



The Newsletter

May 2015– June 2015

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www.calgaryretiredteachers.org

THE 2014—2015 CRTA EXECUTIVE

President	Don Checkley (checklem@telusplanet.net)
Past President	Marg Brucker (mabrucker@shaw.ca)
Vice President	Greg Chitrenky
Vice President	Barb Smith
Secretary	Marg Espetveidt
Treasurer	Paul Demers
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Terry Allen	Casino
Ena Beunder	Communications
Mary Checkley	Foreign/Provincial Travel
Gordon Cumming	Steppin'Out
Norma Ellis	Liaison Senior Groups
Trudy Hall	Director at Large
Garry Jeffrey	Membership
Margaret Kurtze	Director at Large
Joe Manchurek	Director at Large
Linda Manwarren	Social
Gordon Marconi	Director at Large
Jim Nielsen	Short Day Trips
Rolande Parel	Director at Large
Brian Scott	Director at Large

Thanks from Steppin'Out 2015

The Organizing Committee of Steppin' Out would like to thank all participants for an outstanding event this year. We want to thank all the presenters for time spent, enthusiasm for their topic, and investment in the audiences.

Special Thanks go to our Sponsors:



Alberta Retired Teachers Association



VIA Rail Canada



and



Our thanks go out as well to the following people who generously donated Door Prizes:

Barry Marks The Beehive Calgary Association of Lifelong Learners
Catrina Loman Dalton's Conference Center
Dan Sinclair David Peyto Julie Jansen/Allison Swelin
Golden Acre Garden Centre Heritage Park Jane Reksten
Kath Smyth Philip and Sebastian Pipestone Travel
Mary Djusfors Sobeys

See You Again In 2016

Steppin'Out Door Prize Winners

Chapters/Indigo \$25.00 Gift Certificates and chocolate bars were won by

Gary Gurbaksh

Dave Devlin

Sheila Humphrey

Jiim Nielsen

Carol Mewha

Marilyn Zelenka

Mary Martens

Donna Gendre

Bev Montgomery

Juanita Knight

Marilyn Woodward was the winner of a silk scarf hand-made by ***Catrina Loman***.

Mary Djufors, an artist from Okotoks, donated three of her paintings. Winners of these items were Helen Corns, Pat Jones and Estella Rung

Shirley Baker was the recipient of a huge basket of soaps and candles donated by ***The Bee Hive on 10 Street***.

Laurie Baker from TW Insurance donated four prizes:

Mavis Ingelsrud, a picnic basket

Doug Rhodes, a barbecue utensil set

Glynis McCance a Kanata Car blanket

Lesia Perritt, a car emergency kit

Dalton Conference Centre donated two brunch tickets. Diane Brossart was the lucky winner.

The raffle with its grand prize of a trip for two with VIA RAIL and \$500 cash spending money was won by Ron Thompson from Leduc, AB

Let Us Take A Moment to Remember Those Colleagues Who Passed Away Recently

2014

Annona Marie Corbett December 17

Elsie Knight December 28

2015

Kathleen "Kae" Valeria Sparks January 2,

Alasdair MacDonald March 21

John Schellenberg March 21

Mona Marie Jakubowski March 23

Charles James Grant March 31

Donald Mackay March 31

Alice Honkala April 14

Joyce Isabelle Gosling April 21

Ada Taylor April 21

Patricia "Pat" Campbell April 29

Margaret Frances Beames May 3

Cynthia Rose Squarek May 9

Elizabeth Agnes Miller May 13

Membership

The 2014-2015 membership year is soon coming to an end. New memberships for the coming year 2015-2016 can be bought from Garry Jeffrey, CRTA's Director for Membership. Please mail your cheque for \$20 to Garry's address

4412 Brentwood Green NW

Calgary AB T2L 1L4

Regular memberships are for retired teachers only. An Associate Membership can be bought for a spouse, or a friend. The cost is the same and the benefits are the same, with the exception that Associate Members cannot vote at the AGM.

Brain Training Study—U of C

At the Board of Directors Meeting on May 11, 2015 Mai Lee, a researcher from the department of Psychology, made a presentation of a study currently in progress at the University of Calgary. The purpose of the study is to determine if brain training games are beneficial to seniors over 65 years of age. There are many types of games available on the market today. Are some more beneficial than others in enhancing attention, memory and decision making abilities in seniors?

To participate in this interesting and relevant study one has to be over 65 years of age and be generally healthy. The time commitment is 30 minutes a day of playing computer games, 5 days a week for a period of 8 weeks.

A control group will continue to proceed with life as before. Both, the training group and the control group will have an intake and exit interview.

For more information go to www.braintrainingstudy.ca or phone 403 220 4238

Casino March 14—15, 2015

During the event a group of 28 CRTA Directors and volunteers manned the Elbow River Casino. A total amount of \$150 000 was generated on those two days. This money is now being pooled with other casino's in the province and will be paid out to the sponsoring organizations through a "magic" formula. CRTA expect to receive its share sometime in June. These moneys will help CRTA to maintain the many programs it organizes for the benefit of its membership.

Our gratitude goes out to Terry Allen, who has been in charge of the Casino applications, kept an eye on the disbursement of moneys and organized the volunteers.

CRTA is searching for a person to replace Terry, who

is looking forward to easing into his 2nd retirement. If you have been retired from teaching for a number of years, have done some traveling and are now well rested, come and join CRTA. Carry on where Terry is leaving off and bring you ideas. The Board of Directors welcomes you. Contact CRTA's current president Don Checkley, checklem@telusplanet.net or past-president Marg Brucker, mabrucker@shaw.ca

Technology

Behind the scene much progress has been made over the past several months to make the process of enrolling in different programs easier. Members can register on line and pay on line through the Pay - Pal connection. Gordon Cumming reported with a sigh of relief that the automatic registration and Pay-Pal option worked well for the 250 registrants for Steppin'Out. Soon we hope to have the membership data base working smoothly as well.

