



# The Newsletter

March 2014

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[www.calgaryretiredteachers.org](http://www.calgaryretiredteachers.org)

## Message from the President

### THE 2013—2014 CRTA EXECUTIVE

President Don Checkley  
([checklem@telusplanet.net](mailto:checklem@telusplanet.net))

Past President Marg Brucker  
([mabrucker@shaw.ca](mailto:mabrucker@shaw.ca))

Vice President Greg Chitrenky

Vice President Barb Smith

Secretary Marg Espetveidt

Treasurer Paul Demers

### Directors

Terry Allen Casino

Ena Beunder Newsletter

Mary Checkley  
Foreign/Provincial Travel

Gordon Cumming Steppin' Out

Norma Ellis Liaison Senior Groups

Fran Genereux Social

Linda Manwarren Social

Juliette Hachey

Trudy Hall

Margaret Kurtze

Garry Jeffrey Membership  
([gjeffrey@shaw.ca](mailto:gjeffrey@shaw.ca))

Gordon Marconi

Jim Nielsen Short Day Trips

Consider joining CRTA as a Director  
for 2014-2015

About a year ago the CRTA Executive was being advised that because of privacy regulations the Alberta Retired Teachers Association (ARTA) would no longer be allowed to share member data with its branches. CRTA then made arrangements with STRIDE Management, the company that had been contracted to build ARTA's web site and accompanying services, to develop a web site and data processing component independent from ARTA.

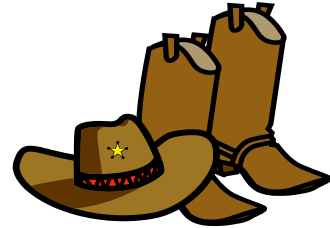
In the beginning of December 2013 the two data banks were separated. No longer could one go to the ARTA site and choose the CRTA button to access one's personal information. In the process of transferring the data glitches occurred and we are still dealing with those to the best of our ability. A number of our members were on the receiving end of a 'glitch' when they were advised that their membership had expired on June 30, 2013. Garry Jeffrey and Ena Beunder spent many hours correcting inaccurate data. Please feel free to call them still, if you have found a cancelled cheque, membership card with June 2014, or a payment made on a credit card, showing that we have an error in our data base indicating you as a non-member.

It is our intend to facilitate the sending of e-mails and The Newsletter through the technology provided by our updated website. We must apologize to our approximately 125 'guinea pigs', who have received trial email messages. Your patience is much appreciated. We also need to thank Greg Chitrenky, CRTA's webmaster, for the many hours he has spent working on this initiative.

Our new website will soon be able to provide you with the following services:

- ◆ Change your password
- ◆ Change you address and phone number
- ◆ Renew your membership on line through a secured line
- ◆ Print your own receipt/membership card
- ◆ Register and pay on line for events offered by CRTA

Please stay patient as CRTA continues on the path of technology. So far we have found it exciting, although at times frustrating. We look forward to the day this project will be successfully completed.



## **CRTA Spring Barbeque (DRESS WESTERN)**

### **NEW LOCATION!!!**

**Place:** Carriage House Inn – 9030 MacLeod Trail South

**Date:** June 5, 2014

#### *Menu –*

*Chicken in a port wine sauce with pasta and roasted root vegetables  
salad and dessert.*

**Time:** Doors open at 11:00 am          Program starts at 11:30 am

**Cost:** \$25.00 members          \$27.00 non-members

**Registration Dates:** May 15 to May 29.

All payments must be received by June 2nd

NO WALK-INS CAN BE ACCEPTED

Online – [www.calgaryretiredteachers.org](http://www.calgaryretiredteachers.org)

Telephone - Fran Genereux          403 238 4906

Linda Manwarren          403 259 5597

**Please indicate any dietary restrictions when you register.**

**Dietary requests cannot be made with online registration.**

Payment by Cheque made out to CRTA and mailed to:

