

Marjorie Weerstra	President	251-9742
Gordon Branson	Vice-President	242-6161
Sue Wood	Secretary	271-4244
Paul Demers	Treasurer	286-8338
Garry Jeffrey	Membership	289-2807
Ena Beunder	Newsletter	288-3895
Nina Tait	Social Convenor	403-886-2649
Elsie Kushnir	Social Convenor	239-0849
Ralph Levinson	Rep. Benefits Comm.	948-3691
Helen Brown	Rep. CSR	274-0943
Pat Sokolosky	Member at Large	280-5586
Jean Hutchinson	Member at Large	282-6179
Chuck Rose	Member at Large	288-5266
Lois Marchand	Member at Large	271-3036



**CRTA NEWSLETTER
2004 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER**

LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, 2004 DECEMBER 15

**Best Western Village Park Inn (1804 Crowchild Trail NW)
(notice the change of venue)**

\$ 19.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity)

(Please note the slightly higher cost is for this occasion only)

Doors will be open at 11:00 am - Christmas Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Although we usually collect donations at the Christmas luncheon, the Food Bank has indicated that supplies get very low AFTER the holiday season. For this reason we have decided to collect your donations at the April 2005 luncheon instead of this one. Thank you in advance for your anticipated participation.

PHONERS – ATTENDANCE

Phoners are asked to make their phone calls to the members between Wednesday, December 1st. and Wednesday, December 8th. Report your numbers to Elsie (239-0849) or Pat (241-0929) on or before the afternoon of December 8th.



If you have just joined our group, please phone Elsie if you wish to attend.

TO THE LUNCHEON GUESTS

Please be aware that once you confirm your attendance at the luncheon you will be responsible for the cost of the meal. If you find that you are unable to attend after you have confirmed, please contact Elsie or Pat (numbers above) before December 8th. Since the CRTA has to pay for all meals ordered, the Executive appreciates that most members who cancel at the last moment do pay for their meals.

FAREWELL FROM THE PRESIDENT

As of 2004 December 15 I will have completed my term as your President. I would like to thank the members of the Executive, who have all supported me. I would also like to offer all of you my thanks for being members and being available to assist the association in many ways. We have moved forward to a more active group with the involvement in the LTD monies and the Pension Committee work.

As Past President I will continue to be part of the Executive. I look forward to working with present and new members on the Executive in the coming year.

We always need new members on the Executive, so think about offering your help.
Again, a sincere thank you to all - Marj.

INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS

As Marj indicated, she is leaving the position of President. Unfortunately, at this time we are also losing our Vice-President, Gordon Branson. Gordon was successful in his bid for a council position in Rockyview District. In addition his possible appointment as a Trustee in the matter of the LTD monies would place him in a conflict of interest.

Your Executive will make interim arrangements for the remainder of this year, to be announced and ratified at the December luncheon.

Please consider letting your name stand for election to the Executive for 2005-2006. Indicate your interest to any member of the Executive. Elections for next year will be held at the June luncheon.

BIG BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Big Brothers & Big Sisters has launched a program called Between Generations, in which seniors are matched with two children at select Elementary schools here in Calgary.

Mentors spend 40 minutes with each child separately, participating in educational games, reading, and crafts. Time is always spent one-on-one with the children. Other Senior Mentors are in the same area at the school at the same time, visiting with their matches.

After the students go back to class, all Mentors meet over coffee and muffins - compliments of Big Brothers and Big Sisters. A Mentoring Coordinator is always present to provide activities and great new ideas for the next visit - and Mentors are welcome and encouraged to bring in their own hobbies and interests to share!

Senior Mentors are greatly needed to help raise up resilient young people who feel connected and cared-for as they journey towards adulthood. For more information call Big Brothers & Big Sisters today at 777-3535.



THE AERO SPACE MUSEUM



The Aero Space Museum is looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:

Visitor Services Host – work in the gift shop and reception area, providing prompt and courteous customer service to all our guests.

Tour Guides – teach curriculum-based educational programs to school-aged visitors, demonstrate hands-on activities and lead impromptu and previously scheduled tours. On

the job training is provided and shifts vary from weekly/bi-weekly-monthly.

For more information contact Kim at 250-3752 Ext 107.

NOTES FROM THE ARTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Seven members of CRTA's Executive attended the meeting in Edmonton on October 27th. The AGM gives the 14 branches an opportunity to be involved at the provincial level, and the delegates gain useful ideas to promote and expand the branches.

Election results:

President	Jack Fulwiler (Lethbridge)
Vice-President	Paul Boisvert (St Paul)
Past President	Gordon Lowe (Lethbridge)
Secretary	Edwin Olsen (Rimbey)
Treasurer	John Takahashi (Edmonton)

The main item of discussion was the governance model. A change to a new Governance model was debated and accepted, and the bylaws were reviewed and amended. During the coming year the Representative Committee will work on the implementation of this model, which will involve changes in the organization of the ARTA office. Mr. Sweet (who spoke to us about this matter at the October luncheon) and Ms Billie Thompson did an excellent presentation.

CBE-LTD "SURPLUS" MONIES

The Alberta Teachers' Association, under the direction of Mr Earl Hjelter, is actively pursuing discussions with the Calgary Board of Education regarding the SunLife LTD Reserve Fund. The ATA is proposing to take a leadership role in the process of distributing funds to all eligible beneficiaries (those who paid premiums into the LTD program during the years 1981 through 1997).

At this time over 97% of all employee-group beneficiaries have formally endorsed the ATA proposal. It is anticipated that this will speed up the collection and distribution process.

Gordon Branson has agreed to allow his name to stand as nominee for the position of Judicial Trustee. If real progress is made, more information will be presented at the December luncheon.

