



The Newsletter

March—April 2010

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President's Message

As the seasons change and spring is about to arrive, we are only three months away from the CRTA's 50th Anniversary celebrations scheduled for June 9th. We are looking for more pictures and special stories from our glorious past. Do you have some to send to Greg Chitrenky?

Serving as president has been a rewarding experience, particularly getting to work with such a dedicated group of individuals who serve on the CRTA

Board of Directors. Without the hard work of these individuals we would not have accomplished the things we did or are looking forward to seeing happen. Here are some examples:

- February 18-19, 2011—CRTA volunteers manning information booth at the Calgary Teachers' Convention.
- March 1, 2011—ARTA Benefits Presentation—Information Update—under Ralph Levinson's leadership with support from Johnson Inc.
- March 4, 2011—ARTA Benefits Initiative Wellness Workshop—presenter Judy Steiert—"Redefining and/or Reinventing Ourselves". Rewarding Experience.
- March 26, 2011—CRTA's 3rd Annual art Sale and Show, skilfully planned and executed by Irene Bruzga.
- April 12–21, 2011 CRTA Travel Adventures—Tuscany Trip with Collette Travel—coordinated successfully by Mary and Don Checkley. This will be excellent.

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Important Dates

The Early Bird Registration for Steppin' Out 2011 has been extended to March 22.
Get on line and follow the directions.

Art Show on Saturday, March 26

Retired Teachers are proud to show the fruits of their labour.

St. Andrew United Church
924 Heritage Drive SW
(corner of Elbow and Heritage)
10.00 till 16.00 hrs

We are pleased to accept cash or cheques (NO credit cards) for purchases—or just come to view and brows. Over 40 artists will exhibit!

CBERA and AGM Luncheon

Wednesday, April 13
Blackfoot Inn
\$20 members (subsidized) - \$27 non-members

Steppin' Out 2011

Friday, April 29
Dalton Conference Centre
Details on CRTA website

CRTA 50th Anniversary Luncheon

Thursday, June 9
\$25 members—\$27 non-members

CRTA Luncheon AGM

Thursday, September 29
Blackfoot Inn

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- April 29, 2011—Steppin’ Out Conference—planned under Gordon Cumming’s capable leadership.
- Dedicated ongoing work with Jim Nielsen and the committee working on CRTA policies as they endeavour to follow up suggestions brought forth at the August 2010 CRTA Retreat.
- Check this newsletter and the website for more events

As we look forward to spring, more sunlight and political action in Alberta, there will be more issues to explore. We are looking at changes coming for CPP and what that will mean for more recently retired teachers. Our CRTA Pension Committee needs to be revitalized and we are looking for interested members to join. Does this appeal to you? (See further in this newsletter for details. Ed.)

Have you registered for ‘Steppin’ Out’? Have you invited a friend? We hope you are finding it more convenient to register on line this time. We welcome cheques from members who are not on the internet highway. April 29th will be a day to remember, we just need you there to make it happen.

Marg Brucker—President.

TRAVEL TO TUSCANY.

This April twenty-five adventurous souls are off on a trip to Italy to explore the Tuscany region under the guidance of a Collette travel guide. The trip was organized through the efforts of Don and Mary Checkley, retired teachers and members of the CRTA Board.

Don and Mary are already planning and organizing a 13-day day combined land/cruise trip for the Spring of 2012. It is to take in the Italian lake region and the Greek Isles. The European part is estimated at \$1099. Airfare has not yet been determined at this time.

Also in the beginning planning stages is a 16-day River cruise for the Fall of 2012. (Amsterdam—Budapest) Return to Amsterdam by air.

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Oktoberfest CBEREA

Friday October 14
Austrian Canadian Club
\$23 members—\$25 non-members

Christmas Luncheon CBEREA and CRTA

November 30
Carriage House Inn, Mcleod Trail S
West Dining Room (larger than 2010 room)
Members \$25—non-members \$27

Details for The 50th Anniversary Barbecue/
Luncheon:

- The Blackfoot Inn, 5942 Blackfoot Trail SE
- Doors open at 11.00 AM—Lunch to start at 11:30 AM.
- A choice of Patio or Dining Room seating
- Program to follow.
- Registration Between May 22 and June 2.
- E-mail: crtaluncheon@gmail.com or by phone:
Kay Samphire 403-242--0189
Jeannie McCauley 403-275-8025
- Mail your cheque no later than June 2,
to CRTA c/o Kay Samphire
3707—35 Avenue
Calgary SW
T3E 1A4

If you wish to pay by credit card go to the CRTA website and follow the links.

Any dietary restrictions should be mentioned when you register.

