



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

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## My Journey to the Holy Land

*Israel & Egypt October 5 to 20, 2023 - by Gus Kieley*

Since having worked on a kibbutz in Israel at the age of 24 in 1969/1970, I have always wanted to return to visit the people who were so kind and welcoming to me, making me feel part of their family. I truly loved the Israeli people and the country.

As a young child, I became very familiar with Israel, the Holy Land, often from Biblical stories through the messages from the life of Jesus Christ. This was a dream come true for me to be working and living among a people who, for reasons I could never understand, seem to be hated by their fellow human beings.

Back then, despite the fact that Israel had just finished/won yet another conflict to keep their homeland, (the Six-Day War, 1967) there was relative peace and people had become content to simply work the land in harmony with one another. We were free to travel around Israel, enjoying the many wonders. The kibbutz folks, on our days off, took us to many of the sites including our specific Christian sites.

Now, in 2023 at the age of 78 years, some 54 years later, I found myself sitting on a plane taking us to Israel via Tel-Aviv. We arrived in the Holy Land October 5, 2023. Peaceful yes, until October 7, Hamas brutally launched a campaign of terror against Israel. This is not a political statement, just fact. War was declared between Israel and Hamas.

We were a fair distance away in Galilee. Since the fighting was near Jerusalem, we were safe and in fact, managed to do some great touring on and around the Sea of Galilee; an incredible experience. We stayed at our hotel on the Sea of Galilee for three days. We were then told that we would be leaving for Jerusalem as further hostilities broke out north near the Lebanon border. As our bus journeyed toward Jerusalem, we could see many military vehicles on their way to battle.

As well, along the way, we could see large groups of Israeli soldiers who had dropped their farming equipment and were heading for the battlefield.

We really did not stay long in Jerusalem. After an interrupted dinner we were all rushed into a bomb shelter. The next day, following instructions, we were forced to head away from Jerusalem. Our bus took us to the Dead Sea, where we dipped our hands and toes in the water and then went south to Eilat and beyond to an Israel / Egypt border crossing, Taba, which was relatively clear and safe. We all marched across the border and arrived into Egypt by foot, our luggage in tow and on reaching Egypt we bowed in profound gratitude as we proceeded on our journey. Despite the war, our host managed to get us to see many of the sites in Israel except for Jerusalem, where some of the fighting centered.

The last part of our journey was peaceful and really pleasant as we explored and enjoyed Egypt. We had gotten into Egypt and had done some touring at the pyramids, the Valley of the Kings including King Tutankhamun's tomb and Mount Sinai. Magnificent sites. We continued to explore Egypt on a luxury motorboat up and down the Nile, visiting some cities and temples from ancient times. What a delight that was, floating on the Nile for a few days.

On the final morning of our cruise we had breakfast on board and reluctantly disembarked, followed by a short bus ride to the Luxor Airport and off to Cairo to pick up our flight to Toronto. Because we were near a war zone, the flight was long and difficult. This was not the fault of the airline and our hosts did their best to keep us comfortable. Toronto soon came where we could kiss the ground of our homeland in gratitude.

The conflict in Israel has a long, sad history. There are no winners when innocent people die on both sides. Let us all hope and pray for lasting peace.

# Good eats, cheap eats & sweet spots

by Dr. Cammy Lee Bostwick

With food prices soaring, it's becoming more and more challenging to find good and cheap eats. Enter Sushi Club, a tiny restaurant with tables and booths on Charles Street just east of Bay. I ordered a Vegetable Bento Box (\$14). You get miso soup, salad, assorted vegetable tempura, four pieces of tofu with sauce and scallions, four avocado maki, four cucumber maki, two spring rolls and rice.

It's not the best Bento I've ever had but hey, at \$14, it arrives fresh, quick, and is cheaper than fast food. Itadakimasu!



## Green Corner

by the Green Committee

### 40 Homewood – we failed...again

In January 2022, we submitted our first article for an unwanted but necessary series about 40 Homewood's increasing garbage fees. We know reducing the amount of garbage we produce will save money for all residents. We know it will cut emissions and keep recycling and organics from sitting in a landfill for the rest of our lives. And yet, our garbage keeps increasing.

