

Volume 45 — April 2024

# TUARP TIMES

Trent University Association of Retired Persons

**Editor:** Tony Storey '71 [tonystorey71@gmail.com](mailto:tonystorey71@gmail.com)

**Faculty Co-Chair:** Molly Blyth 2023 - 2025

**Staff Co-Chair:** Gina Collins 2022 - 2024

<https://mycommunity.trentu.ca/tuarp>

[tuarp@trentu.ca](mailto:tuarp@trentu.ca)

**Mailing Address:** TUARP, Trent University, 1600 West Bank Drive, Peterborough-Nogojivanong, ON, K9L 0G2

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## Guest Editorial: Farewell from Trent's eighth president

*By Leo Groarke*

On July 1, I begin my life post-presidency. As I near the next chapter of my and Trent's stories, I am thinking about my last decade and the promises of life-after-presidency. I am struck by the need to thank so many people who have supported Trent during my two terms of office.

Many have asked me what it's like to be a Trent President. My personal experience has been regulated by a never-ending chain of e-mails. I am a night owl who works late, reading and answering the e-mails in my inbox. They come with many different messages, relaying the sender's secret stories about the history of Trent; personal advice for me or others; what Trent should do (or purchase); political speculation on what is happening in the provincial government; questions of every sort imaginable; and constant requests for assistance.

In my experience, the latter can be satisfying: it feels good to help someone in need when you are able to do so. The e-mails are still, but less enjoyable, when there is controversy in the air. And controversy and universities are common siblings. Sometimes, my e-mail box seemed like the beast Hydra in ancient mythology – a serpent with many heads that grew more whenever one of them was dispatched.

When we decided to cancel our in-person convocation during COVID, I received four

hundred e-mails from graduating students demanding that we reverse our decision. I responded to everyone, sometimes more than once. When we were forced to close our campuses in view of the pandemic – and when we finally reopened them – I was inundated with furious e-mails written in capital letters that told me "YOU ARE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MY HEALTH."

I won't miss every e-mail exchange when July 1 comes around, but it will be strange to get up in the morning and not be greeted by a daily deluge of incoming mail. I suspect that I will be pleased to forward what I do receive to our incoming President, Dr. Cathy Bruce (thank you Cathy!).

Not every day as President is a good one, but the moments of satisfaction greatly outweigh the moments of frustration. Especially as I have worked with a great team and our trajectory has been relentlessly positive. With that in mind, I want to THANK ALL OF YOU READING THIS FAREWELL (and especially Tony Storey) for your support and patience during my time as President.

I will step away from my role thinking of Trent as a community. The heart of our community is our academic enterprises: teaching and research, students and professors. But it extends

further, to past and future students, to retired staff and faculty, to Board members, and to all the people we work with in our communities (locally, provincially, nationally, internationally). The tentacles of Trent touch everyone affected by what we do: by reading a Trent author, listening to Trent Elders, attending Trent events, or working with Trent scientists and staff (present or retired).

My principal thought today is that I will remain a member of the Trent community on and after July 1st . I plan to be a more relaxed member of our community, one who spends more time kayaking and writing (on philosophy and my Trent experiences), but I will remain a member nonetheless. Eventually I hope to make it back

to the classroom and be a part of Trent in yet another way.

As an ex-President, I look forward to spending more time with TUARP in the future (with a special interest in events at the Pig's Ear or the Canoe and Paddle!).

- Leo



## **TUARP Staff Co-Chair's Remarks**

*By Gina Collins*

Greetings fellow retirees and friends of TUARP. Hope this newsletter finds you well.

A warm welcome to Molly Blyth in the role of Faculty Co-Chair. We are looking forward to her contributions to TUARP.

A huge thank you to Julie Crook, Janice Millard and Janice Matthews for organizing and decorating at the TUARP Christmas reception this past November. Kudos to Tony Storey for his continued support to make this event a success.

On a sad note, we have lost a number of Trent faculty and staff members over the years. Their names are read aloud at the Annual General meetings, and can be found in the minutes that are available at:

<https://mycommunity.trentu.ca/TUARP>

Check out the benefits and resources that are available to all retirees as well.

## **TUARP Faculty Co-Chair's Remarks**

*By Molly Blyth*

Hello, all. I'm delighted to meet some of you through this, my first contribution to the TUARP newsletter. Of course, I've met many members in person over my long teaching career at Trent - and others at last year's Christmas Party at the Ashburnham Ale House. There we were splendidly entertained by singer and guitar player Kate Suhr of Verandah Society fame.

Your executive is busy organizing the next TUARP AGM on May 15 from 2-3 pm in Traill College's Bagnani Hall.

We look forward to a report on Traill College from its Principal, Dr. Michael Eamon. And we are excited to meet Naomi Handley, Trent's new director of Alumni Engagement and Services.

