



**A newsletter for members of the York University Retirees' Association (YURA)**

**Spring 2024**

**No. 66**

**YURA is a member of CURAC/ARUCC, the federation of the College and University Retiree Associations of Canada/Associations de retraités dans les universités et collèges du Canada**

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## Message from the YURA Co-Presidents

Dear YURA members:

Given the current less harsh winter, it seems that we have not had to enter full hibernation mode and thus are transitioning more smoothly into Spring and the planning of activities. We sincerely hope that YURA members have benefitted from this most recent period of fewer restrictions-- especially in comparison with past winters when very cold temperatures and pandemic concerns conspired to give us all a dreary case of cabin fever!

YURA has found it challenging to re-launch events after the pandemic and thus we are especially pleased to be gaining some momentum. Our strategy this year is to focus on a series of smaller scale outings to local venues, in order to appeal to a range of interests within our very diverse membership. We are delighted with the success of our February 25<sup>th</sup> outing to Roy Thomson Hall for the very engaging presentation of Sandesh Kadur on the “Wild Cats of India,” with stunning photography, in the National Geographic Live Series. It felt so reassuringly “normal” to meet fellow YURA members for this enjoyable outing.

On March 19<sup>th</sup>, in anticipation of the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8<sup>th</sup>, we are proposing a virtual tour of the recently renovated Allan I. Carswell Astronomical Observatory. And June 7<sup>th</sup> is the date of our outing to Queen’s Park for a Tour and Afternoon Tea. Further details (including how to register) for both events will be sent to members via our listserv. As well, our

monthly YURA Café continues, moderated by Fran Wilkinson. A most informative and thought-provoking session was held on February 13<sup>th</sup> with guest speaker Mike Layton, Chief Sustainability Officer at York University; he gave clear explanations of institutional actions while reminding us that individual attitudes and actions are crucially important in the area of sustainability. On the homepage of the YURA website are found details of his talk and a link to his presentation slides ([www.yorku.ca/yura/](http://www.yorku.ca/yura/)). Upcoming YURA Café sessions will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup> and then break for the Summer.

Also, of interest to YURA members is the upcoming Conference of the College and University Retirees’ Associations of Canada (CURAC), to be held on May 22-24 with the upbeat theme of “Thriving in Retirement”. The conference will be held at the University of Waterloo, and thus is quite accessible to YURA members who live in the Greater Toronto Area. Program details are found at <https://uwaterloo.ca/retirees-association/conference-2024>. Steve will be attending on behalf of YURA and will share his thoughts and reactions in the Summer Newsletter. In addition to “Thriving in Retirement”, another theme YURA members may wish to consider is the “Principles of an Age-Friendly University” (see the list of principles at <https://www.dcu.ie/agefriendly/principles-age-friendly-university>). A research project conducted by the York University Centre for Aging Research and Education (YU-CARE) during January and February involved many

YURA members who found the experience to be both enjoyable and thought-provoking.

For the Fall, planning is underway for our annual fund-raising Charity Walk on campus and for our Annual General Meeting. **Please note that the date of our AGM has been changed to Friday November 1<sup>st</sup>** (this was done to avoid a conflict with Fall Convocation Ceremonies that have been scheduled later in October this year). The Executive Board feels strongly that it is YURA's responsibility to ensure that all YURA members have access to the guest speaker and to our annual business meeting. At the same time, a second important goal is to bring YURA members together in person at an event focused on our organization. Thus, the AGM will once again be offered in hybrid format with YURA absorbing the additional cost of the technical assistance required for a hybrid event.

The YURA Executive is working out details of how to best handle the considerable costs of providing lunch to in-person attendees. One possible option is for YURA to partially subsidize the cost of lunch with attendees also making a nominal voluntary contribution; this would allow our organization to handle the impact of recent food inflation. Our goal is to have a speaker on the theme of the challenging environment for post-secondary education in Ontario, a topic that has garnered much attention in the news recently. Details of our Charity Walk and our AGM will be sent to YURA members by e-mail as they become available. We remind all members also to check our website [www.yorku.ca/yura/](http://www.yorku.ca/yura/) for details of events and opportunities.

YURA has much to look forward to and we hope to see many members at upcoming events. This issue of the *Newsletter* contains several other items that we recommend to you. A recipient of the William Small Award, funded by YURA, has written a touching message of gratitude which we share with you. With our "In Memoriam list," we respectfully remember and honour colleagues and friends from York whom we lost during 2023. Finally, we have written a piece titled "Catching up with President Emerita Lorna Marsden" who appears to be living out the CURAC conference theme of "thriving in retirement"!

