



The Newsletter

November—December 2009

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*Message and Report
from
President Marg Brucker*

October 21st saw many CARTA members get together of the Fall Luncheon and business meeting at the Greenwood Inn. I thank the members who attended that function for helping your Executive attend to the revision of some Bylaws by voting to accept the changes. (The details of the changes were published in the September Newsletter. This item is currently posted on the CARTA website) Chuck Rose and Gordon Cumming gave updates from the Pension Committee and the Wellness and Benefit Committee. Chuck Rose was presented with an album of "memories" by Kathy Newman, along with a barbecue set by Gordon on behalf of CARTA, as he is leaving the Executive to pursue other endeavours. CARTA continues to have Chuck's input and support on Pension issues.

October 21st was also the day I took over the presidential reins from Gordon Cumming. I am looking forward to my term as president and to getting to know more of our members while serving the needs of our branch. Thank you to everyone who encouraged me to accept the challenge. I am honoured, motivated and excited to serve as your president. I know it will be a stimulating journey. Your executive is a phenomenal, hardworking group of men and women, who are continually looking for new options and experiences with which to enrich the lives of our membership; all the while taking care of the many aspects of our organization. I am privileged to be part of such an enthusiastic team.

At the November 4th Executive Board meeting we continued to plan for the coming year. The Social

Luncheon
December 9, 2009
Carriage House Inn
Macleod Trail South
Cost for members \$25.00
Cost for non-members \$27.00
Payment by cheque made out to CARTA is preferred
Time: 11:30 am till 2:00 pm

IMPORTANT
All registrations for the luncheons this coming season **must take place by phone.** You will find the phone information further in this newsletter.
Reservations can be made starting October 7.
Once the reservation is made you can only cancel before the deadline. After that date you will be requested to pay for your ordered luncheon.

**Deadline for the December-Luncheon is Noon,
December 1**

the April 30th, 2010 "Steppin Out" sessions at a planning meeting scheduled for November 13. Be sure you keep your calendar open for April 30th, as it will surely be another memorable day to get together with colleagues and friends for fun, information sharing, good food and great sessions at the Dalton Centre, Greenwood Inn.

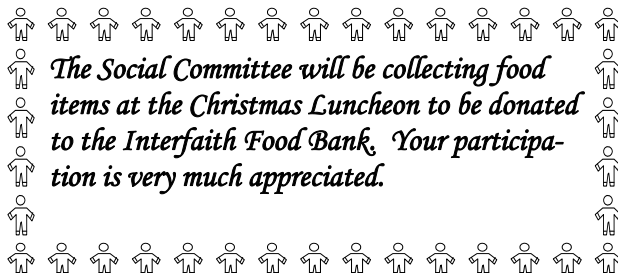
Past President Gordon Cumming wrote such a comprehensive letter in the September issue, that there is little for me to add, except to say that I will continue, with the help of the Executive and the committees, to keep you posted on the news from the Alberta Retired Teachers' Association, Johnson Inc., and the upcoming events. By now there must be a full busload of folks registered for the Rosebud Theatre excursion on November 19th. The Friday Calgary Philharmonic Open Rehearsals at the Jack Singer Concert Hall has seen many members attending. Thank you to everyone who has made these outings possible.

November 17 and 18 will find me in Edmonton at the ARTA Board of Directors Meeting. I will keep you informed as to the outcomes of the sessions.

Plans for the Christmas Luncheon on December 9 at the Carriage House Inn are complete thanks to Jeannie McCauley and her capable committee. Do plan to attend; you won't be disappointed with the food and the entertainment.

Again there will be a table with books available for you to browse through and take home to read. The books came from the book sale in the spring of this year that benefits the Service Anonymous Society. CRTA makes a yearly donation to this charity that helps young women realize their educational goals with assistance from the Scholarship Fund. Paul Demers and Judy Steiert are to be thanked for choosing the books and bringing them to our lunches.

As I look forward to celebrating the Christmas season, it is my wish for you that you will find peace and joy with family and friends and happiness and good health in the New Year.



