTIVAL THEATRE PRESENTS



BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JONATHAN LARSON
DIRECTED BY THOM ALLISON
CHOREOGRAPHED BY MARC KIMELMAN

"FORGET REGRET, OR LIFE IS YOURS TO MISS..."

Set in Manhattan' East Village in the 1990s and inspired by Puccini's opera *La Bohème*, this rock musical by Jonathan Larson follows a group of young East Village artists, performers and philosophers as they struggle through the hardships of poverty, societal discord and the AIDS epidemic in the search for life, love and art. With a song list that includes the iconic "*Seasons of Love*," *Rent* tells a story as relevant today as when it took Broadway by storm more than 25 years ago.

Audience Advisory

This production contains references to drug addiction, suicide and death that some people may find distressing.

BECAME A ONCE IN A GENERATION SENSATION WITH ITS DEPICTION OF YOUTHFUL, HOPEFUL CHARACTERS FACING ENORMOUS LOSS. RAN ON BROADWAY FOR 12 YEARS. MANY TOURING PRODUCTIONS IN THE US AND AROUND THE WORLD

- Cost** - \$170.00
-(includes tickets and transportation by Highway Coach)
Great Seats -The BEST –
Balcony Front Row - Main Floor Centre
ONLY 40 TICKETS AVAILABLE
- Date** -June 27, 2023
- Leaving** -Essex -8:00 A.M. (sharp) (Arner & Hwy#3 Car Park)
-Windsor 8:30 A.M. (sharp) Devonshire Mall Parking Lot – in front of former Sears Store
- Returning** -Windsor - Approximately 6:00 P.M.

Please make cheques payable to RTOERO District 7 and mail to:
Bill Bowden

1104-8325 Riverside Drive East
Windsor ON N8S 1E8

For more information contact Bill - @ 519-948-5214 or @ billben9999@yahoo.ca

As we are non-profit and reservations and some deposits/payments are required in advance, there are no refunds. However, should it be necessary for you to cancel you may sell your reservation to another member.

DISTRICT 7 ANNUAL REPORTS

GOODWILL ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Glenna Hemphill, Goodwill Chair 519-967-7102 rhemphill@sympatico.ca

From March 2022 – March 2023, we celebrated 2-100th birthdays. What a great milestone! Happy Birthday again.

We send cards:

Thinking of You cards to anyone over 90, residing in a retirement residence, with mobility issues or needing a card of cheer.

Birthday cards. Are you in the birthday book? No? Call me.

Congratulatory, Get Well, Wedding Anniversary, Sympathy cards. Please let us know if you are aware of someone needing a card. We count on YOU to help us.

Thanks to Marie-Anne Seguin for all her phone calls to keep us informed.

We visit our members in retirement homes and those 90 and over. During the last year, unable to visit, we made phone calls. Thank you to Liz Antal, Helen Biales, Bill and Judy Bowden, Jan Countess, Ray Guillet, Audrey Magri, George Merrett and Hilda Watkins for your help. This group also helped me deliver approximately 144 Christmas gift bags. All of us know what a great privilege it is to spend time with our senior members and share their stories. We can always use additional help.

A special thank you to members who donate cards. If you have extra special occasion or blank cards, we are always happy to receive them.

Fun and Fellowship will take place on June 1, 2023 at Seasons in Amherstburg. I am asking people to let me know if they are attending – just in case there is a problem at the last minute,

HEALTH BENEFITS ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Judy Bowden

There was a temporary reduction in claims utilization during the pandemic (2021) resulting in a 3% reduction in premiums. The reduction remained in place during 2022 in spite rising utilization and costs.

Plan use levels were back to pre-pandemic levels in 2022 as were travel levels. Hence you will have noticed an increase in premiums deducted from your December 2022 pension.

NEW FOR 2023:

- Starting January 1, 2023, the RTOERO policy will require you to submit you claims within six months from the date the expense was incurred.
- Dental Plan reimbursements will be updated to the 2023 fee guide for general practitioners.
- There have been many improvements to the RTOERO travel insurance. Check out page 7 of Communique Health Benefits Update.
- CloudMD replaces Teladoc (previously Best Doctors) as the medical second-opinion service for Extended Health Care plan participants. Check out page 10 in Communique.

