

## President's Column



With the closure of the Club, the weekly bulletins, which are expertly drafted by Naomi Hunter (Membership Services), have become a vital lifeline to keep us connected. Naomi welcomes articles from all

Club members. The deadline is 4:00 p.m. on the Monday of the week in question, as the bulletins are emailed on Wednesdays. Writing regularly for the bulletin has distracted me from the President's Column in the *LAMPSletter*, so I am attempting to rectify that today.

It has been strange to have completed one year of my Presidency and not to have chaired the Annual Meeting in the Great Hall. The Annual Meeting is one event to which I look forward every year and so I was especially disappointed to miss it this year. At a recent Finance Committee meeting the idea of a celebratory Zoom call came up, and **Carol Anderson** brilliantly invented the catchy title, **The Cleveve Horne** Cocktail Hour. Carol also masterminded the format with the breakout rooms at the beginning and end, and she found the recording of **Healey Willan's** setting of the Constitution, which had been performed in Walter Hall by Giles Tompkins, Colin Ainsworth, Lauren Segal and Monica Whicher at an Aldeburgh Connection Concert. For our Zoom party, Cornelia and Fiona were in the office and Cornelia managed the tech side. It all went better than imagined and we plan to give members a similar opportunity to connect with one another socially every two weeks or so. All the more reason to become Zoom-Literate! I urge you to try Zoom if you have not already. Club Nights and Lit Tuesdays have been successful Zoom events, and almost all Club meetings are now on Zoom. Cornelia too is looking into ways to give more variety of connection via the breakout rooms. Staff will be setting up opportunities for members to become familiar with Zoom. Check the weekly bulletins for more information about coaching sessions with Cornelia.

### Invest in Your Club!

To keep the Club financially secure and to provide a smooth runway until things are back to normal, we are inviting members to purchase Club debentures.

The investment can be modest, with a suggested minimum of \$1,000, and will pay an interest rate competitive with GICs.

More information will be available shortly – please watch for it, and think about whether you might be able to participate.



"No, I said that I'm interested in debentures."

*President's Column continued:*

I truly regretted not to be able to hand out the President's Service Awards in person to **Elizabeth Greville, Diana Hore, Damon Lum** and **Margaret Spence**. Those of you who attended the celebration for **Ann** and **Ezra Schabas** on October 6, 2019, will remember that they received President's Service Awards on that day. Thanks to each of the recipients for their many contributions to the Arts & Letters Club. You may read about the six recipients in this *LAMP*Letter.

The reports from the Chairs of the Committees, Curatorial Circle, Property Committee, Library and Archives will soon be posted on the Club website along with other important information that would have been available at the Annual Meeting. Unfortunately, we also missed an exciting moment, the unveiling of the Executive List, this year designed by artist and long-time member **Doug Purdon**. However, you can see a photograph of the Executive List right here in this newsletter – many thanks, Doug!

Covid-19 has taken us into a strange dichotomy of living. We are persevering with the monotony of what is known and familiar, while at the same time manoeuvring through a situation that is strange, unknown, and unpredictable. How we long for human contact, and experiences beyond the day to day, when something unexpected might occur! Our trips to the Arts & Letters Club brought both comfort and surprise; comfort to be in a familiar and welcoming surrounding with people we know, and surprise to learn or experience something new or to meet someone new. For many of us the absence of excursions to the Club is painful. Everyone is looking forward to resuming life as it was. How long will it take? That's the million-dollar question! We shall do our best to keep you updated as we respond to the ever-developing news.

Members are no doubt giving thought to the financial position of the Club in the current climate. The Finance Committee and the Board have spent long hours assessing the financial situation, and as a result the Board has unanimously agreed to invite members to participate in a debenture program to assist the Club through the Covid-19 crisis. You will be reading more about this soon.

We shall continue to be as creative as possible in our online activities and we welcome your input – no idea is too silly – you never know how it might evolve into something great. In the meantime, please send in your stories to the weekly bulletin or post them on the Club's Facebook page. (Contact **Michelle Hogan-Walker** about the Facebook page.)

I would like to close with a quotation from the book *This is a Dream!* by my friend and teacher Carole Ione. "Remember – the work of art is first dreamed – and so the art of our lives depends on our dreaming."

**Penelope Cookson**, President



2019–2020 Executive List by **Douglas Purdon**

## Election of Directors and Officers

Members unanimously approved the 2020–2021 Board of Directors.

### Directors and Officers

President: **Penelope Cookson**  
Vice-President: **Elizabeth Greville**  
Vice-President: **Michelle Hogan-Walker**  
Treasurer: **Carol Anderson**  
Secretary: **Catherine (Kitty) Gibney**

### Directors at Large:

**Christine Ader**  
**Scott Burk**  
**Paul Duder**  
**Janet Hendershot**  
**Peter Levitt**  
**Barbara Luedecke**  
**Kenneth Lund**  
**Mimi Marrocco**  
**Don McLeod**  
**Doug Purdon**  
**Josh Welsh**

We would like to thank the following outgoing Board members for their contributions and service: **Peter Alberti, Judy Raymer-Ivkoff, Damon Lum, Elaine Stirling** and **Carol Vine**.

## President's Service Awards 2019-2020

These awards recognize individuals who have consistently volunteered their time, energy and commitment to support and improve Club life and have made their contributions in an exemplary and distinguished fashion.



**Elizabeth Greville** joined the Club in 2015 and that same year served on the Hospitality Committee (originally part of the House Committee). She also soon became involved in the work of the Music Committee, of which she remains an invaluable member. As a career lawyer, Elizabeth immediately took up the role

of Counsel to the Board in the final year that this position existed, and she has since greatly assisted the Club with her legal expertise. Elizabeth was first elected to the Board for a two-year term in 2017, during the presidency of **David Phillips**, stepping, in the second year of David's term, into the role of Vice-President, a position she will maintain for a third year, until June 2021.



