



# The Newsletter

September—November 2010

**Mailing Address: CRTA, 337, 305-4625 Varsity Drive NW, Calgary, T3A 0Z9**

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**Website: <http://www.calgaryretiredteachers.ca>**

## *President's Message*

Welcome to all our newly retired colleagues! Congratulations on job well done! You made a difference in the lives of Calgary students.

Hectic, fabulous, and energizing are just a few of the words teachers remember when reflecting on the first day of school. Retiring teachers know that the first day of school is not the end of a lazy summer; it's time for the continuation of golf games, strolls in the park, long coffee breaks, and so much more.

Your CRTA Executive and Directors have been busy over the summer months preparing for the days ahead. Garry Jeffrey has mailed out to all new retirees Membership News in which he presents the many interesting and entertaining opportunities that are on the horizon. (see column to the right. Ed.)

In August several Board members and invited guests attended the Spiritwood Retreat surrounded by the beauty of nature near Priddis, south of Calgary. Under the capable direction and leadership of facilitator Barbara Pedersen, we began to plan goals for the next three to five years for CRTA. Barb led the group through activities to discover strengths and challenges of CRTA, so that we can begin to construct goals for the future. An ad hoc committee will be reviewing the goals and charting a course of action.

Due to the success of the Wellness Initiatives

## *Upcoming Events*

**September 21  
CRTA Travel Program**

**September 29  
Luncheon and General Meeting**

**November 26  
Rosebud Theatre**

**December 8  
Christmas Luncheon**

**March 26, 2011  
Art Show**

**April 29, 2011  
Steppin' Out**

*See page 2 for details for  
these events*

Workshop led by Judy Steiert last Spring, I have applied to the Alberta Retired Teachers' Association for funding for at least one more workshop during 2010-2011. Be sure to check the next newsletter for an update. Continue p.2

Enda Junkins, LMFT said, "We need to laugh more .....spend time with fun, playful people.....pay attention to children and emulate them." A great way to see the lighter side of life is to be part of CRTA's calendar for 2010-2011. I am looking forward to a great year of smiles, laughter and new horizons.

Marg Brucker—President

***Details for Upcoming Events***

***Travel Day  
September 12 , 10:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Brentwood Baptist Church  
3212 Charleswood Drive, NW***

Don and Mary Checkley have made arrangements with Collette Vacations, Cruise Plus and Johnson's Inc. Travel Insurance to present programs to CRTA members and friends. By registering as a group from CRTA special savings on the trips can be realized. Consider a trip to Tuscany or Spain/Portugal in the Spring of 2011, or cruising for beginners, river-cruising etc.

The cost of the day is \$15, which includes lunch and refreshments. Pre-register by contacting Don or Mary at 403-271-1193 or checklem@telusplanet.net. Please pay by cheque, made out to CRTA, at the door.

***Fall Luncheon and General Meeting  
September 29, 11:30 am—2:00 pm  
Blackfoot Inn, 5340 Blackfoot Trail SE  
Roast Beef Dinner  
\$25 for members \$27 for non-members***

Confirmation as per alphabetical table in the column over. Please convey any dietary requests at the time of confirmation.

***Note these Dates  
And Change in Payment***  
Telephone confirmations:  
From September 13 to 17.

**PAY BY CHEQUE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 22  
TO  
CRTA c/o Kay Samphire,  
3707—35 Avenue SW,  
Calgary, T3E-1A4**

***The Social Committee regrets that it no longer possible to accept "Walk-Ins" on the day of the luncheon.***

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,R,S	Kay Samphire	403-242-0189
T,U,V	Dave Thompson	403-249-9086
W,X,Y,Z	Jeannie McCauley	403-275-8025

Are you a regular participant at the CRTA luncheons? If so, may be you could help out for a while receiving confirmations and passing on the names to the Social Committee. Please let Jeannie, Kay or any of the CRTA executive know that you can help out.

***CBE—REA OKTOBERFEST  
October 14  
Austrian-Canadian Club***

***Foothills Retired Teachers Association  
FRTA  
presents a One Day Conference for Retirees  
Red Deer Lake School  
October 25  
Pre-Registration before September 25 - \$25  
Late Registration before October 20, \$35  
Walk-Ins \$50***

***For information and registration form  
contact Shirley Jones, 403-256-3781***

***The fee includes, lunch, snacks and a Wine  
and Cheese Reception***

***Rosebud Dinner Theatre  
The Secret Garden  
November 26***

***Margaret Espetveidt will take reservations at  
rosebudcrta@gmail.com. The cost is \$65.  
Depart Calgary around 9:30 am and return to  
Deerfoot Mall between 5:30 and 6:00 pm.***

## **Barbecue June 11**

Kay Samphire of the social committee reports that the Barbecue at the Varsity Community Centre was enjoyed by eighty attendees. The food was tasty and the visiting with friends and acquaintances delightful. Music provided by Floyd Mueller of "Just Floyd" allowed people to continue their conversations, while others listened. Further entertainment was provided by Gordon Fairhead -accompanied by Black Jack, his one-eyed hawk- and Diane Whitner. They represented The Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation.

The members, who attended this get-together approved the increase to \$20 for a yearly membership in CRTA from \$15. The increase is effective July 1, 2010.

The following people were the lucky winners of the door prizes:

Cecily Bornemisza	Two ARTA Towels
Kay Samphire	Caffe Rosso Coffee from Watermill Bakery
Bernice Gaetz	Logos Book Store Two books
Elizabeth Bourges	Euphoria Café Gift Certificate \$ 15
Catrina Loman	Watermill Bakery, bread
Ellen Sears	Caterine Loman scarf
Sandy Lucas	Free Lunch September
Marg Saunders	CRTA "Door"Prize
Rebecca Aizenman	Logos Book Store Two books
Lois Marchand	Watermill Bakery, bread

Congratulations to all the lucky winners. Please let us not forget, winner or not, to appreciate the generosity of the merchants. When visiting their establishments mention that you heard about them through CRTA . Mention their names to your friends as well!

