

THE K.R.T.A. BRIDGE

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Vol.5

Editor: Barbara Stankiewicz,
231 Sagewood Street,
Kamloops, B.C. V2H 1R2
3742337

There has never been a better time to join in the fellowship of the retired teachers of the Kamloops area. We are the meeting place for teachers from Clearwater to Merritt; from Ashcroft to Chase. We have Kamloops retired teachers in Keremeos, Osoyoos, Vancouver, Nanaimo, White Rock, Kelowna, Port Moody, Calgary, AB and Dartmouth, NS on our membership list. All our members are sent a copy of THE BRIDGE each publication. This has evolved in 4 volumes when we began with the concept of sending a newsletter to the elderly members of 85 years of age or older, who could no longer come to the meetings, but were still interested in the group. Next we decided to do away with the age requirement and include members who for any reason could not physically make it to the meetings. We also decided to use the September edition to contact the new members so they could make their way to our meetings. Now we send a copy to all members who have paid their dues to the B.C.R.T.A. and the Kamloops branch.

We wish to extend to our newly retired teachers a very warm welcome.

OUR NEW EXECUTIVE -Kamloops Branch RTA 2004/05.

President	Doug Nicol	#301-Dalgleish	372-7363
Past-President	Marie Laroache	354 McAdam Rd	374-9356
1 st Vice	Darrel Johnson	1912 Gloaming Dr	372-3194
2 nd Vice	Eva Harvey	Box A-5 King St, Westwold, B.C.	250-375-2426
Secretary	Maureen Nucklaus	-6800 Blackwell Rd	573-5664
Treasurer	Marg Hutchinson	S Box D1 Knutsford	372-5348
Heritage	Warren Damer	#31-481 Monarch Cr	372-9207
Bursary	Mary Ellen Patterson	112 Monmouth Dr	372-1762
Sunshine	Charlotte Reid	601 Tunstall	372-9288
Seniors Connector	Evelyn Baziuk	2-3099 Shuswap Rd.	573-3441
Social Concerns	Valoree Baker	6-1810 Springhill Dr	374-7994
Membership	Janet Doubt	#127 730 Cottonwood Ave	372-7635

As of October, 15, 2004. Janet's phone number will be-376-0801

Phone Janet if you would like to come to our meeting but have not been contacted. By the same token, if you have given your reservation to a member of the phoning committee and find you are unable to attend you must phone Janet to cancel. We give numbers to the Days Inn prior to each meeting. Thank you for your co-operation.

PASSING ON THE TORCH

When Marie Laroche and I met to go over "things" for the presidency of the Kamloops/Thompson Retired Teachers' Association, the above heading was her greeting. It sounded very elegant then -- and still does, in fact. I doubt that my tenure will justify such lofty description.

First of all, thanks are due to Marie for her two years as president of our organization!

Next, welcome to those who are entering a new phase of their lives -- namely, retirement. We all wish you a long, healthy period of fulfillment.

Our organization has a luncheon once a month -- with programmes which we trust are satisfying and uplifting. We are concerned about matters of importance to retirees, but we are also concerned that our minds are kept alive and well.

Please join us -- and the B. C. Retired Teachers -- and enjoy this part of your journey with us all!

When I came to Kamloops in 1964, I remember attending KDTA meetings, where the late Karl Knapp with his deep, resonant voice would speak passionately about pension concerns. We owe deep thanks to Karl for his "fight" on our behalf. Farewell, our dear friend!



Doug Nicol

PROGRAMS

Once again Donna Walsh graciously hosted the committee that addressed the organization of programs for the 2004-05 year. Doug Nicol, Maureen Nucklaus, Pat Petley, Irene Smith, Donna Sharpe and Barb Stankiewicz attended. The ideas which were gathered from the members formed the basis for the selection of topics. Thank you for your great ideas!

SEPTEMBER- A social time of sharing summer events and greeting newly retired teachers. The members who have attended the provincial AGM may wish to share their experiences. What about the new rules from the College of Teachers?

OCTOBER-Panel Discussion on concerns about accessing Senior's Care: Assisted living and care giving in homes, Representatives from provincial and federal governments, local people involved in caregiving and comparisons of Care Insurance available. Marie Laroche is in charge.