For complete information on you Insurance Plan and the latest updates, your best resource is your 2023 Insurance Plans Booklet. This Booklet along with the 2023 Communique can be found at rtoero.ca/resources/insurance-plan-update

KNOW OF ANYONE THINKING ABOUT RETIREMENT?

**RTOERO
DISTRICT 7 WINDSOR-ESSEX
INVITES YOU TO A FREE
RETIREMENT PLANNING
WORKSHOP**

HOSTED BY  **RTO
ERO**

**RTOERO
DISTRICT 7 WINDSOR-ESSEX
VOUS INVITE À UN ATELIER
GRATUIT DE PLANIFICATION DE LA
RETRAITE**

ORGANISÉ PAR  **RTO
ERO**

For anyone who:

- Works in schools and school boards, early years, post-secondary
- Wishes to learn about retirement planning
- Wants a workshop tailored to the education community

Pour toute personne qui...

- travaille dans les écoles et conseils scolaires, pour la petite enfance et les institutions postsecondaires
- désire se renseigner sur la planification de la retraite
- veut assister à un atelier spécialement conçu pour le secteur de l'éducation

Learn about:

- Financial planning
- Health benefits in retirement
- Retirement and lifestyle planning

Attendees receive:

- Retirement planning booklet
- Chance to win exciting prizes
- Free RTOERO membership until retirement!

When:

Saturday April 22, 2023

Check-in & breakfast: 9:00am

Workshop: 9:30am - 11:30am

Where:

Serbian Centre

6770 Tecumseh Rd. E.

Windsor N8T 1E6



For more information contact:

Roger LeBlanc

Phone - 519-996-9916

Email -

rleblanc15@gmail.com

Goodbye
Tension...
Hello 
Pension!



**RTO
ERO**

District 7
Windsor-Essex



S P R I N G
GOLF 2023
TOURNAMENT

JUNE 26

Monday | 9:30

DOMINION

Golf Course

**Participants
MUST
Pre-register**

9 Holes - Best Ball

- \$26 walking, \$36 with cart
- we are playing the front 9
- make a foursome ... threesome ...
twosome ... and submit names of your
group

A great lunch available

- > Please order before teeing off
- > Many mystery prizes (non alcoholic)
- > Everyone is a winner

to register contact Gord Miall



519-944-1061



mgmiall@bell.net



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**Meet Al Linnell, B.A., M.Ed.
(Past President District 7 Executive 2005-2009)**

GRATEFUL...x 5!

(Educational Profession, Art-Music Mentors, Family, Health Care System, God)

Life began in a downtown central Windsor neighborhood during the War. I was raised with love by a Scottish mother and grandmother. After a serious fall left me in hospital for two months with a broken arm and pneumonia (near death), my mother used our home as collateral to have a specialist straighten my arm, saving my life. Soon after that and traumatically for me, my dog was killed. I got to meet my military father for the first time at the vulnerable age of five. We then moved to the west side of Windsor where I quickly learned to run from bullies and deal with street diversity at its worst! A cub pack gave me some refuge but, six weeks before progressing to Scout level, we moved again to central Windsor.

Life became better for me as an only child with the advent of a cousin from England. He loved to listen to Big Band Jazz. I studied piano for three years and took an active interest in drumming. I continued my adventures as a street kid and began work as a delivery boy four days a week at 35 cents an hour. I started formal drum lessons and moved up a level as a grocery store “boxing boy” at 65 cents an hour. The summer after my first year of high school, I went to Ipperwash Cadet Army Camp and marched in the band (six weeks for 85 dollars). That Fall I started playing with the Windsor Symphony Junior Orchestra under Conductor, Matti Holli and began playing professionally with local musicians in Windsor’s clubs. I joined the Assumption University Dance Band and learned a lot from my professional music mentors. I also joined the Windsor Regiment Military Band and studied formal percussion in the summer with the Canadian Armed Services in Petawawa. One musical mentor got me an audition for the Elmwood Casino Band at age 16. For three years, while struggling through high school, I got to play for many Show Business greats.

