



The Quebec Association of Retired Teachers

June 2011



QART Newsletter,
Editor: Stefanie Derewecka Castelino
1412 St. Louis
Montreal, QC, H4L 2P3

President's Message

As the QART year comes to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has given much of their time and energy this past year in order that QART continue as a relevant association. Thanks go out especially to Catherine Barrowcliffe, Maureen Goulet, Karen Habib, Annie Schaffhauser, Cynthia Tyler, Flo Civitarese, Mary Zenaitis, Stefanie Derewecka, Kevin Marciniak, Christine Gazior, Gerry Carroll and Ed Zegray who have devoted themselves to the members of QART. Last but not least, I wish to thank the members of the telephone committee.

Many thanks go out to all of you who have attended the many meetings, luncheons and events organized this year and we hope you will continue to support QART in the years ahead.

This year we were privileged to have as our guest speakers, Notary Anca Ionescu - wills and estates, Gary Schroder - ancestry and genealogy, and Eveline De Gregorio - car and house insurance at ESSOR Insurance and Financing. All of these speakers gave both informative and interesting presentations.

At the May 18, 2011 AGM, a vote was taken regarding the executive's decision to dissolve the Associate Membership. After a brief discussion and questions from the floor, the vote was carried by a majority present. So, as of September 2011, QART has only three categories of members: Regular Members, Members at Large, and Honorary Members.

Since the Associate Membership has been dissolved, regular members are welcome to bring their spouse or guest to the QART meetings. In order to defer the cost per person for the buffet meal at the end of our meetings, a charge of \$7 will be asked of non-members.

Anyone who has been a member of QART for 25 years is eligible to become an Honorary Member. Please let us know.

Of course, spouses and friends are more than welcome to attend all QART luncheons and activities as they have in the past.

Again this year, the executive has been looking into opportunities for travel, day trips and tours, as well as short stays to a variety of places offered by Sunshine Tours.

We will have more information and travel news in the months ahead. Check the QART website for further info or phone Sunshine Tours at 514-898-9675 email: Sunshinetours2010@gmail.com.

So, have a great summer and we'll see you back in the Fall.

Ron Barrowcliffe
President

QART MEETINGS and LUNCHEONS for September 2011 – May 2012

Executive Committee Meetings

September 14, 2011, November 2, 2011, February 1, 2012, May 2, 2012

QART REGULAR MEETINGS and LUNCHEONS (Wednesdays)

September 28, 2011	Regular Meeting
October 19, 2011	Oktoberfest
November 9, 2011	QART Annual mass and Luncheon
November 23, 2011	Regular meeting
December 7, 2011	Christmas luncheon
February 15, 2012	Regular Meeting
March 14, 2012	St. Patrick's Luncheon
April 25, 2012	Spring Social
May 23, 2012	Annual General Meeting

IN MEMORIAM

GILDA DeROSA LICURSI, sister of **MARIO DeROSA**

SISTER MARGARET SCANLAN, C.S.C., sister of **ELLEN SCANLAN**, honorary member of QART

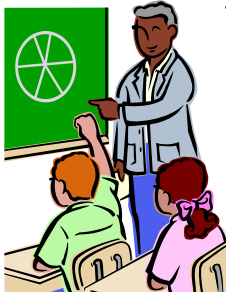
CHIARA MUCCI RUCCOLO, sister of **TONIA MUCCI-CIFARELLI**

MARIE REBELLO, member of QART and former teacher at Transfiguration of Our Lord School

MAXIMILLIAN SCHAFFHAUSER, father and father-in-law of **ROBERT** and **ANNIE SCHAFFHAUSER**

BROTHER JOHN CARROLL, member of the Christian Brothers of Ireland, brother of **GERRY CARROLL**.

MARY McDONNELL, former teacher at St. Gerald's School



Teacher: Tommy, your essay about your dog is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

Tommy: Ma'am. It's the same dog.

Teacher: Donald, how do you spell crocodile?

Donald: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

Teacher: No, that's incorrect.

Donald: Maybe it is, but you asked me how I spell it.

Outaouais Sector

“A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.”
St. Francis of Assisi

Spring has been wet and fairly dark. We applaud the sunshine!



Sincere Thank You

A sincere thank you to our members who have been so supportive over the past year. We look forward to serving you again. Please remember, we welcome suggestions from the group and thank those who have taken the time to call with information and ideas.

Annual General Meeting

The annual General Meeting at Café 349, in Shawville, was well attended. As expected the lunch was excellent. The current executive, at our last executive meeting, looked over our membership, and as we have not had many new members and many have served before, decided to offer our services for **one** more year. This announcement was met with enthusiastic applause. We do welcome anyone to join us, and possibly use the experience to form a new executive for the year 2012.