News from the Social Committee

Jeannie McCauley 403-275-8025
Kay Samphire 403-242-0189

Enter the following dates on your calendar.

Christmas Luncheon, December 9, Carriage House Inn.

Valentines Tea, February 12, Varsity Community Centre, Varsity Drive NW.

Steppin-Out Conference, April 30, Dalton's Conference Centre, Greenwood Inn, off Barlow Trail and 23rd Ave NE

Barbecue, June 11 at the Varsity Community Centre.

Phone Contacts to Confirm Attendance at the Social Functions

Last Name Starting with	Contact	Phone
A, B	Bernice Gaetz	403-252-5781
C, D	Earl Larden	403-281-5722
E,F,G	Tanis Lefroy	403-251-6214
H, I, J, K	Mimi Hogaboam	403-288-2792
L, M, N	Gloria Rasmussen	403-271-3579
O,P,Q,R	Kay Samphire	403-242-0189
S	Marg Brucker	403-241-0244
T,U,V	Dave Thomson	403-249-9086
W,X,Y,Z	Jeannie McCauley	403-275-8025

Please leave your full name and phone number, as well as any dietary restrictions you may have with you contact between November 25 and December 1.

Also, if bringing a guest, leave their name and phone number as well.

Remember that once you have confirmed your attendance, you are responsible for the cost of the meal, unless you cancel by the deadline.

Deadline for the Christmas Luncheon is December 2 before noon. NO exceptions.

Enjoy your Christmas Dinner

Winners and Donors of the October 15 Luncheon Door Prizes

<i>Scarf and Toque</i> <i>Scottish Shoppe</i> <i>Coffee</i> <i>Good Earth Café</i> Garry Jeffrey	<i>"The DOOR Prize "</i> <i>and</i> <i>One Year CRTA Membership</i> Elsie Kushnir	<i>Steeps Café</i> <i>Tea Gift Basket</i> Susan Fuerbringer
<i>Handmade Cards</i> <i>By Evelyn Keddie</i> Betty Rose	<i>Bell's Café</i> <i>Gift Basket</i> Elizabeth Bourges	<i>CRTA Christmas Luncheon</i> <i>One Ticket</i> Jim Jarrell
<i>Canadian Rockies</i> <i>Book of Photos</i> <i>By George Brybycin</i> Sandra Jeffrey	<i>Pease Blossoms</i> <i>Plant and Ceramic Container</i> Sherrie MacRae	<i>Talbot's Women's Wear</i> <i>Gift Certificate</i> Mary Hassanali
<i>Pure Hair Salon and Spa</i> <i>Gift Basket</i> Frieda Kates	<i>Johnson Inc.</i> <i>Donation of \$50</i> <i>Grocery cCupon</i> Sheena Banks	<i>Handmade Scarf</i> <i>By Catrina Loman</i> Kathy Newman
		<i>Dalton's Conference Centre</i> <i>Greenwood Inn</i> <i>Two Brunch Tickets</i> Barry Marks

Where Have All The Young Girls/Guys Gone?

By Nick Gass

Remember back in the 70's when the world was our oyster? We were going to redesign education!, and we actually did; and did a pretty good job of it too, if I do say myself. But when Premier Lougheed left, the political smarts left with him. (Not that he wasn't a tough customer to deal with; he was a kind of "show me the meat guy") Now here we are: the "Pill Bottle Brigade" - more concerned with our aches and pains than any noble mission still to be accomplished.

Now I'm not about to put down our young successors, but they took over the marvellous model that we handed them, with little or no concept of how to apply or defend it. So they need our acumen and intestinal fortitude, not to pontificate, to stand against a government that sees them only, in my opinion, as guards at the reformatory. Such, of course, is a personal opinion. Many of you backed me in the heady days of the 70's and I haven't changed that much, except for the pills. I lost my

beautiful wife and I guess that I would like to see myself 'going out' fighting the good fight and championing the good guys, against the 'force of evil' arrayed against us, through a numerous and powerful organization (again?).