F. Genereux

132 Oakfield Pl SW

Calgary Alberta T2V 0J2

**Donations will be collected for the Calgary Interfaith Foodbank**

## Door Prize List – 2014 Christmas Luncheon

	Item	Donor	Winner	
1	Cobbs Bakery \$25.00 Gift Certificate	Willow Park	Muriel Toth	
2	Montana's Cook House \$25 Gift Certificate	Signal Hill	Sandi Grassick	
3	Richmond Pub and Eatery - \$25 Gift Certificate	Richmond Square	Diane LaFramboise	
4	Alberta Cheese Company \$50 Gift Certificate		Fran Genereux	
5	CRTA June Luncheon ticket and The Classic Rockies by George Brybycin	CRTA	Marg McCallum	
6	CRTA Membership and The Classic Rockies by George Brybycin	CRTA	Sherrie McRae	
7	REA AMG – 2 tickets and The Classic Rockies by George Brybycin	REA	Carole Lylyk	
8	Hand Made Cards	Ev Keddie	Marie Forester	
9	OWLS NEST Books Gift Pkg	Britannia	Emilie Kaminski	
10	Starbucks Gift Bag	Signal Hill	Chuck Rose	
11	Second Cup Gift Bag	Signal Hill	Debbie Ireland	
12	Good Earth Gift Package	Glenmore Landing	Elaine Stewart	
13	Smitty's Pancake House \$25 Gift Certificate	Macleod Trail	Juliette Hachey	
14	Eidelweiss Gift Package		Jeannie McCauley	
15	Mastermind Toys \$40 Gift Package	West Hills	Margaret Rose Best	
16	The Sewing Room –Gift Certificate –value up to \$175	Macleod Trail	Nancy Blanchard	
17	Stage West – 2 tickets		Helena Wilson	
18	Calgary Tower – 4 tickets		Marjorie Challand	
19	Carriage House Sunday Brunch for 2		Jaqueline Dawson	
20	Carriage House Dinner for 2		Nancy Roberts	
21	Classic Rockies by George Brybycin		Robert Stewart	

## Membership

The membership committee is aware that some members forget that CRTA's membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. (the same as ARTA's, but different from CBE-REA.) With the new website we will be able to send a reminder to our members letting them know when to renew their membership.

There will be a 3-month window to pay the \$20 fee. On October 1, if the fee is not paid, the member's name will be moved

to the 'inactive' list and he/she will no longer receive information from CRTA.

Members with no e-mail will know their expiry year (**always June 30**) by checking the mailing label on their correspondence from CRTA. The move to our own web site is allowing CRTA to become more efficient in its administration.

**Things to Come!**

**What to Do?**

**So many Choices!**

**All these trips are subsidized through CRTA  
Casinos!**

**Proposed Calendar of Events 2014**

**March 19** **Wellness Workshop** at Brentwood Baptist Church, 3512—Charleswood Drive NW, 10:00 till 2:30 PM Dr. Bonnie Dobbs of the University of Alberta will speak about the SIMARD test (a driving test for people suspected of having diminished mental ability)

After Lunch the topics will be Fitness in the Home and the Benefits of Pole walking.

Cost, including lunch is \$10.00. A few openings are still available.

Contact Linda Manwarren

403-259-5597(non e-mail connected members)

lmanwarren@gmail.com

NO LATER THAN MARCH 15

**April 5** **Annual CRTA ART SHOW**  
**St. Peters Anglican Church**  
**Corner of Elbow Drive and 75th Avenue SW**

Retired teachers and other retirees show case their artistic talents. Opportunity to view, learn, be introduced to arts/crafts, to buy (cash and cheques only), or to just enjoy and encourage the artists.

**April 10** **Bus trip to Muttart Conservatory, Edmonton**  
For details watch your email. (403-271-1193 non-email members only for info). Cost \$20.00 for CRTA members, \$30 for Non-Members. Includes lunch. (Don & Mary Checkley—organizers)

**April 24** **Steppin'Out 2014 Dinner \$35.00 pp**  
**Ramada Inn & Conference Centre**  
(formerly Greenwood Inn & Conference Centre)

5:30 PM till about 9:00 PM

No-Host bar followed by dinner and entertainment by Barry Luft.

**April 25** **Steppin'Out 2014 Conference \$60.00 pp**

For details and registration information go to [calgaryretiredteachers.org](http://calgaryretiredteachers.org) Members not connected to email received an information package in the mail.

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## **A Message to our Non-Email**

### **Connected Members**

**You and ONLY you may contact the person who is organizing the excursions by the phone number listed. It is only to tell him/her, after you receive notice of the planned trip through this Newsletter, that you would like to get on the trip, but do not have email to register.**

**Again, this applies only to CRTA members without an internet connection.**

Not registered yet? Send cheque and registration form to Paul Demers,

416 Silvervalley Road NW, Calgary T3B 4B9

You will receive notice by email or by mail to

confirm your registration. For further information

contact Gordon Cumming [cummingg@shaw.ca](mailto:cummingg@shaw.ca) or

403-288-5731 (Phone only for non-email members)

**April 27** **Vale's Nursery, Black Diamond**

Bring your own clean, EMPTY planter, gloves and learn to make your pots look spectacular. Sunday Brunch

included. Look on line for details. No internet?