In my nineteenth year, I lost my Scottish Grandmother, found a great girlfriend (later wife), and enrolled in the newly-opened Windsor Teacher’s College. Graduation was forthcoming as was an Art-Music Supervisor position in Sandwich South Township for seven small schools in 1964. I loved the system-wide acceptance of my offerings and style as a beginning educator paid 2,800 dollars my first year. The students and all-female teaching staff (caring mentors) were very supportive. In my second year, the system received world-wide notoriety for a terrible bus tragedy that lost seven of our students with injury to many others. I taught all seven of those beautiful children and miss them to this very day. In 1970, I accepted a position at a new open concept school, Sandwich West Elementary. With a handpicked staff and access to school design, a substantial budget, and an outreach position with the National Design Council of Canada, we accomplished many creative programmes. From there, in 1973, I procured the position of Coordinator of Visual Arts with the County Separate School Board and opened St. Mark’s School which acted for fourteen years as a creative location for school bus trips, teacher workshops, Ministry and private courses. During those years, I was also a proud Associate Professor for the University of Windsor’s Faculty of Education thanks to Professor Buck’s recommendation. I loved my thirteen part time years there as I got to meet, recommend, and hire many young talented Art’s teachers from all over our province.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Al Linnell, B.A., M.Ed.

(Past President District 7 Executive 2005-2009)

During this time, I helped to raise two very creative children, Scott and Cori, while married to my wife, Linda, a St. Clair College Health Science Professor. This fertile stability allowed me to pursue many arts related activities in our community as producer, performer, board member, and clinician most noteworthy as:

- ✚ founding committee member – Windsor Corporate Challenge Cup 1979-99;
- ✚ founding Curator Essex County Civic Centre Art Collection in the municipal offices- representing 96 local Artist constructs belonging to Essex County rate payers;
- ✚ founding chairman Arts Council Windsor and Region-15 years;
- ✚ originator educational performance shows Contemporary Arts Ensemble (10,000 students at Cleary Auditorium) and Synectikos Integrated Arts Ensemble (12,000 students at St. Clair College).

In 2001, I “semi-retired” and moved into St. Thomas of Villanova Secondary School and am still there as Theatre Manager. I enjoy instructing Hand Drumming for Health for the Uni-Com University of Windsor’s Senior Community Outreach Programme and have instructed part time for Academie Ste. Cecile 2011-2019. Having received a number of personal awards throughout my active 60-year career, I would proudly like to mention being inducted into the Windsor Essex County Music Recognition Award Society in 2018.

The Pandemic dealt all of us a difficult time. In my case, the past two years have brought me face to face with some of our best health care doctors which, thankfully resulted in a successful cancer treatment. As a new octogenarian, Art’s educator-practitioner, and advocate, having experienced the loss of many talented students/friends, I would like to propose a grateful toast to the pride, energy, and passion in every soul I have ever met, and give humble thanks for your existence. In the milieu of life’s fragility and all the current negativity, I ask you to ask yourself... just how full is your glass?



Are you or is someone you know someone we should all get to know? This page is for you! Looking for biographies or auto biographies to feature in the Spotlight. Please don't be shy. Submit to: judithcbowden@hotmail.com

RTO/ERO

Breakfast Club



MAY - 9:30 A.M.

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Baker's

5570 Wyandotte Street, E.,
Windsor

JUNE - 9:30 A.M.

Thursday, June 8, 2023

Toast

653 Erie Street, E.,
Windsor

JULY - 9:30 A.M.

Thursday, July 13, 2023

John's

7450 Walker Road
Paquet Corners

AUGUST - 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, August 10, 2023

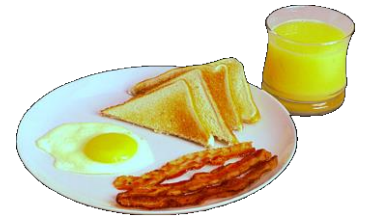
Moon Light Restaurant

75 Talbot Street, E., Unit A
Leamington

(across from Imagine Theatres)

FOR THE LATEST
BREAKFAST CLUB
AND TRAVEL NEWS
BE SURE TO CHECK
OUR DISTRICT
WEBSITE

COME OUT AND
JOIN OUR GROWING
CROWD FOR GOOD
FOOD AND GREAT
CONVERSATION
AND FELLOWSHIP



If you have any suggestions to add to our list of Breakfast Diner/Restaurants please let me know. We are always looking for new venues.

