



# LarsEncore

**BULLETIN 72**

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*The Newsletter of the Association of Retired School Employees*

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## Luncheons 2018



**Friday September 28<sup>th</sup> – Le Vieux Four Manago, 3636 Saint-Charles, Kirkland 11h30**

**Thursday October 25<sup>th</sup> – Scarolies Pasta Emporium 11h30**

**Friday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> – Restaurant L'Académie --AGM 11h30**

**Don't forget the 50/50 RAFFLE at lunch. Half goes to you if you win, and the second winner gives half to the charity of their choice.**



L'ARSE is a non-profit corporation whose sole mission is to foster friendship and mutual support amongst school board retirees. Eligible for membership are retired teachers, support staff and administrators. We are a registered not-for-profit corporation formed under Part III of the Companies Act (RSQ ch. C-38, section 218) holding letters patent under the registry/matricule # 1149265325.

## LARSENCORE

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## BREAKFAST



**IS ON THE SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH!**  
at Le Manoir, 8:30 am, on the corner of Hymus  
and boulevard St-Jean in Pointe-Claire

September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14

## 2. President's Address/ Message du président

Quel été formidable..quelques jours un peu trop chauds et humides but on the whole a sunny and beautiful summer. Way too soon we will be hearing about the wind-chill factor rather than the humidex. I prefer hearing humidex.

I hope you all had a healthy and relaxing summer. Things always, even in retirement, are different during the summer months. More relaxed, less scheduled, less structured! Personally, I spent 3 weeks in PEI with my sister. Nous sommes allées à la plage tous les jours. On marchait, on nageait, on lisait et même pendant quelques moments on dormait! What a glorious time on a spectacular island! Upon my return, I continued in the holiday spirit and now suddenly children are getting on the busses and going off to school. My fall and winter activities are starting up again and ... Mais oui , l'été est fini!

Many of you responded to our survey re. luncheons and, repeatedly, we heard that people loved our wine and cheese event last October. Therefore, SAVE THE DATE for our upcoming wine and cheese event scheduled for Thursday October 11, 2:30 to 5 at the Kirkland Chalet. We hope that you will attend in full force. As a welcome to the new retirees, this event will be free of charge et nous espérons que vous viendrez en grand nombre pour célébrer le début d'une nouvelle étape de vie. All members will be receiving an EVITE from LARSE to which I would encourage you to respond in order for us to plan accordingly. I sincerely hope we can make this a great gathering and, bien sûr, nous espérons qu'il y aura du soleil.

The other big event happening this year is the 20th anniversary of LBPSB. Since January, representing L'ARSE, Jan Tessier, Bill Stockwell and myself have met several times with Mario Barette from LBPSB. We have hammered out an agreement and, as executive of L'ARSE, we have voted to agree to this new partnership. I will be attending the September 24<sup>th</sup> Council of Commissioners meeting at which time I will formally shake hands with Noel Burke, school board chairperson. Our agreement will be the first event marking the beginning of the LBPSB 20th anniversary celebrations. Please check out the new website <http://boardsite.lbpsb.qc.ca/>. Notice the many activities PEF fundraisers the board has organized...Alouettes vs Rough Riders game September 30, Montreal Canadiens vs Sabres on November 8, and November 28 game of Laval Rocket vs Senators. Check these events out.

Therefore, please see the agreement between L'ARSE and LBPSB in this edition of the newsletter. Je remercie, de la part des membres, l'exécutif pour leur travail avec l'organisation de L'ARSE. Hope to see you all at the Wine and Cheese on October 11!

**Tania Kinsella**

**[kinsellatd@gmail.com](mailto:kinsellatd@gmail.com)**

**L'Association of Retired School Employees (L'ARSE) will hold its Annual General Meeting after the Luncheon in November, 2018**



# Bulletin Board

3.

## THE HUMBLE BEGINNINGS OF L'ARSE

Late in 2016, the subject of the beginnings of L'ARSE arose. Was 2017 the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this fine organization? My memory told me it all began in 1997 but I would have sworn that it was in the spring. I went to my daily log, kept for over ten years following my retirement in 1996 and got a complete surprise. I had times and dates recorded. It was not the spring but the fall that it all happened. So here goes, right from my diary on dates, with memory working fairly well on the rest.

