



The Newsletter

May—June 2011

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President's Message

As we celebrate the sunshine and the quickly fading crocus flowers, we are optimistic that Spring is finally among us.

Since March there have been many exciting and interesting activities happening for CRTA members and friends, with more to come in June.

On a cold and snowy Saturday, March 26 to be exact, hardy Art Show and Sale patrons were to be found at the St. Andrew's United Church buying works of art, sharing coffee time with friends and colleagues, while wondering if Spring would ever come. Under Irene Bruzgov's guidance and with the assistance of her many capable helpers and artists, the day was a success despite the weather. Mark your calendar for March 31st, 2012 at the same venue for more opportunities for art appreciation, great selections and a time to renew contacts with old and newer acquaintances.

A new venture for CRTA this past April saw 24 Calgarians take advantage of a Collette Vacation tour to Tuscany, the land of the Etruscans and the setting for "Under the Tuscan Sun". What a beautiful time to visit and enjoy the flowers, green grass, green leaves and sunshine, while Calgary was experiencing snow flurries.

Thank you Mary and Don Checkley for putting the trip together with the capable staff at Collette Vacations. We marvelled at the skill and talent of the builders of the Coliseum, Vatican city, the Tower of Pisa and the many beautiful historical churches, including the Basilica of Santa Croce.

Important Dates

***CRTA 50th Anniversary Luncheon
Blackfoot Inn***

June 9

Doors open at 11:00 AM

Lunch 11:30 AM

\$25 members—\$27 non-members

- A choice of Patio or Dining Room seating
- Program to follow
- Registration between May 22 and June 2
- E-mail: crtaluncheon@gmail.com or by phone:
Kay Samphire 403-242-0189
Jeannie McCauley 403-275-8025
- Mail you cheque no later than June 2 to
CRTA
c/o Kay Samphire
3707—35 Avenue
Calgary SW
T3E 1A4

Any dietary restrictions should be mentioned with the registration.

Food Donations: Veteran's Food bank

Rosebud Theatre

Jake and the Kid

June 16

Contact Margaret Espetveidt

rosebudcrt2009@gmail.com

Bus, lunch and performance \$65.00 pp

CRTA Luncheon AGM

Blackfoot Inn

Thursday September 29

Anyone who went on the tour would be delighted to tell you all about the fascinating sights, the wine, the meals, the shopping and the awesome tour guide.

A thank-you to Kathy Newman for organizing the outing to the Jubilee Auditorium for the Broadway Across Canada production of “River Dance” on April 23. By all reports, it was most enjoyable.

Steppin’Out, the one day mini conference planned and executed by Gordon Cumming and his dedicated and talented committee of CRTA Board members will be remembered as another success story. April 29 was the day a few sleepy folks, who were up very early to see Kate and William married, managed to stay awake and enjoy the activities. Thank you to everyone who attended. The work and the planning was appreciated. Thank you committee members! Extra smiles on that day appeared on the faces of the many winners of the door prizes. The grand prize, a VIA Rail trip for Two—Edmonton Vancouver return, went to Shannon Patershuk. Thank you VIA Rail. Thank you to everyone who supported the lottery.

Definitely a memorable moment will be the 50th Anniversary celebration for CRTA on June 9th at the Blackfoot Inn. Please check this newsletter for more information and do not forget to tell your friends from your teaching years to be there as well to help with the celebration. You don’t want to miss this party.

Summer is coming, check out the Rosebud Theatre ad, enjoy the warmth of the sun, wish upon a dandelion and travel safely to a special place or event before the days of summer slip away again.

Marg Brucker, president.

Steppin’Out 2011

Despite the snow and blowing wind we experienced on April 29, they came from every corner of the city. Some even journeyed from as far away as Grande Prairie and Cold Lake. The word was out ... it was time for Steppin’Out, the CRTA’s rite of Spring. 250 participants joined twenty eight presenters and an eager and well-prepared

Christmas Luncheon CBEREA and CRTA

November 30

Carriage House Inn, Mcleod Trail S
West Dining Room (larger than the 2010 room)
\$25 members—\$27 non-members

CASINO

December 3 and 4
Elbow River Casino
Mcleod Trail

conference committee.

How to Master the CPP, a need to know about Buying Property in the US, which plants to include in an Alpine Garden, what software to use with Digital Dreams, or How to Pack for that overseas trip, this was the place to be. Dreaming of being a Better Golfer, learning about a Gluten-free Diet, Protecting your Identity, practicing Zumba, and watching your Perennial Garden grow, Understanding Your Benefits, Accessorizing Your Wardrobe, Breaking Your Writing Block, Sketching, Knitting, Planning a European Hiking Trip, Spending an Afternoon with a Butterfly, or Learning those Seven Basic Exercises it was all offered to be absorbed at the Dalton Conference Center. Did you perhaps shed a tear as you shared in the Power of Music in our lives, while you wiped the remnants of the lunch from the corner of your mouth?

Special thanks to all, particularly our presenters who spend hours preparing and give up half or more of their day to share their talent and knowledge. Congratulations to all Door Prize winners and particularly Shannon Patershuk who won the VIA Rail Raffle.

This day excelled because our partners Johnson Inc, ARTA, Collette Vacations and VIA Rail provided financial support. And of course, thanks to all the Door Prize donors whose support adds that special excitement to the day.