To describe **Diana Hore's** contributions to the life of the Club focusing only on her conspicuous role as designer of costumes for the annual Spring Revue and Club theatricals would be to do her a disservice. Without the faithful presence of "Di" there would have been far less colour and fantasy! As witnessed in the 2018 LAMPWeek tribute to the

inspired creations of Di Hore, Margaret Spence, and **Dora Rust-D'Eye**, without them, more than a few Club members would have appeared on our stage "Naked and Afraid!" Diana joined the Club as one of the dauntless group of Charter Women in 1985. Coming from a career in the CBC Wardrobe Department, she gained great artistic satisfaction in realizing her own designs on the Club stage, from royal robes to the fateful (and fatal!) bear from Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*. Likewise, the Jester, the Beefeater, the Knight Templar and Lady Winter, Candlebearers and the Marshall, who take the floor in the annual Boat's Head Procession are Di's creations. She also introduced to the Club her husband, **John Hore**, who recently passed away. (See page 6.)



**Damon Lum** can only be described as a "multi-threat"! In his time with the Club, as in the outside world, Damon is an actor, dancer, host, producer and improviser. When not featured in front of the footlights, Damon is most likely to be found in the wings making production magic look easy, or somewhere in the darkened hall recording the event for our Club Archives.

Damon joined the Club back in 2011. Originally, he shared the hosting duties for the Ad Lib Friday improv, stand-up

and sketch comedy series, "JOTO – Jammin' On The One" with **Stevie Jay**, but for the past few years he has been the sole producer and host each month. This on top of his regular responsibilities as host and co-ordinator of all the Ad Lib programming every Friday for ten months every year since the fall of 2016. In addition, Damon has just completed a two-year term on the Board.



**Ann Schabas** could be described as a "vintage" member of the Club, having joined more than 26 years ago, in 1993. However, as daughter of painter **Barker Fairley**, Ann has been around the Club for most of her life. She has taken on many significant roles in the life of the Club, including bringing her professional credentials as the former Dean of U of

T's Faculty of Library Science to bear on the Club's Library collection. She served also as Chair of the vitally important Activities Committee, keeping the Club humming, and she was Secretary to the Board in 1995–96. For our Centenary year in 2008, Ann was a vital member of the "Club History Project," which culminated in the publication of *The Great Adventure: 100 Years at the Arts & Letters Club* by **Margaret McBurney**, Editor Ann Schabas. In the preface Margaret McBurney acknowledges Ann's invaluable contribution to the finished book: "I could not have asked for a finer collaborator."



**Ezra Schabas** joined the Club in 1990.

Among his many accomplishments, Ezra, a clarinetist, was Director of Concerts and later Principal of the Royal Conservatory of Music, and Chair of Opera and Performance at the Faculty of Music, U of T. He has several books to his credit, many introduced at the Club.

Almost immediately after joining, Ezra became chair of the Music Committee. Later, from 1996 to 1998, he served as Club President.



**Margaret Spence** joined the Club – and Diana Hore in the Club's wardrobe – in 1994. Margaret brought her considerable experience and sewing abilities already honed from many years as the Head of Wardrobe at the Alumnae Theatre. Her gifted design work and her skill at reviving and re-envisioning costumes

from the Club's stock helped lift some of the load from Di, and a great collaboration ensued. Period costumes are her forte, as displayed in the memorable costumes for productions such as Sheridan's *The Rivals*, directed by Herbert Whittaker, and Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Margaret also served as the Club Librarian for more than ten years (succeeded by **William Denton**).

## Neighbourhood Developments

At the June 6, 2019, Annual Meeting of the Arts & Letters Club, Past President **David Phillips** reported that the Club had concluded a settlement agreement with the owners of the 8 Elm Street property regarding the proposed development of that site.

As a result of the settlement, the Board of Directors agreed to discontinue the Club's opposition to the proposed development provided it conformed to a revised proposal. The revised proposal had been negotiated through a confidential mediation process convened by the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal ("LPAT").

Under the settlement agreement, the Club will receive a financial payment from 8 Elm once the development has been approved and the transaction closes. Before these steps are completed, 8 Elm requires the City to agree to an amendment to the applicable Zoning By-Law. This is a long, slow process which unfortunately has not yet concluded.

The problem for the Club is that an LPAT mediation is a confidential proceeding. Until the amendment has been approved, LPAT will not issue its final order approving the development – and a breach of confidentiality can lead to financial penalties being levied against the breaching party. The proceeding formally concludes only when the final order is issued. Until then, the Club remains bound by the confidentiality rules.

The Board appreciates that the slowness of the process is frustrating for all, but breaching the rules is not an option. However, we can confirm that the City has given formal approval to the term of the settlement agreement that prohibits 8 Elm from erecting a structure above the Club. This "air space" effectively becomes a "no build zone."

**Elizabeth Greville**, Vice-President



*Spent Dandelion – Gone to Seed*

*This photo of a dandelion past its prime was done in my backyard with a macro adaptor on a standard Fuji zoom lens (I need to add weeding to my lockdown activities!). It looks surprisingly like the graphics of the corona virus! Photo by **Judith Davidson-Palmer***



## New President for The Arts and Letters Club Foundation

At the May 2020 Annual Meeting of The Arts and Letters Club Foundation (ALF), **Marianne Fedunki**w was elected President, succeeding founding ALF

president **Richard Moorhouse**. A writer and playwright, journalist and university instructor, Fedunki served as an ALF director from 2018 to 2020 as well as President of the Arts & Letters Club. **Bill Buchanan** was elected to stay on as Treasurer. Also continuing are directors Catherine Hurley, Richard Mortimer and **Alexander Zonjic**.

