

THE K.R.T.A. BRIDGE

January, 2005.

Editor: Barb Stankiewicz

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This edition of THE BRIDGE , unlike any other, comes at a time that will be remembered for the S. Asian earthquake and the subsequent tsunami. I know that the retired teachers have supported the relief effort in the way we have always come through for charitable causes.

Coming on the heels of the Christmas season, it has forced me to rethink the priorities of my giving. The excess gifting of family and friends could make all the difference to countries in desperate poverty. This natural disaster has touched the consciousness of the world, giving us a rare window of opportunity to change the feelings of the planet. By the outpouring of funds we are saying that we care deeply about all people on the planet. I think this has the potential for showing the way to peace on Earth. Thank you for your generosity. Let's continue the wave that has started!

The executive is the same as it was last September, but these important phone numbers need to be handy.

Charlotte Reid, Sunshine Committee ----372-1288 (reported incorrectly last edition)

Janet Doubt, Membership -----376-0801

Please give Janet a call if you have a change of plans after you have made your reservation to the phoning committee. She gives the bookings to the Days Inn on the Wednesday prior to the meeting.



Programs

The new executive gained the confidence of the association at the very first meeting of the year by bringing us information from the A.G.M. We were glad to know that the Retired Teachers were asking for clarification of teacher certification and the connection of professional certification to a fee.

The panel discussion in October was capably organized by Marie Laroche. It addressed the concerns we have with painfully restricted access to our health care system. The speakers were Sherry Malagaspe, the access co-ordinator, Linda Love marketing co-ordinator for Retirement Concepts, Brant Hasenen Long Term Care Insurance, Eva Harvey and Rae Beal both caregivers.

Some of the information gained through the discussion is: keep a medical journal of test results and doctor visits, ask for help early rather than later (don't cope too well), keep in the driver's seat; be assertive- nobody offers you anything.

There is a disability pension, for example, so ask for the help you need. Expect to be given a lengthy departmental chase. This highly guarded number may assist you in accessing the system: 1 800 851 7370.

The Christmas party was, as always, a jolly, happy event with singing and Hand Bell ringing by June Routlege. Gifts for the food bank and a \$100.00 donation to Christmas Amalgamated brought reason to the season.

January 2005- A demonstration of African drumming Leader Donna Walsh

February - Yoga- by Tyson Bartell A gentle exercise program for people who have specific health problems. He will speak on body/mind integration. Leader Maureen Nucklaus

March -Bursary Recipients and sing along with Ed Yawney. Leader Irene Smith

April- Guest speaker Bella Morris will speak on her life as a first nation's co-ordinator and her reflections on her early life. Leader Pat Petley

May - A.G.M. and fund raiser for our Harambee project to send an African girl to school for a year. Leader Donna Sharpe

June - Social: UCC garden tour and lunch (Date and details to be announced)
Regional Spring Social (See the page giving details)

Happy Birthday to Janet Doubt,
who had to blow out 8 big candles
On the cake this January! We love
you, dear friend.



Regional Spring Social

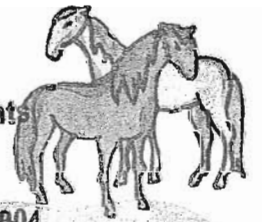
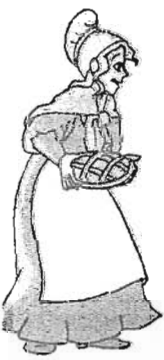
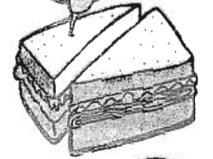
Sponsored by the Shuswap and District Retired Teachers' Association

You are invited to join us for the Regional Spring Social planned for Wednesday, June 8, 2005. You may remember the enjoyable day you spent with us on the Phoebe Ann and the luncheon of May 1999.

This time we intend to centre our itinerary at the Haney Heritage Park & Museum with a number of satellite activities to interest as many members as possible.

Depending on the preferences indicated, the program could include the following:

- A tour of the museum and the Heritage Village (early 1900's home, school, church, numerous workshops, etc.
- A nature walk through this interesting and diverse 40 acre site.
- Golf at Shannon's Recreational Park.
- Visit to a winery --- Granite Creek - tour and tasting.
 - Larch Hills - tour and tasting (tremendous view).
 - Recline Ridge - tour and tasting.
- Cruise on the stern-wheeler Wanda Sue (capacity 100, food service, licensed).
- Enjoy the new elevated concrete walk on Salmon Arm's foreshore. A nature lover's paradise. (approximately 900 metres)
- Visit the Enderby & District Museum with its original displays of Enderby's history from 1880 to 1965.
- Walk along Enderby's scenic Jim Watt Heritage Riverwalk. This paved walkway accommodates all pedestrians including wheelchairs.
- Luncheon for all will be at the Heritage Park dining facility where we would also be entertained by speakers with many humorous anecdotes about the Shuswap-Okanagan Railway and the Shuswap Lake history.



As 2005 is the centennial anniversary for both the Salmon Arm and Enderby communities, we especially invite you to join us.

The luncheon fee will be **\$10.00**, payable in advance.

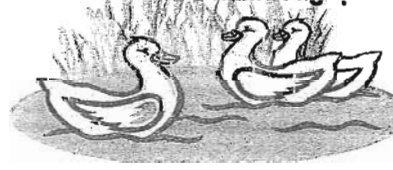
We would like to have approximate numbers of those who plan to attend by **February 28, 2005**.

When we have these numbers, we will be able to give firm times for those events operating on a schedule.

Planning Committee - Shuswap & District RTA

November 19, 2004

Contact: Marie Laroche-374-9356



Thinking ahead to the spring

We are planning a fundraiser for the Canadian Harambee Education Society (CHES) which is one of our continuing charity projects. Each year we fund the education of one student in Tanzania through this society. We need to raise at least \$400.00 in order to support the project. This year we are planning to hold a SILENT AUCTION at our Mat meeting and luncheon. So that this auction will be a success, we need your participation in two ways. First we need you to search out items for auction that you think someone else will want to buy. It need not be expensive. It could even be as simple as some homemade preserves or a planter box ready for the patio. Then we need you to come to the May meeting ready to bid on items that are being auctioned. If you have items to contribute to the fundraiser, please let one of the committee know by the meeting in April so they can prepare the auction ahead of time. Let's see if we can raise the money we need as well as have some fun while doing it.

Contact person: Donna Sharpe 376-2806 or sharpe2d@shaw.ca

The Bursary

Our annual Bursary fund raising has been in progress since last spring when the knitters of our group got together and planned to make a beautiful quilt. It will be a lovely addition to a home and the catalyst for the project.

Below Mary Ellen Patterson, Elaine Holmes and Doug Nicol attended the presentation of our \$2000.00 Bursary on November 4, 2004.