Got a 2012 calendar... reserve Friday, April 27 for the next Steppin’Out

Steppin' Out 2011 Door Prize Donors and Winners

Donor	Door Prize	Winner
ARTA Memorial Golf Tournament	Entry Fee for Two	Colleen Grover Doug Rhodes
Blaine Andrussek	Gift Basket	Dorothy Colbens
Beehive	Gift Basket	Doreen Pritchett
Cookie Mama	Box of cookies	Lydia LeMay
CRTA	"Door" Prize	Vi Oko
Dalton's Conference Center	Brunch Tickets	Joyce Grieve/Craig Kennedy
Golden Acre Garden Center	Two Gift certificates	Linda Burton-Chalmers
Dave Harrison	Water Color Painting	Ginny Schultz Paul Demers
Jeananne Laing of Wild Rose	Gift Certificate	Ina Sandy
Holistic Clinic	Golfing Accessories	Sherrie MacRae
Johnson Inc. Benefits	Car Blanket	Germaine Bleile
Johnson Inc. Home and Auto	Two Poetry Books and Art Work	Margaret Vaughan
Keith and Renate Worthington	Travel Accessories	Carol Lacey Jack Liland
Pipe stone Travel	Scarf Wool, Pattern and Needles	Tony Evans
Pudding Yarn	\$137.00 Assessment/Treatment	Susan Matheny
The English Osteopaths	Train Ticket for Two Edmonton- Vancouver return	Shannon Patershuk
VIA Rail Canada		

Travel News.

Twenty-four retired teachers and friends spent eight wonderful days, April 12 to 21, in Tuscany. The trip began and ended with a night in Rome. The spa resort town of Montecatini Terme was our home for six nights, from where we spent our days visiting Siena, San Gimignano, Florence, Pisa and Luca, enjoying the sights, sounds and tastes of Tuscany. Several of our members also extended their trip and arranged with Collette Vacations to see more of Rome and other areas.

May 2012

ITALIAN LAKES AND GREEK ISLANDS
Our proposed trip for May 2012 is a combined bus trip and cruise to the Italian Lakes and Greek Islands. The package is 13 days long and includes 26 meals.

October 2012

**LEGENDARY WATERWAYS OF EUROPE
AMSTERDAM TO BUDAPEST**

A second possible trip for 2012, depending upon interest, is a River Cruise. The costs are higher, but all meals and excursions are included in the price. The river cruise would be sixteen days long and include 41 meals.

If interested in either one, or both, of these tours, please contact Don and Mary Checkley at 4303-271-1193 or checklem@telusplanet.net.

Compassion Committee

The questionnaire that was attached to the Info sheet at the Steppin' Out Conference did not provide the hoped for results. The committee goes back to the drawing board. It will commence to consult and come up with a different direction. Please feel free to phone Shirley, 403-271-5310 or Nick, 403-282-6179 or Jim, 403-289-3185 with your thoughts and ideas about how CRTA can assist bereaved members in times of need.

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

Alice "Isabel" Fea, nee Ames	March 13
James Louis Mugelston	March 25
William George Turner	April 2
Reg Klem	April 3
Robert Mitto	April 13
Sylvie Ema St.Hilaire,	April 16
Mary Noreen Enright	April 21
Donald Edward Brown	April 23
John W. Carlton	May 6
Joan Carol Duby, nee Luzine	May 7
Barry Ivor Gagliardi	May 8
R. Fern Langemann	May 16
Marjorie "Joan" Urie	May 18

Membership Renewal

The CRTA membership year goes from July 1 till June 30. Memberships are \$20.00 per year. At the June luncheon there will be the opportunity to renew your membership. Not there? You may renew on line by going to the Alberta Retired Teachers Association website, go to membership and under Branch, choose CRTA.

Any queries can be directed to Jerry Jeffrey, 403-289-2807, gjeffrey@shaw.ca or mail your cheque to Jerry at 4412 Brentwood Green NW, Calgary T2L 1L4

Teachers who retired in June 2010 and received a free membership for one year, will now have to purchase a membership. Please consider supporting CRTA in your retirement years.

Scholarships

The Educational Progress Club Bursary for 2011 at the University of Calgary has been awarded to Kayla Ford of Calgary, who is a student in the Faculty of Education. She is wished all the best in her future studies and her work as a teacher.

Rebecca Hansen receives a \$3 200.00 scholarship through the CRTA scholarship funds at the University of Calgary. Rebecca is a student in the Faculty of Education as well

HELP WANTED

Volunteers are a valuable commodity. Numerous organizations would not be helping out in the greater community, if it wasn't for them. CRTA recognizes this and makes space available on its web site, without charge, to inform its membership of the volunteer opportunities that allow one to spend some time during retirement years productively.

Irene Bruzga is one volunteer on the CRTA Board who has spent already too many hours to count in the interest of her retired colleagues. One of her initiatives was to organize an ART SHOW and SALE, where retired teachers could display their artistic achievements. For the last three years this enterprise has been a great success. To guarantee its continuance somebody from the CRTA membership has to step forward to "learn the ropes" under Irene's expert guidance. Please consider this and contact Irene at 403-255-4395 or bruzgav@hotmail.com.

CRTA also needs volunteers to come forward to help out with the Casino on December 3 and 4. About 35 people are needed. Contact Terry Allen at 403-289-2291 or tgallen1@telus.net.

Are you familiar with technology, are interested in learning more about pension issues? CRTA can use your help and curiosity to make the organization even more meaningful for its members.

DON'T WAIT TO BE ASKED. CONTACT GORDON CUMMINGS, PAST-PRESIDENT AT 403-288-4542 or cummingg@shaw.ca

Organizations for Seniors in Calgary

ElderNET endeavours to create collaborative relationships with senior serving agencies, groups and the community at large. It looks for solutions facing Calgary seniors and makes recommendations to decision makers to improve the quality of life of seniors and the aging demographic of the future.

CREATIVE AGING just issued its first newsletter. The CRTA website provides a link to both of these rather new organizations. Check them out!