The ALF Board gratefully acknowledges the vision, leadership and commitment of Richard Moorhouse. Richard championed the establishment of the Foundation while President of the Arts & Letters Club of Toronto. As the Foundation's first president, he was instrumental in shaping the Foundation and set it on a course whereby since 2014, it has given more than \$58,000 in scholarships and awards to Canadian visual artists, writers, photographers, musicians and playwrights. Our partners have included the Playwrights Guild of Canada, the Regent Park School of Music, the Royal Conservatory of Music, Ryerson University and the Alice Munro Festival of the Short Story. Joint fundraising initiatives have been held with the Arts & Letters Club of Toronto and the Women's Art Association of Canada. To date, more than \$100,000 has been raised in support of the work of the Foundation. Richard also oversaw the broadening of the Foundation's mandate from supporting artists under 30 years of age in the Greater Toronto Area to supporting artists of all ages from all across Canada.

The Board also thanks outgoing Board member **Derek Hayes**, whose legal acumen and support for the arts added greatly to the Foundation.

The ALF looks forward to continuing its work in supporting artists, and building upon existing partnerships and relationships with current and potential donors. As well, many thanks to Club members for their ongoing support and donations towards the work of the Foundation.

The Foundation event celebrating donors and partners that was originally scheduled for March 15, 2020, had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. We hope to reschedule this event in 2021 when it is once again safe to gather together to celebrate.

[www.artsandlettersfoundation.ca](http://www.artsandlettersfoundation.ca)

## Group of Seven at the Club: archival glimpses 2

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Group of Seven's first exhibition in May 1920, the Club Archives has searched the records for evidence of the ways in which the Group members in turn contributed to the life of the Club.

**J.E.H. MacDonald** without question left the most extensive mark. The master illustrator:

- designed the Club's crest, first used on letterhead in 1910. The Viking ship under full sail represented, he said, the arts as life's great adventure. The image is ubiquitous.
- he was also responsible for nine of the first thirteen Executive Lists, setting a standard for a remarkable and unique series which continues today.
- in 1918 he created the list of members who served in WWII, which hangs by the fireplace in the Library; and,
- in 1920 he created the Coats of Arms in the Great Hall which are puns on the names of the members of the Executive the year we took possession of 14 Elm Street.

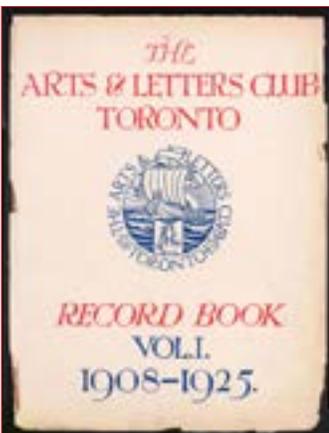
As an artist, he was accorded four one-man shows: 1911, 1914, 1925 and 1928.

As an administrator, he served on the Executive ten times between 1915 and 1931, including four years as Vice-President and two as President.

Of special interest to us in the archives, he was the Club's first officially appointed Archivist, assiduously gathering the records of the activities and members. He created the Scrapbook, which was the first repository of the Club's documentary history, and which continues today. His careful acquisitions included the casual drawings made in great numbers by his friend **Arthur Lismer**, now a much-used collection of 194 caricatures of Club life, a digital catalogue of which can be found on the Club website. His pride in this role is evidenced by a poignant letter he sent to the Executive when he became ill and **Scott Carter** was named his replacement, asking to be returned to office upon his recovery. Sadly, he died in 1932 without recovering.

The next "Glimpse" will feature Arthur Lismer.

**Scott James**, Club Archivist



*Title page by J.E.H. MacDonald, Scrapbook Volume 1. 2.*



*J.E.H. MacDonald, January 25, 1913, photographed in the Club by M.O. Hammond. Behind him we can see a Windsor chair, several of which remain in the Club.*



## MEMORIAL LIST

(Annual Meeting, June 6, 2019 to Annual Meeting, June 4, 2020)

**James ("Judge") Felstiner**

**George Fierheller**

**Moya Gillett** (Charter Woman)

**John Hore**

**George Iantorno**

**Joanne Lucas Warren**

**Stuart Marwick**

**Barbara Mercer**

**John ("J.J.") Morris**

**Katherine Morrison**

**Gladys Smith**

**Arthur Turner**

## Getting Together with Friends in the “New Now”

If one had to choose somewhere to be in a lockdown, Palma de Mallorca was not a bad option. My husband and I are quite lucky. We had been caught by the lockdown in March, during what we thought was a brief visit here, to where our family has had a place for a few years.



However, instead of a few weeks, we are currently on our fourth month and ninth booking (eight having been cancelled) with the airline to bring us back to Toronto.

Yes, the first two months were quite strict and we were not allowed to be outside at all, unless to purchase essential items. Most people were compliant, although the frequent sighting of the police and army may have helped with that. This did flatten that pesky “curve” everyone became familiar with, and Mallorca became one of the more successful statistics in this part of Europe.

So, ahead of the rest of Spain, Mallorca and its neighbouring islands were cautiously promoted to the recovery phases. This first stage included the permission to walk, albeit socially-distanced, as I hear has been allowed in Toronto from the beginning. In Palma, when we opened our door the first day, we could see a steady stream of people, chattering excitedly, spread out but all heading down to the waterfront, as though the sea were calling.