Food Donations: Veterans’ Foodbank

Henry Wisewood Senior High School 50th Anniversary

Linda Whitworth advised CRTA that on April 29 there will be a celebration of the above-mentioned school’s 50th anniversary. The organizing committee is working hard to make this event a success. They have not yet been able to contact all previous HWS staff at this time and request the help from CRTA in locating former staff. Contact Linda Whitworth ljra@telus.net

Gangbusters—Again

By Nick Gass

Someone said to me the other day, “We’re certainly are a docile lot!” The self-appointed rulers of Alberta (Not so! We elected them?) are poised to govern by administrative fiat (see bill 7) rather than democracy. (Democracy is so messy) and nary a retiree’s voice was raised in protest. \like where is all of the objection of the “bean counters”, we were so opposed to back in the heady days of working for a living? Then we complain about being dismissed as “over the hill”. Well, I guess that we must be –over the hill I mean– like: no one pays any attention to anyone who doesn’t demand attention!. It is some sort of psychological/philosophical certainty tenet. Becoming a force to be reckoned with is earned, not gifted. And yes, the “Big A” union shows all the signs of “regression to the mean”. But we , CRTA, are sort of new and vital despite our 50 year history; Recent leadership has reorganized and revitalized “the fire in the belly” - we’re on a roll! CRTA is no longer about four lunches a year. All we need now is a bone crushing membership. I conscripted three new members last year. “Well, good for you”, I heard someone say, “but I’m going to Arizona”. Lucky ole’ you! But before you go, persuade someone the throw in their \$20 and join CRTA.

From the editor: If you have a comment or would like to write an article send it by e-mail to crt2009@calgaryretiredteachers.ca.

Friends—Companions

Would you like to see a movie, go and see a play, go for a walk, be away for a week-end, some mid-week days or even longer, but are missing a partner to do the activity with? Juliette Hachey would like to help. She can take you name and pass it on to another person. The two of you could then get in contact by phone, or email and meet somewhere on neutral ground to find out if you like similar activities, movies etc.

Juliette stresses that this is NOT a match-making service. It is more in the line of: ‘I would like to see a movie or go for a city-hike, but I do not want to go by myself’. You may contact Juliette at 403-279-7640 or jmhachey@telus.net

Let Us Remember Respectfully

Those Colleagues

Who Passed Away Recently

2010

Steve Faminow	October 14
Victor Shymanski	November 13
Phyllis Audrey Morgan	November 19
Andrew Philip Cupit	November 23
Gwendolyn Mildred Nelson	November 28
Margaret Jean Saunders	November 29
Marion Hughes	December 5
George Glen (Elvin) Smith	December 7
Mary Collins	December 15
Tom Inkster	December 20
John DeQuincy Coats	December 21
Lilla Mae Kaulback	December 23

2011

Roberta Franklin (Bobby) Pritchard	January 8
Fabian Joseph Tremblay	January 9
Elizabeth (Betty) Syroilshka	January 10
Harvey Hegg	January 11
Helen Irene Coroon	January 12
David Wayne Teskey	January 16
Harold Bruce Gish	January 21
Neil Kenneth McKellar	January 24
Francis Jean Cole	January 25
Claire Kobes	January 27
Francis Stelck	January 27
Donalda Hodgert	February 1
Leona (Lee) Hanselman	February 7
Mae Estella Spaulding	February 11
Marian Ashley	February 27
Marion Clark	March 5
Therese (Terry) Meehan	March 6
Vera Trewin	March 7
Peggy Valentine	March 7
Phyllis Mae Herman	March 10
Ernest Alphonse Mancini	March 10
Germaine van Kampen	March 13
Verna Jeanetta Flynn	March 14

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If you are at all interested in either one of the 2012 undertakings let the Checkley’s know. 403-271-1193 or checklem@telusplanet.net

CRTA PENSION COMMITTEE

The CRTA is in the process of revitalizing its Pension Committee. If you are interested in learning more about your ATRF pension and willing to serve on this committee, please contact Gordon Cumming, CRTA past-president or Erich Berndt, CRTA Director and member of the Pension Committee.

You may wish to become a member of the CRTA Board of Directors or serve only in the capacity of being a member of the Pension Committee. Meetings will be held as needed and determined by the committee.

In the past, the Pension Committee, which is a Standing Committee of the CRTA, has looked at issues such as improving the annual Cost of Living, security and adequacy of the pension funds that the ATRF administers, redress for those who were caught in the 5% rollback of wages that affected their pensions, etc. as well as helping members to understand their pensions and studying the integration of CPP and OAS. Members of the Pension Committee also present workshops to active teachers informing them on their pension options once they retire.