The late André Smith, retired French teacher from JRHS, called me on Friday, November 28, 1997. He had just been to lunch with a group of his retired JRHS colleagues. He asked if I would call up my retired confreres from Mac to see if there was a 'felt need' that we might organize a monthly luncheon for retired teachers to come together, to keep in touch, to enjoy the fellowship and allow whatever, should it be successful, to flow out of this. I said "No, André, let's arrange that you and I go to lunch, ask our colleagues to join us from JRHS and Mac and we'll actually see if there is a 'felt need', as you put it. It'll save us a phone call in the long run." I never did like extra work.

André and I discussed the place to meet and eat. We chose Vichy's on St. John's road. We arranged to have lunch there on December 5 at 11:30 a.m. and invite our colleagues. When Friday, 5 December rolled around, 22 colleagues from JRHS and Mac sat to lunch together. André, being the real originator of the idea, explained our goal and that in the coming days, our Ad Hoc executive would make further plans. All seemed delighted. We took their smiles as consent. It was a happy time. André was thrilled as was I.

Our immediate goal was to contact someone from each of the other High Schools and see if they would join our committee for 'organize these luncheon sessions'. I called Wayne Clifford from BHS. We also found Al Jared from LPHS along with Sandy Ferguson from Hudson. June Bolger [Board] joined our committee and, as we were meeting in each other's homes, she invited us to her house for a meeting.

This 'ad hoc' committee grew and began developing a structure for the group. Several meetings were held over the next couple of weeks as I was going back to our place in the sun in Arizona after Christmas. Questions about inviting the Retired Administrators and Support Staff were settled in the affirmative. The organization did not yet have a name and the committee members were sent away from one meeting to come up to the next with a name. Wayne Clifford arrived at the next meeting suggesting we call it "ARSE" [Association of Retired School Employees]. I was especially taken with the name and suggested that an "L" precede the name, L'ARSE, to satisfy the 'Office de la Langue Français'. All this happened, according to my records, prior to Christmas, 1997.

André Smith became L'ARSE's first President. June Bolger was the first Treasurer. The membership fee was set at \$10 which it still remains. I was the membership record keeper using a spread sheet from which we made labels, used for mailing the 'eventual newsletter'.

By the time I returned from Arizona in May, 1998, L'ARSE was fairly well established. André had pushed the need to have a constitution for L'ARSE and this was done. It was agreed to have a news letter for the group, eventually called LarsEncore. Anne Seddon [JRHS] was the first editor and publisher with the help, Al [Mac], her husband.

Affinity groups began to form and it appeared that the organization was well on its way. My favourite group was the cycling corps, out bright and bushy-tailed every Tuesday morning. Hanns Warnecke was the first leader but Wayne Clifford soon took over and still 'pedals' his routes.

I wish to thank all the people who, over the years, have contributed to this wonderful L'ARSE group. You have expanded it, improved it and left your mark upon it. You have satisfied the felt need we have to keep in touch and be active. May all good things continue to happen to this fine organization.

— *Bruce Munro*

AN AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT the Association of Retired School Employees (L'ARSE) be endorsed as the official association for retired employees of the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB).

This agreement:

- a) Provides a protocol that will allow the Board's Human Resources department to inform retirees of this agreement, its benefit and, if authorized, to share their personal information with the Association;
- b) Makes sure that an Association representative attends and briefly addresses the new retirees at their gala formally welcoming them to "their" association;
- c) Offers rooms and venues that are normally available to the public for a fee, to the Association free of charge, as long as extra caretaking expenses are not incurred;
- d) Offers at "cost only", the same rooms and venues, including venues under entente with municipalities, if other significant expenses must be covered: utilities and caretaking.
- e) Allows the Association website link to be visible on the Board's website;
- f) Commits the School Board to design a portal where retirees, schools and centers will be able to connect regarding: volunteer opportunities and mentorship.

Approved by L'ARSE at its meeting September 5, 2018.

4.

**Sunday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm: CFL Alouettes vs. Saskatchewan Roughriders**



\$16 for all (\$3 going to *Pearson Education Foundation*)

The ordering process has been simplified; here are the instructions:

Step 1: go to [www.montrealalouettes.com/promotion](http://www.montrealalouettes.com/promotion)

Step 2: Type in the promo code **LBPSB2018** and press go

Step 3: Enter the **LBPSB2018** again

Step 4: choose the section you prefer, your seats, and proceed with the purchase!