The second stage allowed cafés and restaurants to open, along with most of the stores. Strict protocols were enforced, with masks required and bottles of sanitizer available at the door for customers. Only the salesperson was allowed to touch the merchandise unless the customer wished to try on clothes, but these were later individually disinfected.

One of the burgeoning businesses provided creative masks for those who wished to show individuality. I succumbed, but have since transitioned to a face shield because it makes breathing effortless and facial expressions so much easier to read.

The first time we ventured to meet friends on a café terrace, it was uplifting, heart-warming and scary all at the same time – almost like that first plunge into the cold waters of a lake at the summer cottage.

The initial impressions were surreal. All the staff wore masks and gloves, as though preparing for a medical procedure. Customers were told to wait between seatings to give the waiter an opportunity to flick a cloth over the surface of the table. Friends were greeted with elbow bumps and laughter instead of the usual two-cheek kisses favoured by Europeans. Once we were seated, our masks and face shields were removed, although distance was maintained. Some people ordered alcoholic drinks, using the excuse of their inherent antiseptic properties, and a few brought their own straws from home. Very little touching occurred, of tables, of friends, of any cups and glasses provided. I noticed my friends being careful.

For a while, anyway.

## John Hore (1929–2020)



I was saddened, as many Club members will have been, to hear of the passing of John Hore, who died on May 6, leaving our beloved **Di**, three children, and nine much-loved grandchildren.

John was an alumnus of King’s College, Cambridge, and of the CFA Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia. A Chartered Financial Analyst by profession, he worked at various times for Rio Tinto, Dominion Securities, Bell Gouinlock, Kitkat and Aiken (London), and the Canadian Securities Institute. He was also a member of the University Club and the Royal Overseas League, and a Past President of the St. George’s Society. He contributed numerous articles of historical interest to the Society’s newsletter concerning such varied subjects as the history of The City (London), the history of Niagara, and LaRocheffoucauld’s (not the famous writer of maxims but a descendant) account of living as a foreigner in England in the 1780s. He joined the Arts & Letters Club at the end of 1992, and served as the Club’s Treasurer from 2001 to 2004.

Now all this is rather cold and formulaic, as if composed, like a funeral eulogy, by someone who didn’t actually know the deceased at all. And I admit that John and I were not intimate friends. I write this because of one special and particular thing I shall always remember, and that is John’s kindness to me from the first day of our acquaintance. When I joined the Club twenty years ago – hardly a cowering youth, but a reasonably confident adult – I was uncertain whether I belonged here. I was surrounded by talent and distinction, unsure of whether I had anything to contribute. And on some early occasion – probably having to do with a Spring Revue for which **Di** was making her wonderful costumes, I met John. We probably weren’t even introduced, and neither of us can previously have known of the other’s existence. But from that instant John always spoke to me as if we’d been friends for years. It was invariably a positive pleasure to see him, for however brief a moment; he became one of my many reasons for loving the Club. His other talents and contributions apart, the Club will be poorer for the passing of this calmly, cheerfully kind gentleman.

**Thomas Gough**

Now, three weeks into this phase, everyone is more relaxed. Most of us still maintain our distance, and we still wear masks in stores and any crowded situation. But we are with our friends and, together, we are slowly accepting that this is the new “normal.”

I hope soon my husband and I will get a flight home to Toronto and finally be able to enjoy the same social interaction with my friends at the Arts & Letters Club.

**Anya Rudzicz Orzechowska**

## Ann Cooper Gay, Our New Sir Ernest MacMillan Honorary Member for Music



The Arts & Letters Club is delighted to introduce **Ann Cooper Gay** as our **Sir Ernest MacMillan** Honorary Member for Music for our 2020–2021 season!

Ann has been an influential presence in the Toronto vocal and operatic community for four decades. From Texas, where she spent many years training in piano, organ and flute, and where she began vocal studies, Ann

went on to pursue further musical training in Canada, the United States, Austria, and Germany, focusing on keyboard performance as a pianist and organist. Subsequently, well into her postgraduate years, Ann shifted her focus to voice, obtaining a scholarship to study voice at the U of T, a decision that was to determine the rest of her career.

After graduation, Ann sang with the Canadian Opera Company, and with several U.S. opera companies, and worked as an accompanist and vocal instructor. She and her late husband, Errol Gay, returned to Toronto to stay in 1982. Together, they immediately began to work energetically on numerous musical enterprises. Ann herself became heavily involved in choral music, specifically children's choral music, where she has left her greatest legacy.

Ann founded the High Park Choirs in 1986 and the Children's Choir of the Royal Conservatory of Music in 1987. She conducted both the U of T Women's Chorus and the Youth Orchestra of Toronto. In 2000 she became the director of the Canadian Children's Opera Company.

From 2000 to 2015 Ann elevated the standards of the CCOC, drawing praise from Canadian Opera Company music director Johannes Debus, COC chorus master Sandra Horst, and U of T opera's resident stage director **Michael Albano**. In addition, Ann has been instrumental in commissioning several well-received children's operas, premiered by the CCOC, and has mounted and managed countless other CCOC musical events. Her passion and boundless energy, her musical knowledge and her experience have been coupled with a gift for inspiring and maintaining a deep devotion to music in the young people she has had the opportunity to educate through the CCOC.

Ann's commitment to our community most recently led her to organize and perform in a benefit concert in June 2019, to raise money for focused ALS ultrasound research at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. This concert, "Let's Make a Fuss," featuring members of the TSO, COC, CCOC, and others, raised over \$10,000!

Impresario, benefactor, educator, consummate musician – we are proud to welcome Ann to our Club!