We hope that our office in the Lorna Marsden Honour Court will have re-opened by the time this newsletter is circulated (check our website) and we hope to see many of you at upcoming events. Happy Spring to all.

--**Diane Beelen Woody** and **Steve Dranitsaris**, YURA Co-Presidents

### IN MEMORIAM 2023

Acton, Ruth  
Adelman, Howard  
Blake, Eva Joanne  
Brown, Michael  
Burnham, C. Elizabeth  
Challis, Evelyn  
Cysneiros, Luiz Marcio  
Friskin, William  
Hardy, Judith  
Hughes, Michelle  
Jarvie, Ian  
Kallen, Evelyn  
Kehoe, Dalton  
Liddell, Heather Gore

Lipsig-Mummé, Carla  
Loughrin, Patricia  
Lycett, Douglas  
Matthews, Fred  
McIntyre, Andrea  
Monaco, Barbara  
Orlan, Mark  
Paulin, Diane  
Peterke, Kathleen  
Porre, Helje  
Read, Denese  
Rossiter, Amy  
Rotenberg, David  
Rouse, Alice  
Sabiston, Elizabeth  
Samarasekera, Lal  
Saul, John S.  
Schwartz, Harvey  
Shinder-Mason, Ruth  
Stauffer, Allan  
Steiner, Evelyn  
Stuart, Judith  
Thomas, Joy  
Tomcik, Andrew  
Tomlinson, Barbara  
Vince, Connie  
Weizmann, Fred  
Westfall, William  
Wrazen, Louise  
Paul Wye

*YURA has made every effort to honour and remember all those who have passed, but if there are names that have been missed, we apologize sincerely and ask that those names be sent to us at [yura@yorku.ca](mailto:yura@yorku.ca) so that those individuals can be remembered in a future Newsletter.*

## THE PEOPLES IN OUR LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In Toronto, our land acknowledgements talk about the Anishnawbe, the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat and the Mississauga of the Credit. Anishnawbe means “original people”. It is a blanket term for several nations: Ojibway, Algonquin, and others.

The Haudenosaunee are a different group. They were Iroquois. They had a highly developed society with sophisticated forms of governance. They live now around the Six Nations Reserve in the Brantford area.

The Wendat people are the ones we knew as the Hurons. They were allies of the early French explorers and important suppliers of furs along their traditional canoe routes from the Upper Great Lakes to the St. Lawrence. They accepted Jesuit missionaries since 1615. The population was decimated by smallpox and wars with the Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) and they are now centred in Quebec.

The Mississaugas of the Credit are an Ojibway (Anishnawbe) people; they are part of the Six Nations reserve near Brantford.

Regardless of their background, we owe them gratitude for the stewardship of this land for thousands of years. They have set us an example of how to look after the land by respecting Mother Earth.--**Nancy Lee**

## **Thank You Letter from Our William W. Small Award Recipient**

*The award is named in honour of William Small, one of York's first employees hired in 1960, who, during his career, served as Secretary to the Board of Governors, Vice-President University Services and Vice-President Administration, and later initiated the York University Retirees' Association. Two Awards of \$750 are given annually to mature undergraduate students who have sustained after at least nine credits, a grade point average of 7.0 or above.*

Dear York University Retirees' Association,

I am deeply honoured to have been chosen as an award recipient, and I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to The William W. Small Award committee for their generous support. This award allowed me to take my final two courses without having to take out more loans.

The William W. Small Award has not only provided financial assistance but also served as a source of validation. Knowing that a group of individuals believed in my potential enough to invest in my education had a positive impact on my confidence and self-worth.

I had to take a semester away from my studies to receive treatment for cancer. Upon returning to school, the number of medical appointments I still had to attend, and the stress of repeated cancer checks were overwhelming. Receiving The William W. Small Award shortly after returning helped give me the drive to continue during a very challenging time.

After the Summer 2023 semester, I received my Bachelor of Commerce, Member of Dean's Honour Roll and will attend convocation in October 2023. I extend my sincerest gratitude to The William W. Small Award committee for their belief in me and their investment in my future.

