

# **THE K.R.T.A. BRIDGE**

October, 2002.

Editor: Barb Stankiewicz

As I listened to our new executive examine ideas which will ultimately shape the direction of the Kamloops branch of our association, I was struck with the desire of the group to serve the broad range of concerns of our membership allowing for creativity, awareness and fellowship to find full expression. Watch out Kamloops R.T.A. you're in for an adventure!

Charlotte Reid asked for more latitude in her spreading of good will in the Sunshine Committee. We are all looking for ways to keep in touch with our members- bridging the gaps. That's what this letter is all about. We want the special needs groups to be informed, included and to feel like the valued members which they, in fact, are.

We are talking about people like you Marg Wilson, who for many years has contributed in countless ways with your quick intellect and caring leadership. And you too, Karl Knapp who brought to cold hard numbers a human dimension with sparkling good humor. Frances Foam could always find a poem that gave us something to consider long after the meeting came to an end. There have been so many wonderful leaders to whom we owe so much. We want to uphold the traditions but at the same time give full rein to the best of talents of the newcomers.

Valoree Baker is perfect for the Social Concerns Committee with her action packed attitude. Retired teachers can make a difference to our society in bridging the gap of knowledge and awareness. Speaking up from our vantage point of relative comfort and education, for those citizens locked in poverty, disability and desperation.

Marlene Olineck and Pat Pettly are travelling to Tanzania, Africa with good will gifts from Canadian friends. They will visit the CHES schools in Katesh. Canadian Harambee is the education society that has been formed to aid young women and 100% of funds go to that purpose. We will be exploring ways to further help this effort. What a pleasure to feel part of the solution of a world in crisis. A problem always carries in it's arms the gift of opportunity to stretch and grow.

## **MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT**

Dear Members of the K.R.T.A.

Welcome to everyone as a new season begins. A special warm welcome to those of you who retired this past year and a request that, if you have not already done so, you will consider joining the B.C.R.T.A. and the K.T.R.T.A. There were at least 70 who were retired in June. We would like to add you to our 238 members. There are many benefits to joining both groups: enjoying a lunch with colleagues, watching interesting programs, receiving up to date information on pensions, benefits and health care.

This is my first letter as President and I hope you will join in some of our activities. We have the President's Club which raises money for the two bursaries, each of \$1,000.00, which we give to two education students; the Heritage committee is publishing a book on the school's history and we need your memoirs to complete it: we are planning some form of fund raising to donate to the Canadian Harambee Education Society in Kenya and Tanzania.

At this time I would like to thank Barbara Stankiewicz for being so courageous as to take on the position as editor of the newsletter which will be published in the fall and spring in an attempt to keep all retired teachers informed of our association.

Respectfully,  
Marie Laroche, President of the K.T.R.T.A

R.T.A. EXECUTIVE -2002-2003

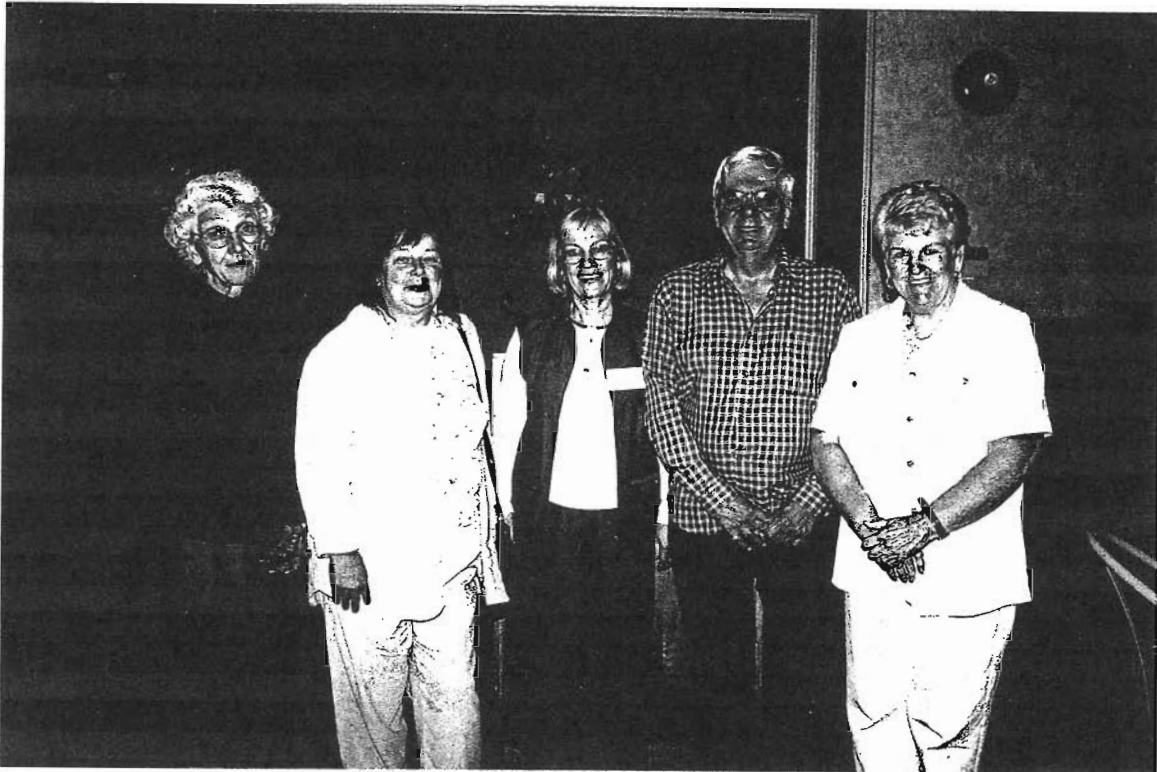
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photo by Vic Pashnik

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## PROGRAMS FOR OCTOBER- JANUARY

Our meetings will continue to be held at Traditions Restaurant at 11:30 A.M. on the last Friday of the month. Retired teachers take the whole month of December off.

OCTOBER 2002: our guest speaker will be JOAN WEIR, a local author, whose topic will be HISTORY OF WALHACHIN.

NOVEMBER 2002: Entertainment by THE HAPPY CHORISTERS      SILVER BELLS  
Bring your donation to the Food Bank.

JANUARY 2003: Topic --travel speaker from a local travel agency

### BURSARY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mary Ellen Patterson and her group of seven other members have been very busy deciding upon a suitable incentive to become the focus of the fund raiser for this year. Wendy Madson and Mary Ellen Patterson have offered a choice of a porcelain doll. The lucky person will be allowed to choose from three dolls: an antique reproduction doll, a child character doll, or a doll produced to resemble a photograph ( such as a grandchild.)

### SUNSHINE REPORT

Charlotte Reid has sent a card to Dale Brandt on the passing of her mother and we all send our best wishes to Juliette Loranger who underwent surgery for cancer recently. You and your families are in our thoughts and prayers.

### IN MOMORIUM

Sophie Stewart 1910-2002

She enjoyed a long teaching career in the Kamloops district and will be lovingly remembered by her many friends and family.

### BRIDGES

Provide a link

Bringing people closer,

Filling the space between with new possibilities.

Let's bridge age, status, race, differences with uncommon humanity.

Let's bridge the gaps that chain us, unlocking our grandest vision for today.

by Barb Stankiewicz to let you know why I chose to name this newsletter THE K.R.T.A. BRIDGE. If you wish to contact me call 374-2337. Your thoughts are valued and could be printed in the next issue, if you so desire.

BCRTA  
delegates



Doug

Marie

Valorie



Remember when ?