**Denis Kulesha**

## Moya O'Leary Gillett (1950–2020)



Moya was an original. A big-hearted, beautiful, and proud Newfoundlander whose fisherman's saltbox summer home in the tiny community of Brigus South, just south of St. John's, hosted many Club members over the years. Our girl could throw together a gourmet dinner for unexpected guests, who always knew they were assured of a

warm and hospitable welcome. With her death, Toronto has lost one of the great characters of the Arts business and the Arts & Letters Club one of its Charter Women members. Moya studied art restoration at the Courtauld Institute and on her return to Canada in 1985, she not only joined the Club but also established her fine art restoration business. I worked part-time for Moya for a couple of years as her "able-bodied, trusted assistant," as she would wryly introduce me to clients, and what a wonderful experience! My introduction to the business was herself in front of a gloomy little oil painting: "Saliva and a cotton swab," said our "scrubber" (as she humbly referred to herself) gently working on a corner of the canvas. This enzymatic cleaning test – no food or drink for 30 minutes before – reveals the artist's original colour palette under the accumulated grime acquired from natural aging – and yes, back in those days, cigarette smoke!

I met Moya when I joined the Club in 1995 and became part of the Third Floor Studio painters, a lively, wonderful group of men and women known for their innovative critiques of each other's work. The encouraging "It's a good start," or "Working on your values?" would always set off finely honed verbal darts of which Moya, with her Newfoundlander pithy sense of humour, was a mistress. Moya loved printmaking, and I was always grateful for her enthusiastic interest in the medium. As we etched our plates, we would enjoy deep conversations pertaining to aesthetics and life ... what a great woman! I loved her unabashed love of life; she never hid that fact!

Those of us at the Club who knew the caring, generous, big-hearted and beautiful Moya Gillett from our studio sessions remember fondly our many fun-filled plein-air painting weekends to Ontario's lakes and forests, the crazy bun-tossing, jester-antic Boar's Head dinners, and the memorable Newfoundland painting get-togethers ... such treasured, laughter-filled memories!

God Bless you, Moya.

**Virginia Trieloff**

## We Asked the Staff "What Have You Been Up To?"

/// Craig (bartender)

I recently filmed a monologue for an online competition. It's from my favourite TV series, *Rectify*. Here's the link if you want to check it out <https://vimeo.com/421928473>.

/// Jelena (server) – six collages



/// Kevin (bartender/server)

Personally, I play the piano, a lot. Recently, I've composed a piece, which is on Youtube: [https://youtu.be/N0mo5Kr-\\_Co](https://youtu.be/N0mo5Kr-_Co). Also, I tutor math and science. If you know anybody who might need some help, please let me know. :-D

/// Steven (bartender)

During the quarantine, I have been spending time working on some of my hobbies – playing guitar, doing some watercolour painting, baking sourdough bread, doing some bird watching in High Park and setting up a little garden on my balcony. Overall, things have been fine but I am excited to get back to the Club soon!



/// Stacy (server)

This is certainly an interesting time out. A parent might use a time out to encourage someone to contemplate their ways, and ponder their future behaviour. This un-structured time has encouraged me to connect with people I care about, learn some new operational tricks, and indulge in some thought games with a goal of appreciating my life more. (I should mention completion of some housekeeping chores I have avoided for a while.) I learned to hope that our society

will have learned some lessons and make some necessary improvements. There was a point in my life when I hoped to live in "interesting times." Our current situation is not what I imagined, and if it ever was, I apologize to all. There is always tomorrow.

/// Megan (Sous Chef)

- I have NOT watched tiger king yet! 🐅
- turned 42 the second week of isolation
- movie recommendation  
🎬 THE ART OF SELF DEFENSE 🏋️ ⚖️
- book recommendation  
📖 BECOMING BULLETPROOF 💪
- Mid April I decided to give veganism a try and loving it so far! 🐱
- Been doing a variety of exercise classes via ZOOM 4–5x's a week
- working on my hand stand 🤸
- My niece is 19 months, she's walking, talking, knows her numbers almost to 40 and is starting to learn sign language 🗣️

### ⚠️ WORD OF CAUTION ⚠️

It's very important to consult a health care professional if you choose to change to a vegan diet. I consulted with my naturopath at the beginning. Iron, vitamin B12 and taking a protein powder are important to avoid becoming deficient, 💪 plus having a well-balanced diet.

/// Matt (Front of House Manager)

The other day I decided to stick the watercolour art I've done since March up above my desk, and seeing it all together made me feel better about my productivity! It's been hard to stay motivated to do much of anything, but it feels good to see my work together. For a closer view of the work, I've posted most of it to my Instagram page @matthewtribe, or check out my website [www.matthewtribe.com](http://www.matthewtribe.com) for older stuff!



# The A&L Challenge

The challenge was to suggest a skeptical human reaction to the creation of a specific creature, and the Almighty's response. A few entries stopped short of a response, but were amusing enough to slip through. The winner is **David Stones**.

"Lord, is it true that you've granted cats the secret to the inner meaning of life itself?" "No, but I've given them the smug appearance of having access to it." (**David Stones**)

"Lord, dogs are great, but who's going to clean up all that poop?" "Why do you think I created humankind?" (**David Stones**)

"Lord, tigers' tails are far too long. Isn't that a design flaw?" "Yes, my child, but I don't mess with tigers. I'm omnipotent but I'm not foolhardy." (**Ed Hill**)

"Lord, I know you wanted a pair of every species for the ark, but are you sure about the rabbits?" "Right. Bring me three rabbits instead of two – a male, a female and a chaperone." (**Michael Albano**)

"If you insist on all those finches having different beaks, that's going to cause you a lot of trouble." (**Sandy Leggatt**)

"Lord, the kids want to adopt a giraffe as a house pet." "So? You've got a chimney already. Just make another hole in the roof." (**Bill Aide**)