Is there a retired teacher or associate member out there, who would like to learn the ropes of web-master and associated technical/computer skills? Training and support will be provided. If you are interested and available contact the people in the article above.

ARTA Walking Challenge 2015

Again all over the province of Alberta retired teachers are walking to improve, or maintain their health. Last year an incredible number of steps were taken, with one outstanding achievement from a colleague in Red Deer who walked well over a million steps in three months. Seventy Calgary retirees have picked up the gauntlet this year. Thirty top walkers will be entered in the provincial challenge. **GO CRTA !**



Reminder

Tuesday, June 3, 11.00 am Spring Luncheon at the Ramadan Plaza Airport Hotel, home of Steppin'Out.
Come and enjoy good food and good entertainment.



Would Marj Weerstra and Marilyn Patterson have looked so relaxed and care-free, if they had known who was waiting for them on the Pearl River?



CRTA—TRAVEL On April 19 thirty-two CRTA members and affiliates traveled early in the morning to Denver and on to New Orleans. It was the starting point of a seven-day event filled period of three cities each with its own distinctive musical flavor: jazz and zydeco in New Orleans, the history of the blues and early rock in Memphis and country music with the famous Grand Ol' Opry in Nashville. For us "Northerners the music we heard all around us in the street and spilling over from the bars on Bourbon Street was truly delightful. Collette Travel provided us with an excellent tour guide, who was born and raised in New Orleans, as well as with local guides, who on walking tours and bus tours, taught us in a very short time the historical high lights of each venue. Although a tour in a Louisiana swamp has nothing to do with music, it was a coincidence that the captain/guide of one of the swamp boats happened to be a jazz pianist, who played the same club we had just visited the evening before. Ena Beunder

Our Programs and Coordinators as provided by Don Checkley

ENTERTAINMENT

Rosebud Theatre Bus Trips

Coordinator—Magaret Espetveidt —CRTA Secretary

Margaret organizes two bus trips a year. One in June, the other one in late November. This latter being the traditional Rosebud Theatre Christmas show.

Cirque de Soleil

Coordinator— Marg Brucker—Past President CRTA & Chair of Human Resources Committee ARTA.

Margaret organized a night at the Cirque de Soleil on May 19.

Jubilations Theatre

Coordinator—Linda Manwarren—CRTA Board Member and Social Convener.

Linda organized an evening visit to Jubilations Theatre to see "Pirates of the North Saskatchewan III on February 11.

Broadway Shows

Coordinator— Kathy Newman CRTA Volunteer—Steppin'Out Committee member.

Kathy will organize a night at the Broadway show, when it passes through Calgary.

LUNCHEONS

Coordinator—Linda Manwarren, CRTA Board Member and Social Convener

In 2001 the extend of CRTA's activities was organizing four activities: three lunches and a Tea and publish a newsletter. The Tea was held in conjunction with the Teachers' Convention in February. Three luncheons are remaining as the CCTCA declined to continue sponsoring the activity for its former members.

June 3—Spring Luncheon at the Ramada Plaza airport Hotel (formerly Greenwood Inn)

September 24—Luncheon and AGM at the same venue.

Christmas Luncheon in conjunction with REA-CBE at the Carriage House Inn

SCIENCE FAIR VOLUNTEERS

Coordinator—Terry Allen—CRTA Board Member.

Each year Terry organizes the opportunity for CRTA members to help out at the local Calgary Youth Science Fair either as judges or crowd control. The 2015 Fair was held on April 15

TEACHERS' CONVENTION

Coordinators—Barb Smith—CRTA Vice-President and Paul Demers—CRTA Treasurer.

Members of CRTA volunteer to man the ARTA/CRTA booth at the convention to hand out information on the ARTA Benefits plan and the benefits of joining CRTA.

TRAVEL

Trips to China and South-East Asia

Coordinator—Greg Chitrenky—CRTA Vice President and CRTA Webmaster.

CRTA does not offer any trips to the above locales, but Greg has managed to obtain excellent travel packages to these part of the world.

Collette—CRTA Travel—Coordinators Don Checkley—CRTA President, Mary Checkley—Board Member.

On April 26 a successful trip to the American Music Cities: New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville was completed.

March 4—March 30, 2016 - A trip to Australia and New Zealand is in the planning stages.

Day Trips

Coordinator—Jim Nielsen—Board Member, Linda Nielsen—volunteer.

NEW

Because of CRTA' expansion into many different activities, we are forced to create a new committee that will be examining the By-Laws, policies and procedures to be followed by CRTA. Our old regulations need to be updated so a new committee called **GOVERNANCE** has been created to deal with the problem.

GOVERNANCE

Coordinators—Don Checkley CRTA President and Brian Scott—Board Member



Enjoy the Summer and Watch Your Garden Grow.

NOTICE TO DAY TRIPPERS

South Centre Mall has requested that the coordinator of a day-trip departing from South centre Mall provides the management with the type of car, colour and licence plate number. Please cooperate when asked for that information.

CBE-REA

To H... with the Bell breakfast will take place on September 1.

Calgary Elks Lodge and Golf Club

2502—6 Street NE

Time 9:30—12:00 noon

\$22.00 includes GST and gratuity

Contact person Meva MacDonald, mevamacdonald@shaw.ca or 403-274-1027