Kindest regards, **Kristi Shotter**

## **CATCHING UP WITH PRESIDENT EMERITA LORNA MARSDEN**

*YURA co-presidents Diane Woody and Steve Dranitsaris reflect on a delightful lunchtime interview with her*



Having navigated two office moves during 2023 and now seeing the YURA office functioning smoothly in the Lorna Marsden Honour Court, we, the YURA co-presidents, decided to extend a lunch invitation to Lorna Marsden, former president of York University (1997-2007) ----we did this on impulse, given that our current location is in a building that bears her name. She graciously accepted our invitation and then decided for us that we should meet at the Gardiner Museum, a place where she has

served enthusiastically as a volunteer, and about which she is passionate, given its unique celebration of art, creativity, and history.

In our invitation to her, we proposed the format of the interviews typically found in the weekend edition of the *Financial Times*, a newspaper—coincidentally—that Lorna reads regularly. A typical “celebrity interview” in that paper has a whimsical format and Lorna happily shared her thoughts on the following “sentence lead-ins” to be completed by the interviewee.

*In my fridge, you will always find*

.....L.M.: “Oranges!” Apparently the bright colour, and the sweet and tangy flavour are a key part of her breakfast routine. Finding the best oranges is a favourite topic of conversation with the green grocer she frequents.

*I have a collection of* ..... L.M.: “Two collections actually! One is of metal boxes painted with decorative botanicals, all by women artists. The second is an abundant set of pelargonium cuttings ---not to be confused with geraniums! It remains to be seen how well they will do when planted!”

*In another life I would have been* ..... L.M.: “A geneticist!” The double helix was, and remains, a source of fascination for her. However, she recalls that many decades ago, when she expressed interest in the field, she was told that “Women don’t succeed in science”, something that rankles, even today.

*An interesting book I’ve read recently is*

..... L.M.: “I have thoroughly enjoyed two books recently.” The first *Woman Watching: Louise de Kirline Lawrence and the Songbirds of Pimisi Bay* is by Merilyn Simonds. Although not a birder herself, Lorna loved this book for its portrayal of a strong and determined woman who is often called the Canadian Rachel Carson. The second book is *The Book Seller of Florence: Vespasiano da Bisticci and the Manuscripts that Illuminated the Renaissance* by Ross King. The book makes one reflect deeply on technological disruption and its far-reaching impact.

*The best bit of advice I’ve ever received is*

..... L.M.: “It’s not really advice but rather a frequent saying of my mother’s. She often opined ‘*you never know*’, which of course can be uttered in any context and conjure up any number of possibilities.” Lorna added that the phrase captures the mystery that in life, one truly never knows whether in a given situation, unexpected joy or success will arise, or whether a dire result or bitter comeuppance awaits one.

During our wide-ranging conversation, replete with many fond reminiscences of York and the many people with whom she worked there, Lorna reflected on the many challenges of the current context. From a sociological perspective she notes that Toronto’s diversity and many neighbourhoods are truly astonishing. However, the crises of homelessness and patterns of isolation and societal stress are

alarming. Reflecting on York University, she expressed great enthusiasm for the campus plan. She is very happy to see the Harry Arthurs Common free of buses and now able to live up to its promise as the heart of campus and a place for gathering, socializing and celebrating. She is also delighted by the abundance of public art on campus and expressed interest in conducting a guided tour for YURA members.

In retirement, Lorna's joys include staying active by walking and by gardening. Her current intellectual project is editing an issue of the journal *Canada Watch* to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies at York University. Her greatest passion-- a new direction in retirement for her-- is the Gardiner Museum where she volunteers and where she has served as Chair of the Board. Lorna took great delight in giving us a tour of the current exhibit by Dame Magdalene Odundo "A Dialogue with objects", an exhibition of the ceramic sculptures of Odundo a native Kenyan, British trained artist renowned for her gift of working transculturally and for exploring the connections that unite us as humans. The exhibit features deeply moving reflections by the artist herself on art and artefacts from a vast range of periods and cultures that have influenced her. The exhibit is a space of wonder, reflection and hope.

We thank Lorna for granting this interview and for giving YURA a professional photograph of the Lorna Marsden Honour Court Building, beautifully lit up at night-time, a gift for us to treasure.



## YORK BACK THEN AND NOW

*I received the letter below, a thought-provoking cry from the heart ("un cri du coeur") from a long-serving employee who remembers York as a very warm and welcoming institution not beset by the tensions of today, such as anti-Semitism. It is a sad reflection of what is written that the author has requested anonymity.*

I write to you today with a very heavy heart. I have spent so much of my adult life as part of the York University community.