"Dear Lord, next time round please make squirrels edible. Not only are they an abundant and accessible source of protein, but for those gourmet nights in they are available pre-stuffed with several varieties of exotic tulip." (**Carol Anderson**)

"Lord, I must say those sloths you created are the laziest creatures imaginable." "Well why do you think I called them sloths?" (**David Stones**)

"Lord, tell me, why create anything as odd-looking as an orangutan?" "I needed a word that no human would ever spell correctly." (**David Stones**)

"You say that's a mongoose. What do you say if there are two of them?" (**Sandy Leggatt**)

"Lord, I am a poor farmer, with only two hands, and my cow has four teats. You see the problem. You did such a good job with goats." "I understand – but as the saying goes: double the number, double the profit. And cows had a very strong lobby." (**John Rammell**)

"Lord, these fig leaves are insufficient." "Okay, try catalpa, ostrich fern, Hawaiian palm, whatever ... use your imagination!" (**Bill Aide**)

"That looks like a horse, but what's with the striped pyjamas?" (**Sandy Leggatt**)

The next challenge (16): I hadn't planned to continue with

a religious theme, but I couldn't resist this one, inspired by a note from Bill Aide. The King James Version of the Bible is justly famous, but suppose someone else had been in charge of that biblical translation. Rename the overseer and suggest the result. E.g. The King Jake version (Ten Commandments): "Hey, man, do whatever you want, you know, like?" Or: The P.D. James version: "In the beginning was the Word. And a loud Scream. But whose?"

The prize is a choice between *The Full Mountie* and *Gulliver's Day Trip*, compilations of entries to the *Globe and Mail's* erstwhile Challenge column.

Send your entries to [wsclements@gmail.com](mailto:wsclements@gmail.com) (please note the two c's in the name), and make sure to include the word "Challenge" in the subject line. The deadline is Sunday, August 9, at 8:00 p.m.

**Warren Clements**



Close-up of a Murano Venetian glass abstract sculpture, photo by **Jack Gilbert**

## Williamson and Denton Investigate Theatre Science: Update!

*What is Theatre Science?*

*Theatre Science uses drama and theatre techniques to explore topics in library science. Its goal is to remove barriers of performance so that everyone (not just trained actors) can benefit from the experience and pedagogy of live theatre.*

The beta test and Experiment One for Theatre Science ran in the Great Hall on February 20 and 27. We were very pleased with both performances and want to thank everyone who attended and especially those who performed. In the beta test this was **Lucy Brennan, Thomas Gough, Michelle Hogan-Walker, Irene Katzela, Lorna Kelly, Damon Lum, Rob Prince** and **John Rammell**, and in Experiment One **Marianne Fedunkiw, Thomas Gough, Sally Holton, Mark Osbaldeston, Peter Russell**, Patti Ryan, **Vipin Sehgal** and Steve Vieira. Mark and his husband, Steve, did exactly what we hoped when, after watching the beta, they each said, “I could do that!” and signed up to perform the next week.



*Marianne Fedunkiw  
conducting 4.33  
during Theatre Science:  
Experiment One.*

We learned a great deal over the course of our work. The first was that “no rehearsals” for the cast did not mean no rehearsals for us. We spent hours and hours together in “lab tests” in January developing the performance score. Another rehearsal revelation came between the beta test and Experiment One, when we realized that, even though we didn’t want our cast to rehearse, we did need to give them time to look over the score. Our new motto is “no rehearsals but no surprises.” Finally, the most valuable conclusion we drew from our work was that we have a smart, creative and supportive community willing to help us with this project by participating in our simulations, peer reviews and clinical trials leading up to the performances in the Great Hall. And for this we are very grateful.

We were invited to present our findings at two events in the months following our February performances, but of course both needed to be adapted in response to the pandemic. On April 23 we presented our findings to the York University

librarians and archivists as part of the Bite-Sized Research series on research awareness. We called it “Bite-Sized Theatre Science,” and using Zoom we created a 25-minute talk that included photographs, recordings and readings from *Theatre Science* along with an explanation of our methods and findings. (York University Libraries funded the audience scores with a research grant, and we thank the Research and Awards Committee for supporting our work.) Our presentation and workshop scheduled for May 23 at the Canadian Association for Theatre Research’s meeting in Montreal has also taken on a new form. The conference will now be online at the end of July and we are devising a 30-minute immersive audio experience as our contribution. Please go to [theatrescience.org](http://theatrescience.org) for photos, the score and (after July 3) the immersive audio experience.

**Ashley Williamson and William Denton**



*Taped Floor during Theatre Science: Experiment One.*

## Members’ News

**William Denton** was quoted in an April 18, 2020, *Toronto Star* article on how city soundscapes have changed under lockdown: “Listen up: In these disquieting COVID-19 times, hushed cities are making a loud impression on our ears.” <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/04/18/in-these-disquieting-covid-19-time-hushed-cities-are-making-a-loud-impression-on-our-ears.html>

**Alan Somerset** is pleased to announce the publication of his website “Performers without Patrons,” a research website for people interested in British drama before 1642. There are over 3,700 records of performers on tour in England outside London, for whom no patron was recorded, and this site presents this rich variety of activities – from camel-keepers through lion-tamers, actors, acrobats – you name it! The URL is: <https://playerswithoutpatrons.ca> – Enjoy!

## Visual Art News

In the current situation, we are announcing short-term approaches, but doing contingency planning for the foreseeable future.

### Current on-line exhibition

The exhibition of members' work in the Gallery on the Club website continues until Friday, August 14, 2020.