As always, Google chrome and Firefox search engines are highly recommended.

Parents who have difficulty ordering can call the Alouettes on a direct line at **514-787-2755**

**Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7:30 pm**

**NHL Canadiens vs. Buffalo Sabres**



\$ 25 (< 16 yrs old)- \$47 adults (\$2 going to a Foundation to be determined)

355 tickets available

The tickets will be at level 431, 432, 433, 434 (Blue sections)

The ordering process will be similar to the Alouettes – online only

A \$ 5 fee will levied per order

**Wed., Nov. 28 at 7:30 pm**

**AHL Laval Rocket vs. Binghamton Senators**



\$ 25 for all (\$ 5 going to a Foundation to be determined)

Based on an agreed objective of 500 tickets:

- price will be **\$ 25**, taxes included
- **\$ 5** per ticket sold **donated to a foundation to be determined**

The ordering process will be similar to the Alouettes – online only

***For more complete information, go to the L'ARSE website***

# INTEREST GROUPS

Interest Groups Editor:  
Pam Greevy [pgreevy@hotmail.com](mailto:pgreevy@hotmail.com)

5.



## Book Club I

The Original Book Club

Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 25, at 1:30, in the lounge of Cedar Park United Church. For this fall, we've chosen works by two authors who will be appearing at Hudson's StoryFest in October. If you haven't attended this annual literary festival, you've missed a great deal! Our September book is a mystery story: *The Good Liar*, by Montreal author/lawyer Catherine Mackenzie. When an explosion rips apart a Chicago building, the lives of three women are forever changed. October's read, *Mary Cyr*, by David Adams Richards, opens in a small Mexican town, where a coal mine has collapsed, trapping thirteen men inside.

At our meeting on Sept. 25, we'll make our choices for the rest of the year, so stay posted for the complete list in the next LARSE Bulletin.

We currently have twelve members, our agreed-upon maximum, in order to facilitate discussion. However, no organization can have too many book clubs, so don't hesitate to form another one!

Susan Somerville 514-697-9709 [Susansomerville8@sympatico.ca](mailto:Susansomerville8@sympatico.ca)

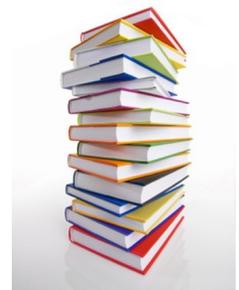
***We have received an invitation from the Pointe-Claire Lawn Bowling Club. L'ARSE members are invited to come to try out this activity and to see the club's facilities. This visit would take place on a Wednesday or a Friday afternoon.***

***If you are interested in participating, please contact me at [janicetessier@hotmail.com](mailto:janicetessier@hotmail.com)***

## Book Club II

Book Club Two met September 6 at Mary Anne Bindner's to discuss "The Weight of Ink", by Rachel Kaddish, a story of women separated by centuries, and the choices and sacrifices they must make in order to reconcile the life of the heart and the mind. It is a rich tapestry of philosophy and history. Our October choice is Trevor Noah's "Born a Crime." If you are a fan of his late night commentary it's a must read to discover how he went from life during apartheid in South Africa to bringing insight and wit to the world. Our November read is "Warlight",

Michael Ondaatje's newest novel set in the decade after WWII. In December we will gather to raise a glass of good cheer and discuss "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones. If you wish to join us contact **Lesley Pasquin at [lesley-pasquin@gmail.com](mailto:lesley-pasquin@gmail.com)**.



6.

## Casual Bridge Group



The L'ARSE Bridge group has met every second Wednesday (all year long) for several years. Mostly we meet at the lovely Pointe-Claire home of Lorraine Pawlusiak who is always a warm and welcoming hostess. We have many members but, with travel and other commitments, we usually have between eight and sixteen players on any given occasion.

We rotate partners every four hands and generally play between twelve and sixteen hands on any given afternoon. We have a wide range of knowledge and experience levels and the fact that we discuss bidding as we go along makes this a good setting to learn and improve. While retired, we are still teachers at heart! This is nice group of folks that has a lot of fun. If you'd like to play bridge, regardless of whether you are experienced or a newbie, we'd love to have you join us!