In 1966, I was sent to York University, as part of my graduating year, for my work experience week. York looked very different then. Big, wide-open spaces and a lot of mud when it rained. I worked at Stacie

doing filing, getting coffee for the staff, and any other jobs no one else wanted to do. But I loved it.

In 1972, I started working at York full time. My salary was \$105.00 a week. I thought I had died and gone to heaven. I retired in 2015. I was fortunate to spend 43 wonderful years at York University. During this time so many exciting changes happened. New faculties developed, new buildings built, tremendous growth.

So why did I start this email saying I am writing this with a heavy heart? As a Jewish woman, I never was afraid to walk the campus. I never was afraid that I would be harmed just for being Jewish on the York campus. I had wonderful caring colleagues, staff and friends of all different races and religions. We all worked well together, celebrating our joys together and weeping at our losses together. I never heard an Anti-Semitic slur — in 43 years!!

Now I hear that our young Jewish children don't want to go to York for fear. Fear of being physically harmed, fear of being bullied, fear of being judged, not on academic skills, but harassed because they are Jewish. I don't understand why. As far as I am aware, these young people have not committed any acts that they should be fearing for their wellbeing.

During my time at York I attended: Catholic weddings, Protestant weddings, Muslim weddings, Chinese weddings; countless children's birthday parties as well as Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. All from colleagues that I continue to call friends.

York University Administration must put an end to this fear — for everyone. York has always been a welcoming place for everyone. I hope within my lifetime York University returns to the place I warmly remember.

### **LIFE AS IT WAS BACK THEN**

*Our 45<sup>th</sup> "Life as it was back then" is that of Bruno Bellissimo. Bruno retired in 2012 when he was Director of Internal Audit and Chief Risk Officer for York University. He now serves as the YURA nominee on the York University Pension Board of Trustees.*

It was a sunny day at Toronto's Union Station in April 1952 as we arrived to start our new life in Canada. We were greeted by my Zio Cicco and my Zia Maria Rosa. They were both young at the time, but I did not realize it as I was only five years old.

I remember that I was overdressed in my wool clothes. My Zia took us to our rented flat in the Bloor and Bathurst area. Then we went to the nearby little store--"the original Honest Ed's --to buy clothes. My aunt and uncle continued to play a key role in my life. I did not want to disappoint them.

I remember going to school at St Peter's not understanding a word being said to me and being confused by the routine. I could not understand why I had to drink that awful milk that gave me cramps. We did not know that I was lactose intolerant but milk they said was good for me. I had to pee but did not know how to ask, so you know what happened next. Miss Gordon was not amused.



The first winter I remember waiting for a streetcar on St Clair and my mom saying to my dad “where have you brought me and my boys.” We were not dressed well for the cold Toronto night. He took it in stride and asked what he could say. He was 31 years old with a talent for cabinet making. In Italy, he was the Maestro to his apprentices. Here, he was just an immigrant to some. He went on to help establish COSTI in 1962 to aid other immigrants.

Anyway, I digress. My brother and I adapted well to living in an area with Irish and other Italian kids. We explored the streets of Toronto as a group and played cowboys in High Park. We felt safe and were well fed despite a limited family budget.

After five years, my parents bought a three-story house for \$15,000. We had boarders to help carry the cost of the house and we provided reasonable living quarters to other immigrant families. There were three families at the time in that house. No housing shortage then. The houses were well occupied. Not like now with all those empty nesters.

School, church and television were important parts of our lives as was Elvis, the Lone Ranger and Davey Crockett, the king of the wild frontier. The Christian Brothers made sure we studied and played hard. Boy! did they love their strap. One minor offence and you paid the price.

I went to three Maple Leaf Stanley Cup parades, and we cheered our heroes - Bower, Armstrong, Duff, Keon and Mahovlich. I

met the “Golden Jet” Bobby Hull and “clear the track” Eddie Shack. These people made life exciting and interesting for us. They gave us hope too. We were important as we lived through them.

High school was a privilege for me as I went to St Mike's run by the dedicated Basilian Fathers. The school served as a farm team for the Toronto Maple Leafs. Young boys came from northern Ontario to study, board and play hockey there. Some of the greatest attended such as Ted Lindsay, Red Kelly, the Duff and Mahovlich brothers and many others. Many came to Toronto with not much more than their skates and \$5 in their pockets. I remember meeting these hockey legends in the school hall when they returned to thank their teachers!

I cannot say enough about the importance of the Catholic church in our lives. It played a key role in our formation and education. It taught us goodness, discipline and knowledge. (The St Mike's motto) I am very hurt by the stories of harm done by the bad apples in the church, but I like to remember the hundreds of good people who served us well. There are far too many to mention here; people who excelled in math, physics and theology and loved to teach and lead.