### Calls for Entry

Saturday, August 15, to Wednesday, September 30, 2020, on the theme of Garden Envy – a virtual exhibition in the Gallery on the Club website.

- Intake: Friday, August 7 and Saturday, August 8 via email to *both* [felicity.somerset@rogers.com](mailto:felicity.somerset@rogers.com) and [mark@huebner.com](mailto:mark@huebner.com)
- Open to all media.
- Members may submit one piece. Late entries will not be accepted.

### Important: Submissions and Preparing Work for Display on the Website

- Please submit a good quality photograph of your work, which must be unframed.
- You may interpret the “garden” theme in any way that makes sense to you. This exhibition will not be juried.
- Please provide the following information to accompany your submission: title, medium, size, price (or NFS) and your website or email address.
- The Club will process any sales with the usual 20% commission.

### Summer Presentation via Zoom

Monday, August 24, 7:00 p.m. **Felicity Somerset**, “The Artist in the Garden.” Please register. Felicity will explore the intersection between art and the garden through the seasons, using slides of her garden.

### Plein Air Painting

The *Plein Air* artists in the Club, ably led by **Laurie de Camillis**, are continuing to find opportunities to work outside this summer while observing social distance rules. We look forward to seeing the results of their *plein air* outings. Some of them will certainly be appropriate for the *Garden Envy* exhibition opening on line in the Club in August. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Laurie de Camillis for information about upcoming outings at [lauriedecamillis@rogers.com](mailto:lauriedecamillis@rogers.com).

## WHAT'S ON IN JULY–AUGUST

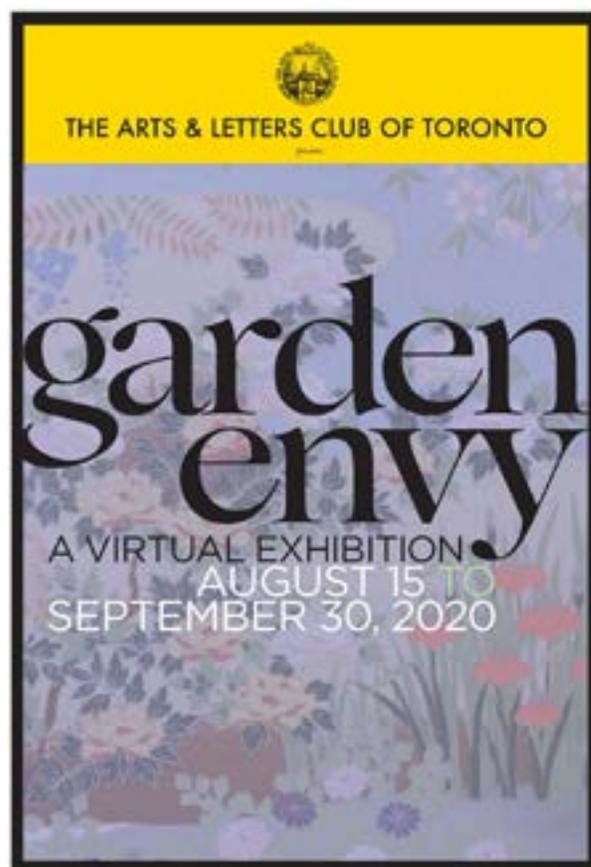
### HotShots Photography Group

The HotShots challenge for June was “CLOSE-UPS.” Seventeen photos were submitted and the photo chosen by the participants was a stunning image of a spent dandelion captured by **Judith Davidson-Palmer**. The second choice was not as obvious so an outside expert opinion broke the three-way tie, awarding second choice to **Jack Gilbert** for a Macro shot he created in his apartment. As always the group came through with a variety of images on the chosen theme. Flowers were the favourite and cats were next. All seventeen images will soon be available on the Club website.

Keeping in mind that most of us may not be travelling far this summer other than going shopping, the photographic subject of “FOOD” as the challenge for September was decided upon. So, let your creative juices flow. It could be cooked food, in a pot, pan or plated, non-cooked food, in a fancy bowl or at the store, growing in the ground or on a vine.

This must be a shot taken this summer, not one from your files.

Please submit one image to **Gord Fulton** by Wednesday, August 5 to [fultongord@gmail.com](mailto:fultongord@gmail.com).



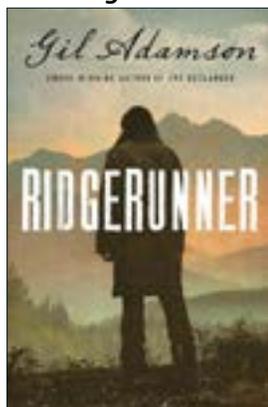
# WHAT'S ON IN JULY–AUGUST

## Club Night

7:00 p.m. via Zoom • [Please reserve](#) for each Club Night

**Monday, August 17**

**GIL ADAMSON**  
*Ridgerunner*



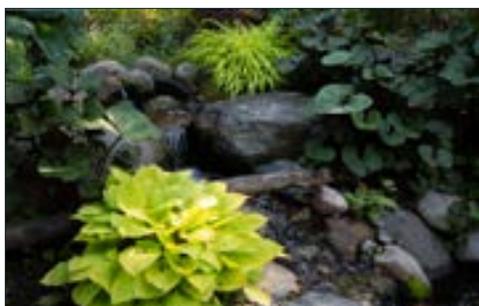
After nearly twenty years, William Moreland, the notorious thief known as the Ridgerunner, has returned. Moving through the Rocky Mountains and across the border to Montana, the solitary drifter, impoverished in means and aged beyond his years, is also a widower and a father. And he is determined to steal enough money to secure his son's future.