For information contact Bill
@519-948-5214 or @
billben9999@yahoo.ca





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

HOSTED BY DISTRICT 7's GOODWILL COMMITTEE

THURSDAY JUNE 1, 2023

1:30 P.M. – 3:33 P.M.

**SEASONS AMHERSTBURG
681 FRONT ROAD, SOUTH**

**JOIN YOUR HOST GLENNA HEMPHILL FOR AN
AFTERNOON OF:**

**FUN * GAMES * LIGHT SNACKS * LAUGHS
COME WITH A FRIEND AND MEET NEW FRIENDS!!**

RSVP GLENNA BY May 24, 2023.

**PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL AND/OR PHONE NUMBER IN
CASE THERE ARE LAST MINUTE CHANGES!!**

rhempfill@sympatico.ca

Petrolia's Victoria Playhouse Presents

“YESTERDAY ONCE



MORE”



A Joyful Journey Back Fifty Years

YESTERDAY Once MORE

A VPP ORIGINAL

1973



The year 1973 was considered one of the best in the history of pop music. It was also the first year the Victoria Playhouse opened to live performances! So ...let's party like it's 1973! We're getting nostalgic with ground-breaking hits from *Elton John*, *The Rolling Stones*, *Gladys Knight*, *The Carpenters*, *Stevie Wonder* and so many more. It's 'Yesterday Once More' here at the VPP with stellar singing, memorable music and groovy fun!!

Created by D2 Entertainment - Musical Arrangements by Mark Payne

Information taken from the Victoria Playhouse website.

Date - July 18, 2023

Cost - \$110.00 (includes tickets and transportation)

Great Seats -The BEST – Front 3 Rows - Main Floor

Departure -Essex – 9:30 A.M. (Sharp) -Essex Car Park -Hwy #3 and Arner Town Line
-Windsor – 10:00 A.M. (Sharp) - Devonshire Mall Parking Lot – in front of former Sears Store

Return -Windsor - Approximately 6:00P.M.

Please make cheques payable to RTOERO District 7 and mail to:

Bill Bowden

1104-8325 Riverside Drive East

Windsor ON N8S 1E8

For more information contact Bill - @ 519-948-5214 or @ billben9999@yahoo.ca



As we are non-profit and reservations and some deposits/payments are required in advance, there are no refunds. However, should it be necessary for you to cancel you may sell your reservation to another member.

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Val Luscott and Judy Bowden

During the past year our numbers have pretty well remained constant - gaining and losing at approximately the same rate. Currently our numbers are 1482 Females and 923 Males for a total of 2385 members.

We treasure each and every one of you and hope to see you at one of our upcoming events - perhaps at the Spring Luncheon on May 11th, 2023.

We have 5 members who are 100+ years young and are members of our Young at Heart Club.

Welcome to all new members who joined District 7 in 2022.

A message from our Data Records Manager, Val Luscott:

On the death of a member, the following should be notified:

- RTOERO MEMBERSHIP 1-800-361-9888
- Johnson Inc (if the member had medical coverage through RTOERO) 1-877-406-9007
- Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan 1-800-668-010

If you know of someone who is not receiving their mail from RTOERO please remind them to update their information with RTOERO MEMBERSHIP TORONTO.

MEMBER SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Roger Leblanc

A **Retirement Planning Workshop** (RPW) will be offered on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at the Serbian Centre from 9:30 to 11:30. Check-in and breakfast will begin at 9 am. Two workshops will be offered, there will be a French session and an English session.

Registration is currently ongoing on the RTOERO provincial website at rtoero.ca/events. Presenters will be discussing topics including financial planning, health benefits in retirement as well as retirement and lifestyle planning. For information purposes, your local contact person is Roger LeBlanc (519-996-9916, rleblanc15@gmail.com)

Local boards have been contacted in hopes of further publicizing these workshops through their internal networks as these retirement workshops are open to all education workers.