After failing Grade 2, because I could not speak English, I went on to earn three degrees and to follow a strong practice of continuous learning throughout my adult life. This is due in part to the fine examples I had as a youth.

I cherish my two cultures, my desire to help others, and I am proud to say, "I am Canadian."--**Bruno Bellissimo**

## **MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER: AN UNLIKELY HERO**

In 1870 my great-grandfather, William Macadam Luke, was lynched by the Klu Klux Klan in Alabama along with seven black men. His crime: teaching the recently freed slaves to read and write. This is his story. He was born in Ireland and emigrated to Canada as a young man, settling in the Owen Sound area. He met and married Fanny Irwin and they started a family. He was ordained as a Methodist minister and began teaching in the area.

At that time, the northern terminus of the Underground Railway was in Owen Sound and he became interested in the stories of the escaped slaves. In 1869, he made the fateful decision to go to the U.S. to teach. An Alabama railway company offered him a job teaching freed slaves at Talladega College, a school that had been founded by two former slaves and was the only school of its kind in the area. As he was also responsible for helping build the railway, he hired black workers and paid them the same as the white workers, a fact that enraged the KKK.

He left Fanny and his six children on a farm with the understanding that he would send for them as soon as he was settled. The South was in turmoil after the Civil War and emotions ran high when it came to race

relations. William Luke's activities created friction in the town, and he was seen as a villain by the white community. The KKK threatened to kill him if he didn't stop teaching and hiring black workers. There were many attempts on his life, and he was warned to leave town.

One night a KKK vigilante posse went on a drunken rampage, arresting and then hanging William Luke and seven unlucky black men whose only crime was to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. His family paid a high price for his idealism and good works. Fanny and the children were left destitute.

His eldest son, William Alexander Luke, my grandfather, was only 11 when his father died. He had to leave school in order to work and support the family. It speaks to his ability and determination that he eventually became a respected businessman. Not surprisingly, it left a lasting impression on him and explains why he was committed to making sure his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren all had an education.

No one was ever brought to trial for the deaths but due to national outrage over the incident, Congress passed new legislation regarding civil rights. Talladega College is still there and is dedicated to black education. The story of William Luke is taught every year at the school. After decades of lobbying, the state of Alabama finally agreed this year to erect a monument to William Luke and the seven men who were killed with him. Closer to home the Grey Highlands Peace Committee in Owen

Sound meets regularly to celebrate their lives. William Luke demonstrated 153 years ago that Black Lives Matter.--**Lorna Luke**

## WHAT IS PARKINSON DISEASE?

Too many of our friends are being diagnosed with Parkinson disease. We know that some famous people were affected by it including Michael J Fox, Pierre Trudeau, Muhammad Ali, George Bush, Pope John Paul II, Linda Ronstadt, Neil Diamond and others. It can affect people from all races, professions and walks of life.

Parkinson disease (PD) was first diagnosed some 175 years ago as “the palsy” in England by Dr, Parkinson. It is a serious neurological disease that can worsen, become debilitating over time and for which there is no cure at this time.

The symptoms include motor problems such a tremor and rigidity in the hands and legs. It can impact the ability to move or react in a timely manner. It also is associated with a host of non-motor symptoms such as inability to smell odours, memory loss, digestive issue problems, weight loss and dementia.

While the definitive causes are not known some suspects include pollution in our food or water, exposure to dangerous household chemicals and in some cases genetics. Estimates show that some 2% of the population has PD. It affects men more than women. While it appears mainly in seniors,

younger people can suffer from it in early-onset cases.

With PD, the cells in the brain start to malfunction and cannot produce dopamine--the chemical needed to pass signals to the muscles. This degeneration of transmission results in tremor, rigidity and other problems.

The best medication to address this deficiency is called Sinemet (levodopa/carbidopa) which is taken in pill form over the day as prescribed by an neurologist. Over time the accumulation of Sinemet in the body can result in involuntary movement or dyskinesia. The challenge is to optimize the amount of drugs needed to facilitate movement and to avoid freezing versus avoiding the involuntary movement of muscle etc.

Most neurologists can treat people with early stages of PD; more complex cases are referred to a movement disorder specialist who has specialized in PD and other motor diseases. In addition to neurologists, a PD patient will require a host of services from a variety of medical professionals including pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, nurses, surgeons, dieticians, geriatricians, occupational therapists, personal support workers and home care assistants.