So I am asking all of my old supporters, and even those who can't quite see eye to eye with me, to find one new member for CRTA (preferably male, because that weaker sex is woefully under-represented, and we sorely need the good guys with us). So through the sheer power of numbers and emerging leadership, we can again become 'a force to be reckoned with'. No one in this modern world is going to be listened to except if they can demonstrate numerical political power. We 'old farts' actually do know how it should be done, for us and the kids.

Someone who knows how , has to stop this nascent slide of public education into a "trough of de-

spond". But that is not really what this is all about, is it? That is our nobler side. What a powerful organization is all about is to jerk the chain of those who would dismiss us as 'over the hill' and thereby not a 'force to be reckoned with. Well: "I beg your pardon!" - not just government, but commercial operations—no more Mr(s) nice guy. You want our business, listen up! We represent X x 1000 people: we're mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore. What have you got to offer us?

Nick Gass is a long time ex president of Calgary Public Local 38.
 Nick is a director of CRTA and you can get in touch with him by e-mail: jeannick@telusplanet.net.

Kappa Delta Gamma

The 4th Annual Craft and Bake Sale, held on November 7th, was a success!. A total of \$4005.00 was raised. All these proceeds are going to the Servants' Anonymous Society (SAS) Scholarship Fund.

The members of Kappa Delta Gamma wish to thank CRTA for their support and extend a special thanks to those that attended the fundraiser.

CRTA Memberships

If you have not yet bought your 2009-2010 membership, you may do so at **any time** by sending a cheque for \$15.00/year, made out to CRTA, and send it to

Garry Jeffrey
 4412 Brentwood Green NW
 Calgary AB
 T2L 1L4

A reminder that a membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. Members who receive the newsletter by e-mail will receive a notice by e-mail advising them of the status of their membership. Members who receive the newsletter via Canada Post can check the mailing label; 2009 indicates past due.

Support CRTA, the Calgary Branch of ARTA

ART SHOW AND SALE MARCH 27, 2018

Are you interested in participating again, or would like to enter your work for a first time? Information will appear on our website in January, entry forms will be posted early February. Contact Irene Bruzga through crta2009@calgaryretiredteachers.ca

Let's Take a Moment to Remember those Colleagues who Passed away Recently

<i>Alison Cathro Hankins</i>	<i>October 1</i>
<i>Linnea Ann Elford</i>	<i>October 17</i>
<i>Robert W. Pulleyblank</i>	<i>October 23</i>
<i>Sandra Gayle Maurer</i>	<i>October 29</i>
<i>Oscar Buenaventura</i>	<i>November 2</i>
<i>Doris Patterson</i>	<i>November 5</i>
<i>Eric Friesen</i>	<i>November 6</i>
<i>Colleen Siller</i>	<i>November 15</i>

CRTA Pension Committee

This committee needs new members to serve as committee members. Since Government of Alberta Bill 25, which settled the pensions for pre 1992 service, the main focus is now on the post 1992 years of service. Anyone interested and/or passionate about pension issues and willing to dedicate time and effort, **please contact Jean Crawford at crawfordjean@shaw.ca**

Jean Crawford, Jim Weed and others have been working tirelessly over the past ten years to get justice done to teachers' pensions. In addition this committee has put together a workshop that is presented to retired teacher groups and any actively working teachers, that informs about the realities of pensions. From questions that are received by CRTA it is clear that there are many misconceptions out there among our still active colleagues. This is an important committee. Please step up to the plate and help out.

Our CRTA Member Volunteers are Wonderful !

Last fall a CRTA Director organized a bus trip to Rosebud. Since then Lorna Solaczek in the Spring and now Margaret Espetveidt made it possible for a busload of CRTA members and friends to see Christmas in Wales on November 19. Thanks Margaret. Your effort is much appreciated

Also this fall CRTA Director Irene Bruzga made it possible for CRTA members and friends to attend several Friday Rehearsals of the CPO. Again two other members have now offered to do the required registration. Thanks you Marian Peterson and Ardyth MacQuarrie.