If you are interested, please contact Pam Greevy

[pgreevy@hotmail.com](mailto:pgreevy@hotmail.com)

## CPAP USERS

Are you a CPAP user? If you have obstructive sleep apnea and would care to share your experiences with CPAP machines etc., we could form an occasional affinity group.

If you are interested, please contact Wayne Clifford - [wmclifford@gmail.com](mailto:wmclifford@gmail.com)



## Canasta

The Canasta group has rapidly turned into the Samba group as most of our players are now choosing to play Samba! Anyone who enjoys playing cards and would like to learn is welcome to join the gang. We generally have around twelve to sixteen players - most of us are retired teachers who welcome the chance to teach the game to a neophyte!

The group meets on Wednesday afternoons, alternating with the Bridge group.

The group is supportive and everyone has a good time. We are always glad to have new members. For more information contact Pam Greevy at [pgreevy@hotmail.com](mailto:pgreevy@hotmail.com)

## Tidbits

Tidbits is the title LarsEncore gives to the personal bio updates which appear in almost every issue. Our membership forms have always had a section for personal news which, we believe, our members are happy to read. Very few were submitted which led us to create the position of Tidbits Editor. That would be me!

For several years I have been seeking out, researching and writing these tidbits. While I am happy to do so, the subjects of the articles will, naturally, be those with whom I am familiar or have been made aware of... somewhat restrictive.

I would like to remind our members that these tidbits were always intended for your access. If you have had interesting experiences in your life which you would be willing to share, we want to read them! If you have news about former colleagues, we want to read them!

You can write them up and submit them to me. You can also contact me and give me the information which I will happily write up and send back for you to edit.

This is your newsletter; your stories are of interest to us all!

Bryden Murray, Tidbits Editor 514-697-1527  
[bryden.murray@sympatico.ca](mailto:bryden.murray@sympatico.ca)

# GOLF REPORT



## Summer Golf

Monday is golf day for L'ARSE. From the beginning of May through the end of October, we organize a game on every Monday which is not a holiday. Sometimes we play 18 holes and sometimes we play 9. Sometimes we find a course where some of us can play 18 and others 9. We try play as many different courses as possible. So far this summer we have played Caughnawaga, Harwood, La Cité, Dorval, Glengarry, Como, Summer Heights and Mystic Pines.

We have one special event every year on the day when summer holidays end and students return to school. As retirees we, of course, don't have to be there and we celebrate that fact by playing golf and having dinner. We call it the "School's Open Open". In this year's version we survived a lightning storm and power outage and we still had a great time! As they say, "A bad day on the golf course is still better than a good day at work!"

We have nearly sixty members on our contact list but on any given day we will usually have anywhere from twelve to thirty players. Our aim is to create opportunity rather expect commitment. Our abilities range greatly and everyone is able to fit in. This is a fun group to play with and we'd be delighted to have you join us!

If you would be interested, please contact Russ Kelly at [russ.547@gmail.com](mailto:russ.547@gmail.com) or Bryden Murray at [bryden.murray@sympatico.ca](mailto:bryden.murray@sympatico.ca)

## Winter (virtual) Golf

Beginning in January, we also have a group which plays indoor (virtual) golf every second Monday. We generally play at a facility in Dorion and usually go to lunch at the Manoir afterward. If this interests you, please contact Mike Kirk at [mcqkirk@bell.net](mailto:mcqkirk@bell.net)

## Wednesday Trivia (starts in the fall)

Trivia Night is a fundraiser for the Mark Bernotas Foundation. This is a monthly event, second Wednesday of the month, held at Le Dome in Kirkland. For those of you who enjoy light hearted trivia, this is the spot for you. Most attendees are educators and many are L'ARSE members.

Come and renew acquaintances with old friends and start new ones! The price is \$10 for entry plus 1 raffle ticket. Raffle with door prizes as well. The event begins around 5 pm. Form a team or join with the vets on site.

**Tania Kinsella**  
[kinsellatd@gmail.com](mailto:kinsellatd@gmail.com)

8.

# Cross-Country Skiing

The ski season will be here before we know it. We hope to get skiers out once a week either to downhill or cross-country ski. Because these two sports are so weather-dependent, our outings will be planned on a day when the conditions permit. We will cross-country ski locally: Bois de Liesse, Cap St. Jacques and Ile Bizard . Downhill trips will be in the Laurentians.