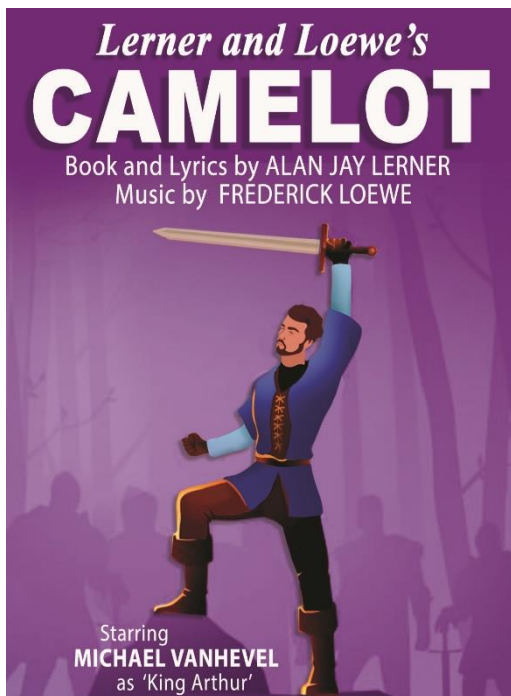
Petrolia's Victoria Playhouse Presents

Lerner and Loewe's

"Camelot"

A Sparkling New Telling of a Classic Tale

Starring MICHAEL VANHEVEL as 'King Arthur'



Enter the magical world of King Arthur, Queen Guinevere and Sir Lancelot and re-discover this powerful, enchanting tale of the struggle between passion and aspiration. A fresh and exciting new take on Lerner and Loewe's legendary Camelot, featuring the beloved and glorious score including *If Ever I Would Leave You, What Do the Simple Folk Do?* and of course, Camelot.

Book and Lyrics by ALAN JAY LERNER - Music by FREDERICK LOEWE
Original Production Directed and Staged by Moss Hart
Based on The Once and Future King by T.H. White
Book Adapted by David Lee
New Orchestrations by Steve Orich

Information taken from the Victoria Playhouse website.

Date - October 12, 2023

Cost - \$110.00 (includes tickets and transportation)

Great Seats -The BEST – Front 3 Rows - Main Floor

Departure -Essex – 9:30 A.M. (Sharp) -Essex Car Park -Hwy #3 and Arner Town Line
-Windsor – 10:00 A.M. (Sharp) - Devonshire Mall Parking Lot – in front of former Sears Store

Return -Windsor - Approximately 6:00P.M.

Please make cheques payable to RTOERO District 7 and mail to:

Bill Bowden

1104-8325 Riverside Drive East

Windsor ON N8S 1E8

For more information contact Bill

@ 519-948-5214 or @ billben9999@yahoo.ca

As we are non-profit and reservations and some deposits/payments are required in advance, there are no refunds. However, should it be necessary for you to cancel you may sell your reservation to another member.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Margaret Clarke, Chair

The Nominating Committee is responsible for submitting nominations for the District Executive. The District Executive consists of six members: President, President Elect/First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Past President. The President Elect/First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are elected at the District's Annual Meeting by the members present.

The Nominating Committee of Margaret Clarke, Bill Bowden and Jim Sparrow are putting forth the following names for election.

- President Elect/First Vice President - Judy Bowden
- Second Vice President – Gina Marcon
- Secretary – Michael Oddy
- Treasurer – Margaret Clarke

District members have the opportunity to run from the floor for any of the above positions. All positions are open until they are elected at our Annual General Meeting

PUBLIC RELATIONS ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Judy Bowden

At some point in the year, my Co-Chair, Marg Clarke, who also happens to be our Treasurer and Past-President, and I reached out to our new members to welcome them and to invite them to events such as the "Bell Breakfast". We have also made contact with our Actively Employed members. A big Thank-you goes to Gina Marcon and Diane Picard who seem to have made it their major goal to get our recent retirees out to Breakfast Club, our Luncheons and on our trips. As recent retirees themselves their energy appears to be boundless. I think I recall those days – a distant memory.

We have also reached out to the local Affiliate Presidents with invitations to our Bell Breakfast and Luncheons. We were very pleased to welcome Mario Spagnuolo, ETFO President at our Fall Luncheon. Mario also invited Marg and I, along with reps from RWTO and OTIP, to attend the ETFO Retirement Planning Workshop. We were grateful for the opportunity to meet with so many perspective retirees and to share the opportunities in retirement that RTOERO has to offer. We now look forward to working with Roger LeBlanc, our Member Services Chair, who is preparing for our own RPW on April 22, 2023.