Weather permitting, we will enjoy a tea party by the Jalynn Bennett Amphitheater.

## Remembrances of Colleagues Past

By Tony Storey

### Professor John Burbidge

John Burbidge died in Peterborough on November 2, 2023. ([Obituary here.](#))

I had the privilege of serving on a review of the Colleges during my time at Otonabee College. John was an ideal chairperson: calm, intelligent and measured in his approach. He and his wife Barbara hosted a lovely dinner for our committee when we had completed our work.

I also recall their garage sale at the Champlain College Master's Lodge when John was concluding his term. Somehow I came away with a set of novels by Alexandre Dumas.

Former president John Stubbs recalled him as a committed and responsible Trent citizen. President Leo Groarke commented that when he became President, he and John got together every summer until COVID hit. He was an important Canadian philosopher, known for his work on Hegel. Leo noted that at the same time, he was a remarkable source of knowledge on the history of Trent, and a very capable administrator with all the instincts that make someone an excellent administrator.

Peter Lewis remembered John as a quiet somewhat old fashioned man who with Barbara bought the Lewis home on Homewood Avenue. In John's retirement, he repaired and re-bound at least one of Peter's books.

### Margaret Doxey

Professor Dale Standen was kind enough to let me know that Professor Emeritus Margaret Doxey had died, just as we were approaching our editorial deadline. Until the past few years, she was a regular supporter of TUARP activities and I recall her especial pleasure when we hosted the Christmas Reception at her beloved Lady Eaton College. However, the trumpet and piano music played havoc with her hearing aid! ([Obituary here.](#))

### Jim English

I met Jim English early in my new role as Alumni Coordinator in 1974. He served as Trent's Director of Information Services and as Editor of

what was then known as *Alumnus* magazine.

What you read in TUARP Times is a direct legacy of his influence on me and university publications. It was so beneficial to my career to have the benefit of his experience and sage counsel.

Early in my retirement I held a volunteer role at the Bata Library with the Trent Archives. I helped process collections to develop finding aids for people who wished to view the collection. I was given several boxes of materials from Jim's era at Information Services. Going through this material was akin to walking back in time... before fax machines, email, digital files and the Internet.

Jim conducted much of his work through correspondence and the telephone. And he did it with grace and humour. Trent was very fortunate to have had him as an early leader.

[Learn about the Jim and English Prize.](#)

### Carolyn Kay

Dr. Patricia Morton recalled that Carolyn was a colleague of hers who was always warm and supportive. "She was also a superb educator, beloved by students. She will be greatly missed."

Molly Blyth added that a memorial service



Carolyn Kay

for Professor Emerita and former Lady Eaton College Principal Carolyn Kay was to take place on April 26th at St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church in Peterborough. "Deepest condolences to her husband Tom Childs and her son, Sebastian. Our thoughts are also with the many Trent students

inspired by her teaching and mentoring."

Trent published a news story about Carolyn Kay's passing; [you can read it here.](#)





*Alan Wilson*

### **David Marshall**

David Marshall, former laboratory demonstrator in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, passed away from a heart attack in October 2023, leaving his wife Jeanette, two children and five grandchildren. ([Obituary here.](#))

Dave held an Honours Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics from Waterloo University. He joined Trent in 1987 and was a crucial part of the department's teaching staff until his retirement in 2020. Always going the extra mile to help students, Dave was a recipient of the 2013 Excellence in Teaching Assistance Award. Dave excelled at finding creative ways to illustrate how physics principles apply to theoretical and real-life situations.

*- Contributed by Professor Al Slavin*

### **Pauline Mills**

Trent Athletics was the scene last May of a [special memorial presentation carving](#), created by her brother David Mills.

Peter Lewis recalled that Pauline was the first person he hired in his role as Personnel director. Her primary role was to run the Gestetner copying machine in the basement of Rubidge Hall. "She seemed, and was, so young, but did so well in a job that had little variety. I was very pleased to see her become a competent and valued secretary in the academic world as Trent grew."

At the Tom Symons retirement celebration in



*Pauline Mills with Chancellor Roberta Bondar*

1994, Pauline spoke about being a 17-year-old still living at home. One Sunday evening a taxi arrived at their home. Tom Symons urgently required some printing for the next day!

### **Alan Wilson**

Alan Wilson died on January 23rd of this year. ([Obituary here.](#))

In an earlier TUARP Times, I wrote about the Alan Wilson Reading Room at Kerr House, Trill College, the home of Canadian Studies. It is an exquisitely crafted and furnished tribute to a key contributor to Trent.



*The Alan Wilson Reading Room*

## Sign Up With Volunteer Peterborough

By Lois Tuffin

As you face a less full work schedule, have you decided what to do with your time? After all, you have a lot of skills, talents and wisdom to share. Where will you invest it?