Over the last 25, years intrusive medical procedures have been developed to slow down the progression of the disease including deep brain stimulation (DBS), and dua dopa operations. With deep brain stimulation, electronic sensors are implanted into the brain to simulate the cells to

produce dopamine. Dua dopa involves the insertion of a tube into the gut to facilitate the delivery of the required medicine right into body avoiding the digestive system so that more meds can be sent directly into the brain.

This disease affects us all - the patient, the immediate family and the medical system. The patient will eventually require full-time care both from the caregiver and the medical systems including doctors, hospitals and long-term care facilities. It is an expensive disease which will place a growing burden on the health care system as the baby boomers age over the next decade.

Compounding these challenges are the inherent inefficiencies of the current health care system which lacks integration and is, in fact, quite fragmented. The lack of a systemic approach is the main cause of the inefficiencies. As a result, valuable resources are wasted, and sick people are being shuffled around and left to muddle through the system. A more multi-disciplinary and integrated approach is required.

References for this article include: *A Guide to the non-motor symptoms of Parkinson Disease* by Ronald Postuma and Christos Galatas Provided by Parkinson Canada. Also, *Parkinson's Disease An introductory Guide* by Ronald Postuma and Julius Anang. Provided by Parkinson Canada and the Davis Phinney Foundation.

(The author has been a Support Group Facilitator with Parkinson Canada since 2012. He has attended many related

conferences and seminars over these years. He is also a caregiver for his wife who has Parkinson disease.) -- **Bruno Bellissimo**

### **SHANTY TOWNS IN URUGUAY: UNEXPECTED POPULATION COMPOSITION**

In late October 2022, I turned on the television to see one of the French documentaries called *Ports d'Attache*. They were showing what we call “shanty towns” and Brazilians call “favellas” which in Uruguay are called “cantegril” or cantegriles in the plural.

The people were poor, but something was off in terms of what I expected to see in a shanty town in Latin America. After a while, I realized that the residents were all white, they were declaring themselves to be happy living where they were because there was no crime, they were safe, they were attached to their neighbours, and some managed to get electricity as well as water for free.

As the program went on, it turned out that there were at least 110 cantegriles in Montevideo itself (the capital of Uruguay) with a population of 1.3 million persons in the city and about 3.5 million in the entirety of Uruguay—a tiny country wedged between Argentina and Brazil on the Atlantic coast. Surprisingly enough they are very few Indigenous people left in that country and only six to eight percent of the population is black. All in all, it appears to be an all-white country in terms of culture although there were some definite mixtures

of Caribbean and black cultures, especially in their music orientation and it was interesting to see white people doing big drums as one would see in other countries being played by blacks.

We then learned that most of the population came from immigrations from Spain and Italy as well as some from the United Kingdom and France in the 19th and 20th Centuries. The residents of the larger city in the middle-class areas described themselves as being rather liberal and well-assisted in terms of education and health and welfare. They explained that this came from the fact that the white immigrants had arrived there as communists, socialists, and even anarchists or as refugees from communism after various revolutions or problems in their European countries of origins. It's a democratic country.

The reporter was invited to a restaurant for lunch and the main menus were all beef as the country is a large producer of beef. In fact, the same meal included two types of or two different servings of beef along with the salad and nothing else to adorn the meal.

The residents seem to be spending a great deal of time socializing and they described their lives as easy-going, with not all that many "high" cultural activities included, and not all that much variety in what their daily lives consisted of. They were very friendly and enjoyed talking. The language of course is Spanish. Except for a brief recent period of a few years, the inhabitants seem to have escaped the political convolutions of Argentina and Brazil, their looming neighbors.

Montevideo itself is a large port for maritime trade and there are quite a few interesting sights, although the report did not show much in terms of the very rich class since its focus was on the cantegriles and the very large middleclass. It certainly shattered my expectations of what a shanty town is in South America. By the way, when mentioning Uruguay, the resort town of Punta del Este may come to mind.

—**Anne-Marie Ambert**

### **PARAPROSDOKIANS**

Paraproisdokians are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and is frequently humorous. (Winston Churchill loved them.)

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you ... but it's still on my list.
3. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
4. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
5. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
6. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

(Contributed by **Bruno Bellissimo**)

## YURA Executive

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Jane Grant  
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### YURA Office Hours

Tuesday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Once there are no longer picket lines.**

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**Anne-Marie Ambert, Editor**

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