There was an active discussion as to venues for meetings for next year. Members seemed to be in favor of having the Christmas Social as well as the March meeting at the Chateau Cartier. This will be looked into to see if it is feasible.

Executive for 2011- 2012



President: Judy Kavanagh 819-684- 8635 jmkavanagh@hotmail.com
 1st Vice President : Carol Kavanagh 819-648-2251
 2nd Vice President: Colleen Donlan 819-684-3050 ddonlan@sympatico.ca
 Treasurer: Ann Beriau 819-682-9150 ann_b_beriau@yahoo.ca
 Secretary: Trudy Drummond 819-684-3852 dan.Drummond@sympatico.ca

June Social

The June Social, June 7, will be a sightseeing trip aboard the Wakefield Train. We leave Hull at 10:00 A.M. and return at 3:00 P.M. There will be two hours in picturesque Wakefield to take part in shopping, visiting and lunch. We will hope sunshine graces the day.

Meeting for 2011-2012

September 27, 2011 Bamboo Restaurant 67 rue Principale, Aylmer *
 November 15, 2011 not yet decided
 Christmas Social December 6, 2011 possibly the Chateau Cartier
 March 13, 2012 -hopefully the at the Chateau Cartier
 May 15, 2012 Café 349, Shawville, Quebec
 June Social June 5, 2012

- Please note that the date of the September meeting is one week later than usual. (3rd Tuesday) We hope that is not inconvenient for any members.

In Memoriam

Edith Cuddihy lost her sister Helen McLaughlin. Helen was also a sister-in-law to Katie Cuddihy and Helen Coyle.

Marina Moore lost her sister-in-law, Veronica Moore.

Colleen and Gail Donlan lost their sister-in-law Donna Lee Donlan whom they were both very close to. They corresponded often with her, valuing her friendship, and were there to help out when needed through out the years. They miss her very much.

We wish you all our sincere sympathy.

Extra Caring Thoughts

Extra caring thought are sent out to members who have not been able to attend meetings due to illness, caring for a loved one and or being involved in treatment. We wish you only the very best and hope to see you in the near future.

QART Website and our Own Website

There are many interesting features on the website including pictures taken at gatherings. Hope you take advantage of that from time to time. (www.qart.ca)

We wish everyone a safe, healthy, relaxing, enjoyable summer and look forward to meeting again in the fall.

**“Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability.”
Sam Keen**

SOUTH AFRICAN TRIP

In September and October 2010 Guy & Mary Zenaitis travelled to South Africa for a birdwatching and safari trip. What follows are the highlights.



Guy & Mary Zenaitis

After four flights via Sao Paulo, Brazil and Johannesburg we landed in Cape Town, the undisputed jewel of South Africa. The spring scenery around Table Mountain, Lion’s Head, Devil’s Peak, and Signal Hill is spectacular with cable cars giving a great view of Table Bay. What once was an old harbour has mushroomed

into an exciting nucleus of entertainment, shipping, and fine dining on the Victoria & Alfred waterfront. During our four days here Guy took a pelagic trip where he saw albatrosses and storm-petrels and Mary visited Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for so long and where the long struggle against apartheid originated. Another highlight was the famous Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden, a wonderland of fragrance, colour, birdsong, and the first of many views of protea, the national flower. The very scenic Chapman's Peak Drive provided dozens of bird sightings. At the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve we walked beside Chacma baboons who did not bother us. At Boulders Beach near Simon's Town we saw a colony of African jackass penguins. They are cute little characters and two came and stood next to us.

Our trip up the west coast afforded us vistas of mountainous landscape dappled with colourful fynbos flowers and heavily forested gorges. Here we had our first sightings of elegant blue cranes, the national bird. A pair of ostriches with chicks followed our van for about a quarter-mile. At Sir Lowry's Pass we arrived at the site of historical wagon tracks created by the Boers when they escaped from the British. Continuing eastward we explored the Wilderness Lakes area and then descended into the hot arid veld that comprises the Great Karoo. On the coast at Koppe Aileen we walked to the top of the sand dunes with their incredibly spectacular view of the Indian Ocean and whales flapping their flippers. At Malagas we took the last hand-pulled ferry crossing in South Africa. After a long stretch of driving where farmland changed to forest we reached the town of Wilderness. Our lodge was located in a most luscious garden. As we had breakfast on the balcony we watched an amazing variety of birds nearby including blue-mantled crested flycatchers, forest canaries, waxbills, fork-tailed drongos and the star of the show, the Knysna turaco with its bright red flying feathers. After their wonderful hospitality, we were sorry to say goodbye to the lodge owners but knew we could not linger longer.