If you're struggling to envision where you might go, VolunteerPeterborough.ca can help. It identifies causes that interest you, then filters your skills to match groups looking for those gifts. Next, you see a job description to see if it's right for you.

When Volunteer Peterborough met with focus groups earlier last year, prospective volunteers said they encountered multiple barriers to getting involved. Primarily:

- No one "asked."
- Lack of a central database and insufficient promotion.
- No defined roles with specific timelines or projects with end dates.

**VolunteerPeterborough.ca** took that information and designed a site that highlights

## Letter To The Editor

By Paul Wilson

I am writing this missive in January for a number of reasons. To express my thanks and appreciation to the TUARP executive for a wonderful Xmas gathering in December. The recently appointed faculty chair, Molly Blyth, gave a most interesting, amusing and welcoming address. The musical entertainment from Kate Suhr and Michael Eamon provided an added attraction and the Ashburnham Ale House provided a marvellous buffet. The conversation and stories old and new flowed. I really was a most enjoyable event and a wonderful start to the Xmas season.

I suspect the most senior member present was Professor Ray March. It was not only very nice to see him and his wife Kathy but also gave us an opportunity to thank him for all his efforts on the pension committee. I understand that today less



**Volunteer  
Peterborough**

current opportunities, including short-, medium- and long-term commitments. That way, you can quickly shop around for a new role or an additional one.

The free website invites people to sign up as individuals or to register organizations. Once a non-profit passes a legitimacy screening, you can post roles and events, which get promoted via newsletters, social media posts, etc.

At this point, the group has signed up 850 volunteers and 101 organizations; those numbers grow every week. And this movement is just getting started.

How can you help?

- Volunteer and invite others along. Make volunteering contagious.
- Sign up a non-profit and post jobs to make even more matches.

It's really that easy.

than 20% of people retiring have pensions so I feel we can consider ourselves most fortunate.

Hopefully such occasions will continue and I would urge members of TUARP to attend in the future. I feel sure you will enjoy the spirit and camaraderie of the occasion.



## Jubilado: Retiree Sketches

By Tony Storey

A tip of the hat to Professor John Marsh who informed me that the Peruvian word for 'retired' is Jubilado.

It seems a word that blends dignity and exuberance so I offer these retiree sketches in that vein.

**Professor David Gallop** published, January 3, 2023, in the coveted lower right-hand corner of *The Times* letters page, and chosen for its collection, *Sir, the Year in Letters*. The correspondence concerned 'Wayside Pulpits.' David's read, 'The best wayside pulpit I have seen was in Victoria, British Columbia. It read: "Don't despair. Even Moses was a basket case."'

2023 also marked David's 95th birthday with a celebration at Odiham's Bel & the Dragon Hotel.

And the year included a visit from TUARP colleague **Robert Stairs**.

**Mary Snack** had a wonderful surprise at her family's Christmas gathering. Her alumni

daughter Roberta Herod and son-in-law Kevan Herod established a new scholarship in her name for Trent University Business Students.

More Than Me is the title of an exhibit of new works and old favorites by **Dianne Lister** and fellow artist Diane Reesor. It will be held in May at the Tett Gallery in Kingston with a Reception and Artist's Talk on May 11th.

The Ray March Visiting Fellow in Chemistry, Dr. Chris Barrett, gave a talk at Traill College on March 12th, "From Traill, 'Round the World, and Back Again: How Trent Prepares Students Well for Global Adventures."

Chris is the son of TUARP colleague **Peter Barrett** and his wife Karen, who were dons at the college in the late 1960s.

And congratulations to **Ray March** on the recent celebration of his 90th birthday.

Jubilado!



Mary Snack



Ray March

## Updates From Alumni Engagement & Services and External Relations & Development

### Call for convocation volunteers

Alumni Engagement & Services is inviting TUARP members to get involved with the 2024 Convocation celebrations. Peterborough ceremonies will be held on June 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, & 11, and Durham ceremonies on June 14 at the Tribute Communities Centre in Oshawa. Personal interactions with the volunteers and guests make this such a special and memorable event for our graduates. If you are interested in volunteering, please email [convocation@trentu.ca](mailto:convocation@trentu.ca).

### Invitation: Heart of Trent

Trent's annual Heart of Trent appreciation event will be held on Wednesday, May 8 from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Peterborough Symons Campus. We look forward to presenting the 2024 employee awards and celebrating the extraordinary contributions made by all employees at Trent. The event will also be live streamed for anyone who cannot attend in person.

### Invitation: Leo's Legacy Peterborough Campus Farewell Reception

You are invited to celebrate Leo's decade-long legacy of leadership at the Peterborough Campus Farewell Reception on May 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. The event will include the unveiling of Leo's presidential portrait. No RSVP required.