Set against the backdrop of a distant war raging in Europe and a rapidly changing landscape in the West, *Ridgerunner* is a vivid historical novel that draws from the epic tradition, and a literary Western brimming with a cast of unforgettable characters touched with humour and loss, and steeped in the wild of the natural world.

Gil Adamson is the critically acclaimed author of *The Outlander*, which won the Dashiell Hammett Prize for Literary Excellence in Crime Writing, the Amazon.ca First Novel Award, the ReLit Award, and the Drummer General's Award. It was also a finalist for the Commonwealth Book Prize and CBC's Canada Reads. Gil lives in Toronto.

**Monday, August 24**

**FELICITY SOMERSET**  
*"The Artist in the Garden"*



Felicity will explore the intersection between art and the garden through the seasons, using slides of her garden.

## Literary Table

1:00 p.m. via Zoom • [Please reserve](#) for each Literary Table

**Tuesday, July 14**

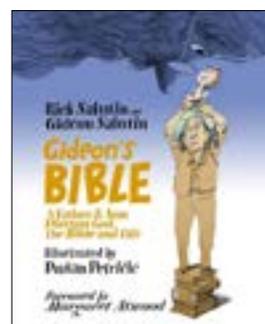
**July Reads**



For many years, the Literary Committee has presented a "Summer Reads" session in September at which Club members have shared their reading by giving short book reviews. Based on this model, the Committee held Zoom "Reads" sessions in April and May. The range of books reviewed has been eclectic and enlightening, reflecting the diversity of interests among Club members. Given the participation in these past two sessions we will be doing it again in July! The success of these events depends entirely on volunteers from the Club membership coming forward to give a five-minute review of a book they have read recently (or even a long time ago!). If you are able to be a volunteer reviewer, please inform the Club office by Friday, July 10, of the title and the author of the book you will be discussing .

**Tuesday, July 21**

**RICK AND GIDEON SALUTIN**  
*Gideon's Bible*



*Gideon's Bible* is a conversation between Rick Salutin and his son, Gideon. It begins with Gideon as a child, asking why he was given his name. Rick says it's from the Bible and Gideon asks, "What's the Bible?"

Although the conversations portrayed in the book span all the years of Gideon's life, most of them occurred during his more recent years in high school.

In *Gideon's Bible*, biblical text is framed with striking illustrations and caricatures of Rick and Gideon as they relate to the passage and discuss subjects like God, parenting, current concerns of youth, literature, friends, and formative experiences that each of them have had.

## Ad Lib



To finish off the trilogy, here are three more photos from Ad Lib chair **Damon Lum**'s trip to Europe. This "Bring Your Own Camera" features Dublin Castle, Tower Bridge, and the Louvre Pyramid. We will see you all soon.



### September Issue Deadline:

- for Members' News: Wednesday, August 12
  - for all other items: Sunday, August 9
- As there is a high demand for space, items will be accepted in order of receipt as long as space is available. If you wish to include a notice or feature, please contact the editor with as much advance notice as possible, so that space can be reserved, and plan to submit it absolutely no later than Sunday, August 9, or by arrangement with the editor. Email submissions to [lampsletter@artsandlettersclub.ca](mailto:lampsletter@artsandlettersclub.ca). If you cannot email, contact Naomi Hunter well in advance of your deadline. Late submissions cannot be accepted. The *LAMPSletter* will be sent out on August 21. It is also available each month on our website, [www.artsandlettersclub.ca](http://www.artsandlettersclub.ca)

## Dates to Remember in July–August

- Tuesday, July 14: 1:00 p.m. via Zoom,  
Literary Table, Summer Reads
- Tuesday, July 21: 1:00 p.m. via Zoom,  
Literary Table, Rick and Gideon Salutin
- Friday, July 31: Deadline for submissions to N3XT
- Wednesday, August 5: HotShots deadline
- Friday, August 7 and Saturday, August 8: Intake for virtual art show
- Sunday, August 9: *LAMPSletter* deadline, everything except Members' News
- Wednesday, August 12: *LAMPSletter* Members' News deadline
- Monday, August 17: 7:00 p.m. via Zoom,  
Club Night, Gil Adamson
- Monday, 24 August at 7 p.m. via Zoom,  
Club Night, **Felicity Somerset**

### ARTWORK CREDITS

- Page 1: *LAMPSletter* masthead, **Ray Cattell**  
**Penelope Cookson**, photo **Gord Fulton**  
Cartoon, cartoonstock.com
- Page 2: *2019-20 Executive List*, **Douglas Purdon**
- Page 4: Spent Dandelion – Gone to Seed, photo by **Judith Davidson-Palmer**
- Page 5: *Title page by J.E.H. MacDonald, Scrapbook Volume 1. 2. J.E.H. MacDonald, January 25, 1913, photographed in the Club by M.O. Hammond.*
- Page 6: **Anya Rudzicz Orzechowska**, courtesy of the author
- Page 7: **Ann Cooper Gay**, courtesy **Ann Cooper Gay**  
**Moya Gillett**, members list
- Page 8: Six collages, Jelena Stojkovic  
Photos by Steven Falk  
Photo by Matthew Schachter-Tribe
- Page 9: Murano glass sculpture, photo by **Jack Gilbert**
- Page 10: Theatre Science photos by **William Denton**
- Page 11: *Garden Envy* poster by **Edd Baptista**
- Page 12: *Ridgerunner*, courtesy House of Anansi Press  
Garden photo by **Felicity Somerset**  
**Books**, pixabay.com  
*Gideon's Bible*, courtesy Rick Salutin
- Page 13: Ad Lib logo by **Andrew Sookrah**  
Photos by **Damon Lum**

*LAMPSletter* editor: **Sally Holton**  
Copy editor: **Jane McWhinney**