Leaving the Garden Route, we were on our way to Karoo National Park via the Swartberg Pass, 5000 ft. above sea level. It was a five-hour drive through extremely dry territory and we had our first views of acacia trees with their sharp quills. At Karoo we



Knysna Turaco

stayed in lovely chalets where air-conditioning was most welcome. The climate was hot and the driest we have ever experienced. Birdwatching was excellent, and we were able to see vervet monkeys, kudu, steenboks, and springboks. On the safari night drive we added Burchell's zebra, African wildcats, and Cape hares to our mammal list. Leaving Karoo we headed back to Cape Town for a flight to Johannesburg.

The next section of the trip took us to the birding mecca of Wakkerstroom. We had dozens of bird sightings here, the most memorable being the unique secretary bird stalking through a field of long grass on its stilt-like legs. Finally it was time to head to world-famous Kruger National Park where we entered by the Melelani Gate. While our tour leader sorted out our entry permit, the group viewed an onslaught of birds and shortly after entering we had our first sightings of giraffes and impalas. We were lucky to witness a spotted hyena nursing her young by the side of the road and then a beautiful leopard up in a tree. In the park we stayed at



Lion

Skukuza camp and saw more giraffes, hippos, lions, elephants, rhinos, wildebeest, and crocodiles. Amazingly within a couple of hours we had seen four of the Big Five! On a night drive we added more lions, grysbok, and zebras. The next day we were on our way to Olifants camp where we saw water buffalo which completed our list of the Big Five. Olifants was a great location high over an area for viewing lots of birds and animals. Kruger,

with its 20 000 sq. km. teeming with African game of every description, 2 000 plant species, and 400 tree species, more than met our expectations! Now our driver took us on a bee-line trip back to Johannesburg to start the Barrier of Spears extension part of the tour.

We headed south to KwaZulu-Natal and the Mkuze Game Reserve. Our hotel was the beautiful Ghost Mountain Inn where four fever trees were loaded with weaver nests. After dinner in the open-air dining room we were treated to an evening of traditional Zulu singing and dancing. Our next stay was in the coastal hamlet of St. Lucia where the nearby lake, a World Heritage site, was teeming with water birds and bushveld birds. The area was in severe drought. But as we headed inland to the small town of Eshowe, the first heavy rains of the year appeared. At Karkloof we spotted wattled cranes, a beautiful and endangered species which did not seem bothered by our presence.

We then left for Underburg and a drive toward the towering Drakensburg mountains and the tiny country of Lesotho. After passing the border post, we reached a plateau. Then started the curvy climb to 10 660 ft. above sea level to search for some rare bird species. Small pockets of tribal communities live the life of the ancients with many shepherds chasing sheep across the mountains. It was a sight to behold right out of biblical times. At the top of Black Mountain our very capable driver noticed the weather below turning bad. It was a wise decision to start down and we ran into a blizzard with the whole area turning into a winter wonderland. Unbelievable but we had gone from 90 degrees F to a snowstorm.



Our trip was nearing an end as we started the drive to Durban, a metropolis of modern architecture and century-old edifices dating to its colonial past. It is the undisputed leisure capital of the country. We stayed at the King Edward Protea Hotel facing the beach along the

Golden Mile. It was a delightful end to an eventful tour. With a final trip list of 480 bird species and 55 mammal species from every corner of the country, unforgettable scenery of ice flowers, acacia and lilac-coloured jacaranda trees, and endless coastlines, it was a trip we will not soon forget. As we left South Africa, we realized that we had seen three worlds – a sun-drenched resplendent country whose citizens wish to protect nature's bounty, a nation of immense cultural diversity, and a young vibrant democracy striving to come to terms with its stormy past.



Teacher: Glen, what is the chemical formula for water?

Glen: H I J K L M N O

Teacher: Where did you get that?

Glen: Yesterday you told us it was H to O.

Teacher: Name one important thing that we have today which we didn't have 10 years ago.

Wendy: Me!

Teacher: Jake, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

Jake: A teacher.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER AND WE WILL SEE ALL OF YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!!

	<p>Renewal QART Membership</p> <p>Year 2011 – 2012</p> <p>Please print and complete this form</p> <p>Montreal Chapter</p>
Last Name	
First Name	
Street	
City	
Province	
Postal Code	
Telephone	
E-mail	
Chapter / Location	
Honorary Member	A member who has belonged to QART for 25 years or more (before 1984) No Fee
Regular Member	A member who attends meetings and /or socials Membership Fee \$25
Member at Large	A member who attends neither meetings nor socials, but wishes to be informed through the Newsletter Membership Fee \$12
Amount Enclosed	\$
Mail To:	<p>QART c/o: Karen Habib Q.A.R.T. Treasurer 1500 rue Serigny Laval QC H7E 1N9 Tel: (450) 728 – 1750 E-mail: Karenanneh@yahoo.com</p>