### Upcoming Trent University Anniversaries

Trent University will be celebrating many milestone anniversaries in the 2024-2025 academic year including Trent University's 60th anniversary and Trent Durham GTA's 50th anniversary. Stay tuned for upcoming details on these celebrations.

### Mary Snack Scholarship Announced

A new scholarship for Trent University Business students was a heartfelt holiday gift to a beloved retired staff member. Mary Snack, an 89-year-old former Trent administrative assistant, was 'speechless' over the holidays when her family told her they had established the Mary Snack Scholarship in her honour. Read more here: <https://momentouschange.trentu.ca/impactstory42>

# MORE THAN ME: A CREATIVE INTERFACE

MAY 4 – 15, 2024

An interart exhibition featuring the work of Diane Reesor, fibre artist, and Dianne Lister, photographer

### OPENING RECEPTION & ARTIST TALK:

Saturday May 11, 2024 2PM – 4PM

THE TETT CENTRE GALLERY  
370 King Street West, Kingston ON K7L 2X4, Canada





## Annual Dues Notice

Voluntary TUARP dues payment of \$10 is invited. Members may pay at the meeting or by Interac banking transfer.

Add TUARP to your banking app list of payees and send to [tuarp@trentu.ca](mailto:tuarp@trentu.ca).

## Reminder to Update Contact Information

Don't miss TUARP newsletters or meeting notices – remember to keep your contact information up to date! If you have moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses, be sure to update your profile by visiting

<http://www.mycommunity.trentu.ca/myprofile> or emailing [advancementservices@trentu.ca](mailto:advancementservices@trentu.ca)

## Call for Submissions

Submissions for the next issue are invited before August 15, 2024. They may be sent to [tonystorey71@gmail.com](mailto:tonystorey71@gmail.com).

Past issues of TUARP Times are posted on the TUARP website: <http://mycommunity.trentu.ca/alumni>.

## Notice of General Meeting

Tuesday May 15, 2024, 2pm  
Bagnani Hall, Trill College

## Editor's Afterword

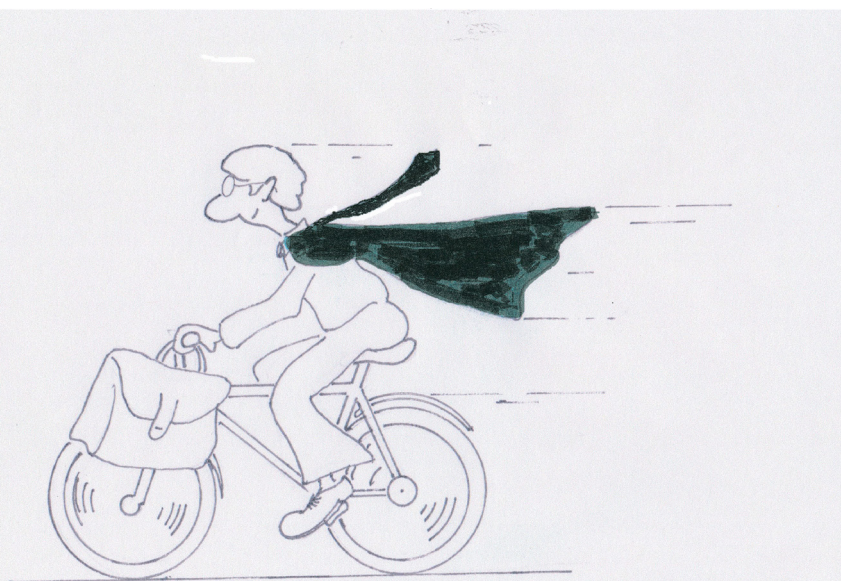
By Tony Storey

It was a delight to assemble Volume 45 of TUARP Times as I had an unprecedented number of contributions and suggestions.

Many thanks to Molly Blyth, Gina Collins, Leo Groarke, Paul Wilson, Peter Lewis, Al Slavin, Pat Morton, John Stubbs, John Marsh, Dale Standen, David Gallop, Abby Richards of Alumni Engagement Services, Communications, and Danielle Britton. As always, profound thanks to our Executive Committee members Janice Millard, Julie Crook and John Casserly.

TUARP extends it's best wishes to President Leo Groarke as he enters the home stretch of his two-term presidency. The Editor looks forward to seeing Leo at the Canoe and Paddle in Lakefield.

And a warm TUARP welcome is extended to [Cathy Bruce](#) as she prepares to become the 9th president of Trent University. We will hope to schedule a Riverside Garden Party opportunity to meet her.



In 1964, something new appeared  
on the streets of Peterborough!

Cartoon by David Lasenby