This year there will be three organizers: myself, Jim Kyle and Colin Legault. Please email each of us if you would like to be on our list , and we will email you the time and place a day or two before we ski.

The group is made up of people of all ages and skill levels, so if you love to ski and love the outdoors, please join us.

Mary Anne Bindner, [mabindner2@gmail.com](mailto:mabindner2@gmail.com); Jim Kyle, [james-kyle@hotmail.com](mailto:james-kyle@hotmail.com); Colin Legault, [legaultcj@yahoo.ca](mailto:legaultcj@yahoo.ca).



## TREKKER'S WORLD



### Interested in Travelling?

Please save this date: Monday, October 15, @ 1:30 PM (or earlier if you would like to join Danny and Mickey and others for lunch beforehand, upstairs at Duke and Devine's, 479 Beaconsfield Boulevard, Beaurepaire Village in Beaconsfield.

Bob Morrison will take us on an amazing road trip through Arizona, a trip through time, 50,000 years ago to 250,000,000 years ago in the National Parks of the Arizona Divide including The Red Rock National Park and Sedona, the Petrified Forest National Park, the Painted Desert National Park, the Meteor Crater and Flagstaff. His road trip ends at the Grand Canyon National Park.

and...

Claudia Thierry will share her PowerPoint with commentary and will answer questions about her accessible and fascinating travels in China. Armchair or hands-on traveler, it is sure to be an edifying and stimulating experience for travel aficionados.

If you have enjoyed a trip recently, please consider sharing your experience with the L'ARSE travel group. Contact Daniel Abergel ([abergeld@yahoo.com](mailto:abergeld@yahoo.com)) or Mickey Wernecke ([hbwernecke@aol.com](mailto:hbwernecke@aol.com))



# Cyclopaths

In summer I look at the long-range forecast for Tuesday, from the perspective of someone who plans an outdoor activity that normally runs every Tuesday from April into November to get an idea how far afield our group of cyclists (Cyclopaths) can start from. I have been coordinating this group since 2005 when I took over from Hanns Wernecke who started the group 20 years ago. Sadly, Hanns passed away this summer and his contribution is recognized as the cycling club has been a very successful LARSE activity group ever since it was founded in 1998.

While rainfall levels were at record lows this summer the threat of rain seemed omnipresent often necessitating a notification that the itinerary will be determined closer to the departure time and that I am seeking a 'weather window' on the Tuesday so the time of departure may vary but the departure point is more likely to be a local West Island one. I normally do try to send out plans for the forthcoming Tuesday trip by Sunday to allow sufficient time for planning.

On sunny days with a low rain threat, we sometimes transport our bicycles on racks or inside vehicles and sometimes carpool to accommodate individuals without transport or racks to departure points that permit us to explore numerous off-island trails from the Laurentians to the Eastern Townships and beyond. We have yet to plan one of our favourites leaving from Cornwall, ON (heading to Long Sault this year. This one carries the option of a post-cycling visit to a scenic watering hole.

A couple of highlights so far have been a wonderful trip from a cottage near Le Petite Train du Nord bike path from Val David to north of Ste. Agathe followed by a swim in a Golden Lake followed by a barbecue and beer. Many thanks to Mary Ann Bindner and Carolyn Woolrich for organizing and hosting this enjoyable day. Jim Kyle, using the template that Phil Henry developed, organized the Granby to Waterloo trip that took us through the Yamaska Provincial Park. Other members of our regulars have pitched in over the year to help lead the group which is much appreciated.

The size of our group usually runs in the lower teens this year so we have room for new joiners. Our distances usually range from about 20 to 50 kilometres which may sound intimidating to a neophyte but adjustments are sometimes made whereby shorter distances are covered by some participants. We welcome new retirees with a bicycle in reasonably good condition to join us. For those who really doubt they are able to "keep up with a group" you are reminded that this is not one of those speedy groups rushing by on racing bikes but a group of friendly folks who enjoy the company of people wishing to have a healthy, fun way to help stay fit. I'm enclosing an option for some which may appeal to more of us as we age gracefully.