In Memoriam

January and February 2023



Thomas Breen

Shirley Dicker

Mary Trimer

Ernie Gerenda

Dennis Giroux

Angeline Grenier

Carol Hines

Lorraine Hoffman

Helen Janisse

Sharon Kistulinec

Caterina Lopez

Rose Marie McCabe

Anne Musyj

Donald Niechcial

Bruno Penner

Donalda Roemmele

Linda Rovere

Elizabeth Scorgie

Helene St. Pierre

George Wortley



REMEMBERING OUR COLLEAGUES

SOCIAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Toni Michalczuk

The Social Committee plans and organizes three annual events: The Spring and Fall Luncheons and the Hell With The Bell Breakfasts. We also assist with the Annual Golf Tournaments. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future events, venues or entertainment, please send these to tmichalczuk@cogeco.ca. Your ideas would be greatly appreciated. Thank you

TRAVEL ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted by Bill Bowden

2022 saw RTOERO District 7 emerge from the Dark Days and return to some form of normalcy. Meetings moved from Zoom to in-person (for the main part), even though in some instances video meetings still have their place.

District 7's travel itinerary returned with trips to Stratford to see Chicago and Petrolia for performances of When Irish Eyes are Smiling and the Christmas spectacular Starbright Christmas. All events were completely sold out. We are looking forward to another special year with four events planned and more to come. If you have a suggestion for a venue or destination for our trips, please let me know and I will investigate the possibility.

One thing I need to mention regards payment. Because we are not for profit, our prices just can't be beaten or matched. However, I must remind you that we do not offer refunds. A member may sell his/her tickets to another member.

Also remember a member may bring a friend on any of our trips.

Thank you for your continued support of District 7 and STAY SAFE!

CORNWELL'S TURKEYVILLE

Marshall, Michigan



**SO, SO SORRY
TICKETS ARE ALL GONE!
COMPLETELY SOLD OUT!!!**

So as not to be disappointed, you may wish to book your tickets for the following events early – before they sell out! Detailed information is available elsewhere in this newsletter.

June 27	RENT	Stratford	\$170
October 12	CAMELOT	Petrolia	\$110
July 18	YESTERDAY ONCE MORE	Petrolia	\$110

RTOERO District 07 Windsor Essex

Budget vs. Actuals: 2022 budget - FY22 P&L

January - December 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
400 Grant - Annual	38,808.53	39,968.00	-1,159.47	97.10 %
410 Grant - Bilingual		3,000.00	-3,000.00	
440 Trips				
440-1 Trips - Stratford	6,150.00	6,000.00	150.00	102.50 %
440-2 Trips - Petrolia	7,130.00	4,500.00	2,630.00	158.44 %
440-4 Trips - Great Lakes Crossing		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
440-5 Trips - Gr. River Cruise (deleted-1)		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
440-8 Trips - Other		4,500.00	-4,500.00	
Total 440 Trips	13,280.00	19,000.00	-5,720.00	69.89 %
450 Social Events				
450-1 SE - AGM Spring	900.00	1,200.00	-300.00	75.00 %
450-2 SE - HWBell	170.00	600.00	-430.00	28.33 %
450-3 SE - Fall Luncheon	1,120.00	2,000.00	-880.00	56.00 %
Total 450 Social Events	2,190.00	3,800.00	-1,610.00	57.63 %
460 Donations - District Fundraising		2,500.00	-2,500.00	
480 Interest on Bank Bal & Invest's		200.00	-200.00	
490 Miscellaneous Revenue	467.00	500.00	-33.00	93.40 %
Services	43.73		43.73	
Total Income	\$54,789.26	\$68,968.00	\$ -14,178.74	79.44 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$54,789.26	\$68,968.00	\$ -14,178.74	79.44 %
Expenses				
500 District Executive	802.27		802.27	
501 Meetings - Executive	1,464.96	1,000.00	464.96	146.50 %
502 Meetings - Annual Mtgs/Forum	1,688.71	1,600.00	88.71	105.54 %
503 DE Office expenses	925.68		925.68	
504 Transportation	345.86		345.86	
504-1 DE - Transportation - Executive	360.75	300.00	60.75	120.25 %
504-2 DE - Transportation - AM/Forum	912.56	600.00	312.56	152.09 %
Total 504 Transportation	1,619.17	900.00	719.17	179.91 %
Total 500 District Executive	6,500.79	3,500.00	3,000.79	185.74 %
550 Communications/Social Media				
551 Newsletter	22,143.89	15,000.00	7,143.89	147.63 %
552 Website/Facebook/email		1,550.00	-1,550.00	
Total 550 Communications/Social Media	22,684.98	16,550.00	6,134.98	137.07 %
600 Member Services				
601 Goodwill	6,675.68	7,200.00	-524.32	92.72 %
601-1 Goodwill-Transportation	560.34	600.00	-39.66	93.39 %
Total 601 Goodwill	7,236.02	7,800.00	-563.98	92.77 %
605 Social Events				
605-1 SE - AGM Spring	2,370.69	2,400.00	-29.31	98.78 %
605-2 SE - HWBell	485.28	750.00	-264.72	64.70 %
605-3 SE - Fall Luncheon	3,243.20	2,400.00	843.20	135.13 %
605-4 SE - Spring Golf		600.00	-600.00	
605-5 SE - Fall Golf		600.00	-600.00	