Call Jim and Linda Nielsen and let them know that you would like to be part of the fun. 403-669-3236

Cost \$20.00 **plus the cost of plant material bought.**

**May ???** **Aspen Crossing & Fieldstone Winery**

See a spectacular greenhouse and gift shop in

Mossleigh, and visit a winery in Strathmore. Lunch, in an antique railway car, is included in the price. More

information to come on line. Members with no email may call Jim at 403-669-3235 Cost \$20.00

**May 28—June 12 CRTA—Collette Vacations**

Several members of CRTA will be on a European Waterway Vacation—Budapest to Amsterdam

**June 5** **Spring Luncheon—Carriage House Inn**

**June ?** **Heritage Park 50th Anniversary Tour**

Lunch included. Details May Newsletter

(Organizer Don Checkley)

**June ?** **Rosebud Theatre—Chickens (Musical)**

(Organizer Margaret Espetveidt)

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**Medicine Hat Retired Teachers  
Present  
Clarence M Goldade Memorial  
Golf Tournament  
Monday, June 16  
Connaught Golf Club  
Register with [hrhof@shaw.ca](mailto:hrhof@shaw.ca)**

Get together with three buddies  
and enjoy a fun day in

Medicine Hat, the sunniest city in Alberta. CRTA will pay the \$100 registration fee. Contact Don Checkley, [checklem@telusplanet.net](mailto:checklem@telusplanet.net)

## Alberta Retired Teachers Association ARTA

Our provincial organization has two openings available on its Benefits Trust Board. As this is a "Hands-Off" position, people interested in applying must not be sitting on the boards of any of provincial branches of ARTA. Contact the ARTA Office in Edmonton or Gordon Marconi, [gmarconi@telus.net](mailto:gmarconi@telus.net), 403-933-2360 for more information. Gordon Marconi is CRTA's representative on the ARTA Benefits Committee.

## Technology

"Who can help CRTA members with figuring out an iPad or Android device?" is a question we asked Norma Ellis to research. Norma was able to find the following resources:

CBE—Adult Education has two half day classes. One for iPad, the other for Android. Seniors 65+ receive a 10% discount.

The Good Companion 50 Plus Club, 2609-19 Avenue SW has someone who teaches in the use of the devices for a very minimal fee. Contact their office to further inquire 403-249-6991

The Apple Stores in Calgary are also very helpful in teaching how to work with the iPad or iPod

## Remembrance Day November 11, 2014

As we did last year CRTA would like to participate in the wreath laying ceremonies in Calgary again. Last year Don Checkley, Charley Grant and Sharon Terray represented the Calgary retired teachers. We would like to extend the opportunity to lay a wreath to other members of our organization. The wreaths are provided by CRTA. ([Don Checkley, checklem@telusplanet.net](mailto:Don Checkley, checklem@telusplanet.net))

Sharon Terray moved many of us with her personal story of family members and the war. There must be other stories out there! Consider writing them and we would be happy to publish them. Contact Ena Beunder, [cbeunder@shaw.ca](mailto:cbeunder@shaw.ca)

## Change in Membership Renewal Procedure

There will be NO opportunity to pay membership fees at either the Steppin' Out Conference or at the June Luncheon.

Your are asked to mail your cheque to

Garry Jeffrey,

Brentwood Green NW,

Calgary T2L 1L4

during the month of June to buy or renew your membership for the year July 1, 2014 till June 30, 2015. You may pay for multiple years.

You may also make your payment on line.

## CRTA Web Site

To access the new CRTA Web Site enter **[calgaryretiredteachers.org](http://calgaryretiredteachers.org)** in your browser. In the very top bar of the home page, right hand side is the Membership-Login button. First time users will see email address, log-in, register and change password. **First time users must click on register first.** Your email address and the password that worked on the ARTA /CRTA website, does NOT work on CRTA's new site. You MUST create a new password.

Once this is done, keep following the prompts and you will see a Member Page with text on the left hand side: Account maintenance, Account activities, Change password, Event registration, Renew membership and Logout. The web site is FULLY SECURED

The web site will also be used to send e-mails to our membership, as well as The Newsletter. You will receive an e-mail message informing you that The Newsletter is available by clicking on a link. We intend to make this Newsletter the first to be send to you in this manner.

Any question with regard to the delivery of The Newsletter should be directed to the webmaster, Greg Chitrenky, [gjchitrenky@hotmail.com](mailto:gjchitrenky@hotmail.com)

**Steppin' Out** needs a few more volunteers on April 25.

The committee is looking for a few members who can host a speaker, help sell raffle tickets and other duties. Call Gordon Cumming 403-288-5731 or [cummingg@shaw.ca](mailto:cummingg@shaw.ca)