### **Educational Progress Club Bursary**

The Educational Progress Club Bursary, at the University of Calgary, has been awarded to Kaitlin Chernewchan of Calgary. The recipient is a student in the Faculty of Education. We wish Kaitlin all the best in her future studies and work as a teacher.

\$

CRTA applied for and was granted a Community Improvement Grant. A cheque for a little over \$11,000 was presented to Gordon Cumming by Teresa Woo Paw, the MLA for Calgary Mackay. CIG's are paid out of Alberta Lottery Funds.

## **Let Us Remember Respectfully The Colleagues Who Passed Away Recently**

Joan McCreary	April 14
Lester Deglow	May 16
Mary Elizabeth Jones	May 18
Winnifred May Churchill (nee VanEssen)	June 4
Arlene Schneider	June 21
Helen M. Clark	June 26
Lorna Onia Bailey (nee Rosenberger)	June 27
Brenda McAlpine	July 7
Donna Marjorie McC Calder	July 10
William Gooliaff	July 13
Sheila June Chester	July 28
Ruth Ursula Leipziger	August 1
Gayle Lascelles	August 6
Audrey Margaret Shirley McKenzie	August 10
Ruth Fauvel (nee Manz)	August 20

If you know of a teacher who passed away, but is not recognized by the CRTA Newsletter, please send an e-mail to CRTA2009@shaw.ca

### **Demutualization of Sunlife Funds**

Paul Demers reported at the last Executive meeting that progress is being made in designing a methodology through which the funds will be returned to those who were teaching or working for CBE between 1981 and 1997. \$1,278,199 will be distributed to eligible beneficiaries probably sometime this fall.

### **CRTA Casino Is Coming**

Under the guidance of Terry Allen and Paul Demers an application for a Casino has been submitted and approved. The likely time will be in 2011. or early 2012 The details will be forthcoming, when they become available

### **Membership**

CRTA , and especially Garry Jeffrey the membership director, thanks everyone who renewed their membership for the year 2011 and beyond. If you are one of our members who has not yet mailed your cheque for \$20 to Garry, please do it now. CRTA, c/o Garry Jeffrey, 4412 Brentwood Green, Calgary NW, T2L 1L4

## *Executive and Directors for 2010-2011*

Those members who will be attending the luncheon on September 29 will be asked to approve a slate of Executive members and Directors for CRTA to be presented by Gordon Cumming.

We thank warmly those who have agreed to serve their retired colleagues through CRTA.

## *Volunteers*

On a regular basis the CRTA Newsletter editor receives requests to bring the name of a worthwhile organization before our membership. Usually I pass the e-mails on to our webmaster, Greg Chitrenky to place the relevant information in the volunteer section of the website. Request for retired teachers to take on a paid position end up there as well.

This time the Newsletter will highlight two organizations that may tweak your interest enough to pick up the phone and find out if what they offer is suitable for you and your availability.

Lauren Binette works for the **Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology . CAWST** is a non-profit engineering consultancy that provides training and education on safe water and sanitation practices in developing countries.

CAWST is looking for volunteers for its Speakers Bureau. Apparently one of our CRTA members is already involved in this organization. To join him/her contact Lauren at 403-243-3285 ext.237. The office is located at 12, 2916—5 Avenue SE.

### *Why Homework Heroes? A Success Story.*

A boy who regularly attended school was in need of some help with his studies—his math, reading and comprehensive skills were very poor. His knowledge in all subjects was lower than other students at his age and grade level. His mother brought him to one of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Calgary community clubs for some after school homework help. Upon arriving at the community club the boy's mother shared his report card with a Homework Hero. The report card showcased poor marks and comments from teachers relating to his unsatisfactory performance. At the time the boy started working with a Homework Hero his parents were going through a divorce and fighting over his custody which

created an unhappy and stressful environment. After creating a relationship and bond with the homework hero and receiving guidance and praise the boy's mother and teachers noticed positive changes. The boy's interest in learning returned and he actually started asking for additional homework tasks! At the end of the semester his proud mother once again brought his report card to show the Homework Hero—every grade had improved.

The Boys and Girls Club of Calgary is committed to reducing barriers to academic success and the engagement as there is a link between a child's academic and their future contribution to society. The Homework Hero program strives to increase a child's chances of academic success through:

- Promoting a positive learning environment to build confidence and skills through praise and encouragement.
- Breaking down concepts and skills into small steps to achieve understanding
- Raising the bar incrementally to keep all youth engaged and attentive.

This request for volunteers in the Homework Hero program was submitted by Nicky Blackshaw, Volunteer Coordinator Boys and Girls Club Calgary. You may contact her at nblackshaw@bgcc.ab.ca or 403-276-9981. The website gives more information about the

*Visit the CRTA website at  
[www.calgaryretiredteachers.ca](http://www.calgaryretiredteachers.ca)*

regularly for information about our organization, ongoing and upcoming events and to find many more exciting volunteer opportunities.

*A Message for  
New Retirees, and "Old" Retirees*  
CRTA needs your continuing help locating those newly retired. CRTA's retiree list for this year is incomplete because of the FOIP restrictions. A CRTA membership is free for the first year of retirement. Let the newly retired know to get in contact with Garry Jeffrey, 403-289-2807, gjeffrey@shaw.ca