RTOERO District 07 Windsor Essex

Budget vs. Actuals: 2022 budget - FY22 P&L

January - December 2022

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
605-6 SE - Other	155.30		155.30	
Total 605 Social Events	6,974.83	6,750.00	224.83	103.33 %
606 Trips				
606-1 Trips - Stratford	6,136.79	6,300.00	-163.21	97.41 %
606-2 Trips - Petrolia	7,646.00	4,800.00	2,846.00	159.29 %
606-4 Trips - Great Lakes Crossing		2,400.00	-2,400.00	
606-5 Trips - Gr. River Cruise		2,300.00	-2,300.00	
606-8 Trips - Other		4,800.00	-4,800.00	
606-9 Trips - Breakfast Club		400.00	-400.00	
Total 606 Trips	13,782.79	21,000.00	-7,217.21	65.63 %
Total 600 Member Services	27,993.64	35,550.00	-7,556.36	78.74 %
650 Political Advocacy		250.00	-250.00	
700 Community Grants Expense		2,500.00	-2,500.00	
800 Office expenses	205.08		205.08	
801 Stationery and Printing		1,500.00	-1,500.00	
804 Bank Fees	0.66		0.66	
Total 800 Office expenses	205.74	1,500.00	-1,294.26	13.72 %
850 Bilingual Services		3,000.00	-3,000.00	
860 Donations				
861-1 Awards, Bursaries	1,500.00	2,600.00	-1,100.00	57.69 %
861-2 Donations, Grants	2,000.00	2,500.00	-500.00	80.00 %
861-3 Teacher Education		300.00	-300.00	
Total 860 Donations	3,500.00	5,400.00	-1,900.00	64.81 %
950 Miscellaneous expenses		518.00	-518.00	
950-1 Archives		50.00	-50.00	
950-2 General Expenses	2,075.81	75.00	2,000.81	2,767.75 %
950-3 Pension		75.00	-75.00	
Total 950 Miscellaneous expenses	2,075.81	718.00	1,357.81	289.11 %
Total Expenses	\$62,960.96	\$68,968.00	\$ -6,007.04	91.29 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -8,171.70	\$0.00	\$ -8,171.70	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$ -8,171.70	\$0.00	\$ -8,171.70	0.00%

POLITICAL ADVOCACY REPORT

Submitted by Jim Sparrow

A summary of what's happened since our last newsletter for those who are politically astute and seniors who should be... and those returning from the sunny south (as of March 20 deadline).Following are snippets of some of the political issues since January.

The Ontario Health Coalition and the Windsor Health Coalition branch have been very active encouraging everyone to write their MPPs and to attend rallies to protest the province's health care plan, privatization, wage capping etc. I took part in a W.H.C. Zoom meeting on February 9 and attended an "emergency" town hall meeting in Chatham February 15, titled "Our Hospital is not for sale ". Interesting, informative and serious. A third rally was held March 9.

Opposition party members of the committee examining the Liberals' somewhat contentious **gun control legislation** unite in ensuring Canadian hunters aren't "disarmed" by the government.