Please consider serving your fellow retired colleagues in this capacity. Contact Gordon Cumming at cummingg@shaw.ca or Erich Berndt at erich@berndtcanada.com

Rosebud Theatre
Thursday, June 16 2011
Jake and the Kid
W.O Mitchell
Go to the website or watch your e-mail for details about this upcoming event

POVERTY AND RETIREES

The longer you have been retired the greater the chance that you are living on the poverty line. What is that line?

Single persons with a yearly income of \$24 500 or couples with a combined income of \$39 900 can apply to receive a monthly stipend from the Alberta Government. In 2010 the benefit amount ranged

from \$3 360 to \$5 040 a year depending on income.

If you think you qualify, or if you know of someone you think who may be in the category, apply at [Alberta Seniors Benefit Program](#)

[P.O.Box 3100](#)


[Edmonton, AB](#)

[T5J 4W3 Tel.800-642-3853 or seniors.gov.ab.ca](#)

In addition the Government of Alberta offers all seniors over the age of 65 a grant to cover the yearly increases to the education portion of their property taxes, based on the property tax increases from the year the applicant turned 65.

To apply use the above address.

Phone the Kerby Center if you need help filling out your income tax. They and other organizations can assist with this annual spring ritual.



ARTA's MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT 2011

On June 15th, 2011 the Northeast Alberta Retired Teachers' association will be hosting the 2011 version of the Annual ARTA Memorial Golf Tournament. This year the event will be held at the St. Paul Golf and Country Club in St. Paul, Alberta. The Memorial will be dedicated in memory of Gisele and Robert Kleinman, who lost their lives in a tragic traffic accident on December 22nd, 2010. In their retirement, just as in their active teaching careers, the Kleinmanns were strong supporters of programs that involved youth. They were most recently involved in the Alberta Youth Winter Games held in Bonnyville/Cold Lake. Having continuously served their community in a number of ways outside their profession, they hold a special place in the hearts and minds of the citizens of their home community of Bonnyville. The funds raised in this tournament will be in support of the Junior Golf Program in the Lakeland Golf Association area. CRTA members are asked to support this event. For further information go to www.albertarta.org or contact Paul Boisvert 1-780-645-3409 or hawkowl4@telus.net



Doorprizes and Winners

CBBEREA-CRTA Christmas Luncheon

December 8 2010

1.	Adorn accessory Boutique	Jewellery Box & Mirror	Gloria Rasmussen
2.	Galleria Arts and Crafts	Spice Tea	
	Bite Groceteria	Gift Certificate	Donna Laroque
3.	Scottish shop Calgary	Tartan Scarf	
		Coffee	Pat Kerr
4.	Ev Keddie	Christmas Cards and Box	Gordon Ashley Smith
5.	Fran Genereux	IKEA Cookbook	Robert Geals
6.	Stage West	Tickets for Motown	Gaye Ellen Shaw
7.	Johnson Insurance	Travel Blanket	Sheila Stephens
8.	Catrina Loman	Wool Scarf	Joe Palis
9.	Clara-Beau-Julie Ubaldi	Wonder Wallet	Carol Wood
10.	Stage West	Tickets to Motown	Wendy Lemon
11.	Donna Parsons	12 Christmas Cards	Anna Leinwebber
12.	Johnson Insurance	Travel Blanket	Betty Fenerty
13.	Norwex-Fran Gereux	Car Wash Mitt	Joyce Lyster
14.	Kathy Newman	Boxtop Card and Book	Carol Lylyk
15.	Rouge Restaurant	\$70 Gift Certificate	Marg Espetveidt
16.	Carriage House Inn	Two Brunch Tickets	Marie Rhodes
17.	ARTA	Three Gifts	Judy Snyder
			Ivan Murray

Don't forget 'Steppin Out' 2011. Early Bird Registration has been extended until March 22. Go on line and register for three of over twenty sessions. Hope to see you there!

Don't forget the ART SALE and SHOW.
Saturday, March 26
St. Andrews United Church
Northwest corners of Heritage Drive and Elbow Drive SW

In Conclusion

Some Thoughts from a CRTA Member

Seniors are constantly being criticized for every conceivable deficiency of the modern world, real or imaginary. They know and take responsibility for all that was done when they were young and do not blame others.

However, upon reflection they would like to point out that it was NOT the senior citizen who took:

The melody out of music,
The pride out of appearance,
The courtesy out of driving,
The romance out of love,
The commitment out of marriage,
The responsibility out of parenthood,
The togetherness out of family,
The learning out of education,
The service out of patriotism,
The Golden Rule from rulers,
The nativity scene out of the cities,
The civility out of behaviour,
The refinement out of language,
The dedication out of employment,
The prudence out of spending,
The ambition out of achievement,
God out of government and school.