*"Wayne Clifford asked me if I would comment on e-bikes, and I am happy to! Last year's health problems made it difficult for me to keep up with the club riders, even though the group was more than willing to wait for me for to catch up. The hills seemed higher, the distances longer, and I didn't like constantly holding the others back.*

*For almost a year I didn't even dust off my bike, and I missed many cycling trips with the group. Wayne, however, introduced me to a new merchant who sold electric bikes. I checked it out and was convinced! I can now effortlessly ride twenty kilometers without touching a pedal, or a good seventy kilometers if I pedal regularly. There are few hills, and the wind is always at my back. (At least, that is how it seems.) I am again a regular rider, and I look for excuses to use my bike around town instead of my car. My biggest problem is going slow enough that I don't lose everyone. It is a joy to go on a ride where I know I will not be exhausted, no matter what the conditions.*

*I have watched the development of the e-bikes for several years, but the costs seemed prohibitive. The prices are coming down, and the batteries are improving. The seller in Pointe Claire that I dealt with told me he is selling returns from stores like Costco, and his prices are remarkable. Membership in the group gets you a further discount! The truth is, my health is better, and I could probably get out my old bike and keep up, but I have found that renewed enjoyment in cycling, and I am not about to give up the electric assist. I hope to see you all on the cycle trail."*

The above quote from Bruce Corbett shows how an electrically assisted bike can become the answer for some, there are 2 in our group who use them now and more to come! Should you wish to consider joining us, send an email to [wmclifford@gmail.com](mailto:wmclifford@gmail.com). If you have questions, you can check out pictures from our trips on the LARSE website & perhaps recognize a former colleague or acquaintance, or just call me at 514-697-8802.

—Wayne Clifford

## Sinorama China Trip

Over the years many L'ARSE members have taken tours of China with the Montreal-based Sinorama. They have raved about the accommodations, the organization, the itinerary and the personnel. They have also marvelled at the affordability, "What a great deal!"

This past spring, Janice and Bryden Murray made the trip from March 30 to April 18. Pam and Jack Fraser took the same trip from May 11 through June 1. All four felt that the experience lived up to all expectations! The hotels were amazing, travel arrangements very smooth, the guides personable, knowledgeable and very entertaining! There were many highlights.

Among Pam's and Jack's were the "Impression Liu San Jie" show in Yangzhou with literally thousands of performers in a stunning setting on the Lee river. They also loved Guilin, a lovely city with beautiful parks and friendly people. Pam particularly liked the excursion to the traditional "Water Village" up one of the tributaries of the Yangtze. "Postcard pretty!" Another highlight was their last night when they met friends and had a lovely dinner at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club overlooking Victoria Harbour. Says Jack, "Hard to limit ourselves to just a few memories: climbing the Great Wall, viewing the Terra Cotta Army in Xi-an, seeing the Pandas in Chongqing, the skyline in Shanghai, it was great every day!"

Janice's highlights began the first morning in the park at the Temple of Heaven where hundreds of Beijing seniors gather every morning for a variety of social and physical activities. Walking around Tiananmen Square was Bryden's favourite memory of that day. The spectacular scenery of the Goddess Gorge, a tributary of the Yangtze and the amazing archeological site of the Terra Cotta warriors stuck out for Jan and the unique mountains in the area of Guilin and the city of Shanghai (especially the flower pot walls by the river) struck Bryden. "Our self-guided tour of the original English settlement in Hong Kong followed by a visit with Catherine Wernecke and her husband, Philip Novak, which included a tour of their apartment and dinner out was a wonderful way to finish our China experience!" The tour was everything it had been reported to be. The "great deal"? Well...perhaps too great! Sinorama has since had to suspend operations for financial reasons.

## Crafting Corner

*Well, it certainly has been a hot, humid summer and both Brenda and Claudia took a vacation from their creative activities.*

*Michèle, however, was outside for some fabric printing using those heavy manhole covers on the street (see pictures of yellow and blue fabric). And made some pink star blocks for a group charity project. Also worked hard at upcycling old pure wool coats and blankets to make these two cushion covers depicting Dali and Frida Kahlo for her teacher/daughter's art class. All details of lips, hair, eyebrows and flowers made from wool clothing scraps and some hand embroidery. Now, she is chopping up old jeans and leather jackets for more surprising upcycles. So, new members, if you do ANY type of crafting, creating or even just upcycling, please send us a note or a phone picture c/o Michèle at [fitzgeraldmb@sympatico.ca](mailto:fitzgeraldmb@sympatico.ca)*

## Hanns Wernecke

On June 23, 2018, former Lakeshore School Board and Vanier College teacher and L'ARSE pioneer Hanns Wernecke passed away at the age of 89. He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Ellen "Mickey" Read Wernecke, daughter Catherine Wernecke (Philip Novak) and a host of nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews who are scattered around the world.

