**The Osoyoos Retreat- with apologies to Robert W Service!**

There are strange things that be in the OAC, by the artists who love to paint,

The Okanagan trails have their secret tales that would make an artist faint,

The annual retreat- we heard in a tweet- was the best in many a year,

With some art and some wine and fine places to dine,

It kicked into second gear!

At the end of May we were making our way along number 97,

Talk of the fun- through the bright yellow sun, there travelled a group of eleven,

Southward we went- without even a tent- we left from the city of Vernon,

In a convoy of cars- avoiding most bars- we were hoping to do some learnin’!

This motley crew, seeking ideas anew, in Penticton made their first stop,

Above the beach, Terry Isaac they reached- his studio was over the top!

Owls, wolves and quail- all prints were for sale, the originals such sights to behold,

With sock feet on a mat, but not even a hat, his efforts

 easily turned into gold!

That Thursday night, Osoyoos in sight, we gathered for appies and wine,

With fruit and cheese on a platter there was plenty of chatter, the evening turned out to be fine.

Bright and early next day we found our way to the community gallery of art,

With all items for sale, they just couldn’t fail, their creations came from the heart.

The very next night as we packed in tight at Sages, a pub we all know,

The artist were fed and the stars o’erhead were dancing heel and toe.

Sharon turned to us, without much of a fuss- ice cream next?

was what she said,

Well, she seemed so low that we couldn’t say no, -an icecap before off to bed!

A favourite of all- but not in a mall- the next gallery was run as a co-op,

The artists took turns- as we soon learned- in hanging and running the shop!

A group’s last need is a thing to heed so off on a wine tour we went,

Four wineries later- each one a bit greater- all of our our money was spent!

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The Okanagan trails have their secret tales that would make an artist faint!

The annual retreat- as heard in a tweet- was definitely enjoyed as a rare one

With some art and some wine, many places to dine- heartfelt thanks to our leader, Sharon!!