CRTA AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS AND PENSION ISSUES

Work is continuing in this area. The committee has met with various groups and the Premier's assistant. The Committee is waiting for a meeting with Mr Klein. For further information please contact Dr Chuck Rose or Dr Ralph Levinson.

MEMBERSHIP – Calgary Retired Teachers' Association – CRTA

Thank you to all those people who have recently renewed their memberships. You will find your membership card enclosed with this mailing. For those who have not yet renewed, please take a moment and send your application (included in this newsletter) and a cheque for \$15 to Garry Jeffrey, 4412 Brentwood Green NW, Calgary, AB T2L 1L4.

MEMBERSHIP – Alberta Retired Teachers' Association – ARTA:

We received a request from our provincial association to remind you that provincial **ARTA** memberships need to be renewed on July 1. A valid **ARTA** membership is required in order to participate in the various group health plans offered by Johnson Insurance. This membership/insurance connection becomes especially important when group insurance benefits with the School Board by which you were employed run out. A membership application form for **ARTA** is included in this newsletter

LUNCHEON DATES AND VENUES FOR 2005

2005 April 13	Carriage House Inn (Macleod Trail South)
2005 June 15	Village Park Inn (Crowchild Trail NW)
2005 February 16	Teachers' Convention Tea at the Carriage House Inn: Retired Teachers' Convention Get Together 2005 February 16, 2:00 – 4:00 pm The Carriage House Inn (9930 Macleod Trail South) Guest Speaker is Nancy Hill (2:30 pm)

Come and enjoy an afternoon of friendship and conversation.
Complimentary coffee, tea, and light dessert.

Phoners will be contacting you, as we need to know the numbers attending. If you plan to attend and your phoner has not contacted you by February 9th please call Pat Young (241-0929) or Pat Sokolosky (280-5586) Phoners are asked to make their phone calls between February 1st and February 8th. Phone your numbers in to either Pat Young (241-0929) or Pat Sokolosky (280-5586).

TAKE A MOMENT TO REMEMBER THOSE OF OUR COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Beattie, Catherine Elizabeth (known to her friends as "Cate") - died in a tragic accident near Perth, Australia on October 3. Cate had taught in several different schools in Calgary for 20 years before moving to Australia in 2000. She is remembered by colleagues as a "vibrant, energetic person who really cared about kids".

Erickson, Evelyn Margaret - was born on March 13, 1920 in Saskatoon, SK. She received her teaching Certificate from Calgary Normal School and continued her education for many years after. In 1971 she graduated with a B Ed from the University of Calgary. Evelyn served as principal for many years at various Calgary Catholic schools.

Forbes, Elizabeth (Beth) Frances - passed away November 3 at the age of 92. She was born in Medicine Hat in 1912. Beth enjoyed a long career as a teacher and principal. Her love of children was evident in all that she did for them.

Hausdorf, Mary Elizabeth (nee Strban) - passed away in Canmore on October 10. She was born in 1910. Mary Elizabeth was one of the first graduates of the Canmore High School and went on to study at the Calgary Normal school. She taught at a number of rural Alberta schools.

Huck, Esther - Esther was born in Luseland, SK. She began her teaching career in 1964. After the completion of a B Ed at the University of Calgary in 1972, she continued working as a teacher, Vice Principal and Principal and Language Arts Consultant. She retired in 1980.

Lamb, Ivy - Ivy was born on May 21, 1917. She was a graduate of the Moose Jaw Normal School. Before her marriage she taught at a number of small schools in rural Saskatchewan. Because of a teacher shortage, Ivy resumed her career in public education in 1948. She then mostly taught Kindergarten and the primary grades. She retired from education in 1974 as Vice-Principal in Bready, Saskatchewan.

Martin, Victoria Anastasia - Victoria passed away on October 20, 2004 at the age of 90. She was born in Langdon, AB and was a graduate of the Calgary Normal School. She began teaching in the Rosebud and Mosleigh area of Alberta. After a period of time in British Columbia, Victoria returned to Calgary, where she finished her career as Assistant-Principal and Principal. Victoria retired in the early 1970's.

Matheson, Bill - passed away on November 10 in Salmon Arm, BC. Bill was raised in Calgary, where he went to Normal School. He then earned his M Ed at the University of Alberta. Before his retirement in 1976, Bill had a long career as a teacher and a principal in a number of Calgary schools.

Norris, Christina Margaret - passed away on October 7 at the age of 88. Margaret was born in Calgary and was a long-time teacher, starting in one-room schools in Oyen and De Winton and then teaching Kindergarten at an elementary school in Okotoks.

Notermans, Gerard - passed away on November 12. Gerard was born in the Netherlands and came to Canada in 1975. He taught at William Aberhart and Lord Beaverbrook High Schools until his retirement in 1990. Gerard was a church choir director and a member of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus for 22 years.

Popiel, Iris Gloria (nee Kostiuk) - Iris was born on July 19, 1942 and passed away on September 18. She obtained her Bachelor of Education degree from the University in Saskatoon. Iris enjoyed a short career in teaching in Lethbridge before her marriage.

Ross, Tim also known as "Shader" - died in a climbing accident in Scotland. Tim graduated with a B Ed from the University of Calgary and was a leader in Outdoor Education. He taught many Calgary students at the University of Calgary Outdoor Center in Kananaskis and Camp Chief Hector at Seebe.

Taylor, Mildred (nee Metheral) - passed away on November 3 at the age of 85. Mildred was an Elementary school teacher in Calgary for 20 years. She had a lasting effect on her students, many of whom continued to write to her long after her retirement.