NDP indicate it could pull Liberal support over **privatization of health care** if it doesn't pass a pharmacare bill this year.

Challenges faced **municipalities exploring how public budgets should be prepared** and sought more effective ways to improve budgetary processes, in light of higher inflation rates. A municipal budget is an immensely complex expenditure plan and ultimately very political.

Since the beginning of the year "crisis" in regard to health care has become the prevalent noun, with "unacceptable" not far behind. **Most Canadians believe when it comes to health care there is both need and appetite for change.** Premier Ford announced a series of changes to health care delivery and increased funding i.e. \$30 million for expanded local cardiac and cancer care. He also announced legislation to accept out-of-province credentials and expand the nursing program by offering \$25,000 bonuses to nurses working in the US and to health care workers working in other provinces. Alberta Premier Smith looked at creating health spending accounts as an "add on" to inject more money into the health system. Quebec Premier Legault promised to increase the number of private clinics and build "mini" private hospitals built by the private sector but with services paid for by the province.

Locally, the new NDP provincial leader, Marit Stiles, along with Windsor West MPP Lisa Gretzky were critical of the province's health care plan, saying innovation, not privatization is needed for the recovery of "a system in crisis". The non-profit business puts service and community-based missions first, rather than profit.

The Ford government is appealing the Ontario Superior Court ruling that the attempt to cap wage increases for public sector employees at 1% for three years was unconstitutional because it infringed on Charter rights that guarantee freedom of association and collective bargaining.

Nursing Home Staffing Crisis By March 31, 2025, the Ontario Government wants every nursing home resident to receive four hours of daily hands-on care. The Premier said \$ 4.9 billion will be spent to hire staff. But several not-for-profit homes are unlikely to meet that goal because workers are leaving for higher paying temp agencies, which then charge exorbitant fees to replace the very staff they poached. An example: on average, registered nurses working for homes made \$43 an hour while fees for agency RNs were \$88 an hour.

Ontario has released a new "connected" and "convenient" health-care plan aimed at shortening wait times and localizing access to care across the province. Ontario Health Minister Sylvia Jones announced details about the plan, "Your Health -A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care," during a press conference on February 2 in Toronto. The announcement comes as Ontario battles a crisis that has touched nearly every aspect of the health care system, from staffing shortages to substantial surgical wait lists. "When it comes to your health and the health of all Ontarians, the status quo isn't working," Jones said at the Thursday announcement.

The government also released a 50-page report, outlining three broad pillars as a framework for the province's health-care plan moving forward: The Right Care in the Right Place, Faster Access to Care and Hiring More Health Care Workers. "Some of these changes will happen immediately as we take action to address pressing issues. Other changes will take time. They will be phased in over the months and years ahead," Jones said. This plan comes on the heels of the government's new three-step approach to expand for-profit surgical and diagnostic centres.

Ontario doctors have said investing in private health-care will only exacerbate staffing shortages and wait times for urgent care. Ontario NDP health critic and MPP, France Gelin, said Thursday that residents should not be "fooled" by the Ford government's new plan, claiming it is poised to privatize the health-care sector.

After agreeing to the federal government's 10 year deal to inject \$46.2 billion into provincial health spending, premiers have moved on to negotiating bilateral deals to improve family health services, worker backlogs, mental health and addiction services etc. Some premiers still say they're concerned the Trudeau government's best offer isn't a long term solution.

In the interest of brevity, I have listed other issues arising locally, provincially and federally. If so inclined you could find more information on them by googling.

- The Greenbelt
- Immigration
- Reparation
- Inflation
- Bill C-18
- Will Alcohol be the Next Tobacco?
- Home prices predicted to drop 30 %
- Expanding pharmacists' scope of practice
- Higher electricity demand, shift from gas, prompts Ontario to consider more nuclear plants
- Manipulative upselling
- A "no landing" recession
- 4 day work-week in Ontario
- Marburg virus
- 90% of Ontario schools need mental health support
- What Canadians think about privatization in health care systems
- How Ontario plans to speed up licensing for foreign-trained doctors
- Election meddling. Note: The Liberals asked the parliamentary Committee to launch a new study of foreign interference in Canada's elections (March 6)

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