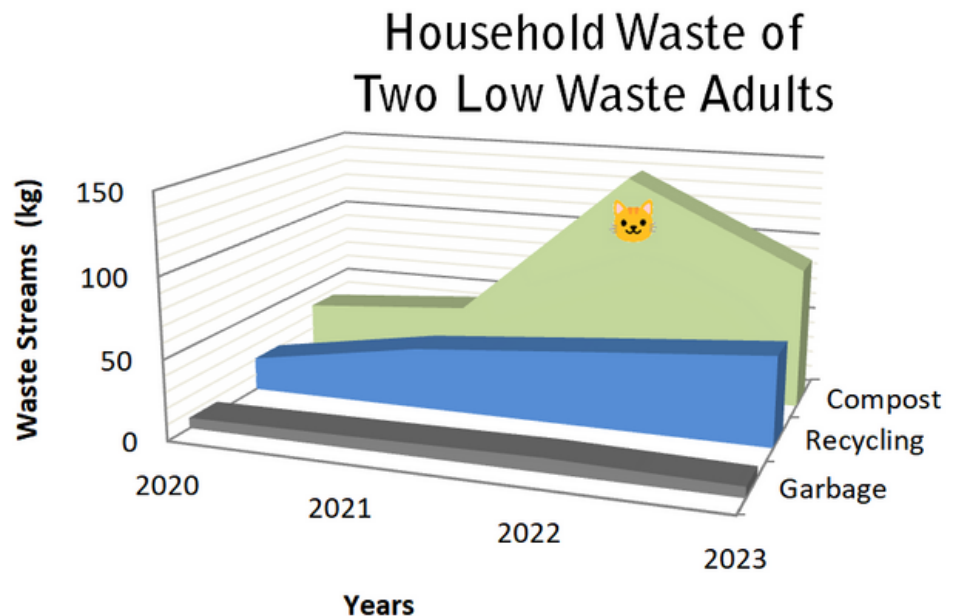
For this year's article, the Green Committee would like to present the low waste option. This household of two adults (and a cat) produces on average of only 7kg of garbage that goes to landfill annually. One-third of the household waste is recycled and 62% of the waste is composted at one of our local organics processing facilities here in Toronto.

Last year, we challenged residents to produce less than 1 cubic yard of garbage per household. It would take this particular household 15 years to create 1 cubic yard of garbage. Despite having residents like this in our building, we are still producing more than the city's estimate of what each household should produce.

Our waste removal fees are going up another 8% in 2024. Let's set a goal to do our best to go below budget for our waste removal fees in 2024. Be imperfect in your low-waste journey. It is better to make an effort than do nothing at all.

Please ask the office if you require a blue bag or compost bin to help divert waste from the landfill. Use the Waste Wizard website or download the app on your cell phone to help sort your waste.

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/recycling-organics-garbage/waste-wizard/>



# By-Law No. 4: Registration and Insurance

*from the Governing Documents Committee*

By-law #4 of YCC #75 was passed by the owners (256 for, 38 against) on September 28, 2023 and registered with the Land Registrar in mid-October. Our condominium corporation now has two by-laws: No.4, which is the general or Operating By-law, and By-law No.2, which is the Standard Unit By-law.

Among the many changes from the original 1972 by-law, the provisions about insurance and indemnity seem to be the most difficult for some owners to understand (see Article 10 of the by-law, page 23).

All owners are now required to carry general liability insurance for their unit. Owners should be careful to get condominium insurance, not house insurance, which is quite different.

When buying a new policy or checking on a present policy, be sure that it does contain condo deductible coverage. Use those words to inquire: "condo deductible." This coverage is now common with condo insurance policies, so your broker should know what you're talking about. If not, ask to speak to a supervisor. It may be that the broker's office is more informed than the actual insurance company. Call the broker. Our corporation's insurance now has deductibles of \$50,000 for water damage (the most common damage) and \$25,000 for other damage. The individual owner's insurance should cover those amounts.

These days, the cost of insurance keeps going up, so stay tuned for changes in the corporation's policy and owner's individual policy. This year, insurance companies are under pressure with wildfires and other disasters. Although we haven't had wildfires in Toronto, we may get bitten by this.

## Homewood History

*A correction from last month*

Correction to Homewood history from last month. It was implied the black and white photo was #29 and this is incorrect! It is actually #51 now destroyed and replaced with the four-plex at that same address.

Back and front of # 51 Homewood May 10, 1940 -->

Apologies from the newsletter designer for this error.





# Gallery Wall

*A look at what happened last month*



The 40 Homewood Annual Arts and Craft show was held in the party room on Sunday, November 19. We had nine participants showcasing their work. John the Baker was also there. He manned the café, had cookies baking in the kitchen and offered a wonderful selection of sweet and savoury baked goods. The members of the Social Committee thank everyone who attended and definitely thank those of you who showed your support for the artists by making purchases.