NOVEMBER-Christmas program to include HAND BELLS with June Routledge , SING SONG with Peter Bothham and Marie Laroche will sing for us. As is our custom, we will bring donations for the Food Bank. Irene Smith is in charge.

JANUARY A travel theme is always interesting. TEACHING IN CHINA Stan Pollard will give us an account of his recent experiences. Donna Walsh is the leader.

IN MEMORIUM

Karl K. Knapp

Karl will be remembered for many reasons in the district. The retired teachers will always be grateful for his perspective on pensions made more understandable by his down to earth reports.

Ruby E. Salomon

Margaret D. Van Dusen

SPRING 04 IN REVIEW

Bursary recipients, Shelly McLeod and Chris Sowden joined us for lunch. They gave us a brief talk on their backgrounds and qualifications which they will draw upon for teaching. We were delighted with the high standards these young people are bringing to the profession. Catheline Biagoni from UCC spoke on the growth of the Bursary fund.



In April, Jerry Olund entertained us with his slide presentation on his trip to Kyrgyzstan and his experience while serving with C.E.S.O. In spite of impoverished buildings and few resources, 97% of all people, both male and female, at the age of 15 are literate!

On April 15th, 2004 the K.R.T.A. ventured into a new venue- a fashion show. It was a success by any standard. The purpose was to raise money for the Harambee project for girls in Africa. \$400.00 is needed each year to send one promising young lady to school and it includes her books, clothing and board. Since \$708.00 was realized, the financial purpose was achieved. The fashions, by Kathy's Kloset, a home based business featuring several lines of clothing, all Canadian products, were enthusiastically received. Many extra prizes, donated by local merchants and individuals meant everyone went home a winner. This event was a delightfully entertaining afternoon for seniors raising funds for a vital, educational endeavor. Win- win! Organizing, collecting and preparations were done by Marie Laroache, Pat Petley, Marlene Olineck, Donna Walsh and Donna Sharpe.

Along with the A.G.M. in May we had a unique presentation by Gordon Lloyd who had prepared the history of schools in the Kamloops district. Slides accompanied the entire talk and can be reviewed on www.kamhigh.com This research was available for the Kam High homecoming this summer.

At the end of the meeting the president held the container of tickets high above Gordon's vision and invited him to draw the winning number. An expectant mood gave way to playfulness as Gordon suggested who the winner might be(including his wife). We soon



got into the act when the true winner of the "Cozy Quilt Club" was revealed-Marie Laroache. \$1800.00 was raised toward our two \$1000.00 bursaries!

Some of the knitters for next year's Bursary Club were caught off guard at the coffee party hosted by Mary Ellen Patterson. The floor holds a display of "squares" which will be put together to make up a mosaic of patterns for the latest project. You are getting a peek preview!



Warren Damer is very close to having the Heritage Book of the district's schools published. It is imperative that the four schools that have not yet written an account of teaching at these schools, send or bring them to Warren or Marie Laroache now so that every school will be represented. The schools that have not yet been heard from are: Barriere Ridge, Barriere Elementary, Savona Elementary and Raft River Elementary.

*I don't know how you feel about old age,
but in my case I didn't even see it coming.
It hit me from the rear.
—Phyllis Diller*

Here is a poem, spoken to Paula Wickendon over the phone by her mother, Ethel Wickendon, age 92 + years, after watching a group of children waiting to be picked up for their first day back to school. The bus arrived with kids peering out of the windows. The door opened and the waiting, excited little children climbed aboard after waving a fond farewell to Mom at the curb.

SHADES OF AUTUMN

Autumn comes in many hues
Some are vivid, some are mellow
But the one that's prettiest to Mom
Is "back to school bus" yellow.



FOR ALL THE LEXIOPHILES IN OUR GROUP

- 1) A bicycle can't stand alone because it is two tired.
- 2) What's the definition of a will? It's a dead giveaway.
- 3) Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- 4) A backward poet writes inverse.
- 5) She had a boyfriend with a broken leg, but broke it off.
- 6) A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- 7) With her marriage she got a new name and a dress.
- 8) When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