Hanns was born in Hamburg Germany, lived in Sweden and immigrated to Canada in 1951. Picking up the new trade of TV repairman, he worked his way through university at Sir George Williams and then earned a teacher certificate on a DuPont scholarship at McGill. His assisting teacher (several years his junior) at Cedar Park Elementary was Mickey Read. Hanns began his teaching career at Vivian Graham Elementary in 1959. He moved on to teach in the demonstration school at Macdonald Elementary and then physics at Mac High. He went on to earn a Masters at McGill and a PhD at the University of Pennsylvania (again on scholarship). His thesis work was on, "Inter provincial Cooperation in Education in Federated countries" which made good use of his fluency in languages.

In 1970 Hanns was one of the founding teachers of Vanier College where he taught Physics and Humanities. He served on the Vanier Board, its Academic Council, and was active in its teachers' union. He also served on the Physics Department's hiring committee.

It was in this capacity that he interviewed Don Hetherington who would go on to become a close colleague and personal friend. They collaborated on a project to build a more student-centered method of teaching a physics course which, a year later, became part of a larger multi-disciplined Modular Science Program. Hanns also pioneered a Humanities Department course called "Science and Society" in which he used numerous audio-visual aids to show students how science shapes the society we live in. Years later, he passed many of these on to Don for use in his Astronomy course, an act which Don describes as, "Typical of Hanns, quietly innovating and sharing his ideas with others...In this way he was a leader of one of the Physics Department's best aspects: the training and integration of new teachers...He retired many years ago...but his influence is still there in the traditions of innovation, sharing and respect for students that are part of the college's culture."

Don also recalls Hanns' generosity in his personal life. Don and his wife were newcomers to Montreal. "It wasn't long before Hanns began talking about his beloved cottage;" (which Hanns built with his own hands) "and when summer came, we were invited to join him and Mickey at their refuge on "Snake Lake". Thus began many years of swimming, boating, hiking, skiing and games."

Close family friend and L'ARSE member, Judy Steiner remembers a very gentle man who would take his daughter, Catherine, to the Vanier daycare center and have lunch with her every day. "He could fix anything and efforts were efficacious and original. The originality sometimes meant that no one else could understand how to make the things work!" Judy also recalls Hanns' battles with the beavers and their dams at the lake, one of them lasting a full summer. Judy also was a member of the Fairview walking group which Mickey and Hanns, with his speedy rollator at hand, participated in during the last several years. Here he took great pleasure in daily walks, coffee, and solving the problems of the world.

In 1998, Hanns started the L'ARSE Cyclopaths cycling group which still functions today. He was a fixture at our meetings, lunches, breakfasts and activities. We will miss him greatly. We send our profound condolences to Mickey, Catherine and extended family.

12.

# L'ARSE MEMBERSHIP FORM

## Regular Member

L'ARSE (L'Association of Retired School Employees) is open to any retiree from any educational institution and the spouse/partner of the retiree.

Name of Retiree \_\_\_\_\_ Retired from \_\_\_\_\_  
(location)

If you wish to include your spouse/partner in your membership,  
please enter their name/e-mail address here:

Spouse/Partner name: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Associate Member

Subject to available space, L'ARSE is also open to people who wish to participate in a L'ARSE-sponsored activity\*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a **cheque for \$10 per person, payable to L'ARSE** (one-year membership) to:

Lois Maeder-Alves, 63 Devon Road, Baie d'Urfé, QC H9X 2W7

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The **LarsEncore newsletter**, issued 3 times a year, outlines the many and diverse activities available through our Association. It also highlights the activities of individual members. Articles highlighting members' travels, other activities or items of interest are most welcome!

The newsletter will be sent electronically, unless you prefer a copy by mail.

I wish to receive my copy of LarsEncore via Canada Post: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Your personal contact information will be held in confidence by the Membership Chair, and shared only with L'ARSE activity leaders and executive members, as required. If you wish your contact information to be held ONLY by the Membership Chair, please check this box.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

