



Two Pheasants on a Snow Bank - Unknown Artist, 18th Century
Public Domain ; Google Art Project

KTRTABulletin

Kamloops Thompson Retired Teacher's Association

We are your local branch of the BCRTA. We are a non-profit, volunteer-driven association of retired educators enjoying our "awesome years" together! We make meaningful social connections, learn something new and enjoy the pleasure of loving, laughing, and sharing.

You can donate to the
Salvation Army
BC Floods Response
[here.](#)



Responding to the Recent Floods

Like many, your KTRTA executive is concerned about the effect of recent floods and mudslides on our members. We want to ensure, to the best of our ability, that all of our members are safe and well.

We also want to suggest ways that our members who are unaffected by the flooding can help those who are dealing with evacuations and challenges due this catastrophic natural event.

Click here:
[KTRTA Pamphlet of Events for 2021-2022.](#)

Annual Giving at the Festive Christmas Lunch & 50th Anniversary, Friday Nov. 26

If you have registered, we look forward to seeing you at our Christmas luncheon and 50th Anniversary Celebration on Friday November 26th. Please note that we are accepting cash/cheque-only donations at the Christmas luncheon this year due to the COVID-19 protocols. Cheques are also best if you need a tax receipt from the organization.

Envelopes will be available for donations to: KTRT Club Retired Teachers' Bursaries, Christmas Amalgamated, Kamloops Food Bank, RIH Foundation (Scott's Heart Clinic), Canadian Harambee Education Society (CHES) and Salvation Army.

CLICK HERE to go to our website:
KTRTA.CA



Ideas for Helping with the Recent Floods:

One of our members, Pat Petley, volunteers with the Kamloops Emergency Support Services (ESS) at the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). When asked how our association can best help, she shared the following:

“I just chatted with our ESS directors on the best way for us to help victims of the flood. They said the very best way to help is by donating cash cards for food, Walmart, grocery stores, London Drugs, etc. to the [Salvation Army](#). They have been providing meals at the McArthur Island EOC since the first day and they would greatly appreciate this type of donation.”

Another member, Sheila Park, added further suggestions:

“Several retired teachers volunteer at the Evacuation Operations Centre (EOC). They are working to support flood victims by volunteering their skills through Kamloops Emergency Support Services (ESS). They have worked from June 29th through to October with the Wild Fire Evacuations and are now back at it for the flood and mudslide evacuations. Many other members of our association are supporting victims by gathering together essential supplies such as bottled water, food, winter clothing and diapers. These are being collected at community centres, churches and schools throughout our region. Some of us are also providing housing for family and friends who needed to evacuate. Some of us are donating cash and cash cards for food. We really want to thank all of the folks who are doing all these things, and more.”

Note received from our former KTRTA Membership Chair, Raven Ritcey. Raven lives in Merritt is now under evacuation notice:

Hi there Everyone,

Thanks very much for the note from the KTRTA. Frank and I are fine and we are staying with family and friends in Kamloops. We are changing homes every three days - as fish and company go bad after three days. Our home is two blocks from the flood zone. We were not hit and our basement is clean, too, as far as we know. Our friends have been hit hard. Mud clean up galore is what we will need help with when we finally get to return home.

Needs: I know people need bottled water and groceries. Regarding wanting to know the best ways to help out, I found some information for donations and other assistance: The City of

KTRTA Executive

- President - Marney Bethell
- Vice President - Donna Walsh
- Past President - Sheila Park
- Secretary - Betty Karpuk
- Treasurer - Sandy Baird
- Programs - Rosemarie Stoltze
- Pensions, Benefits & Member Wellbeing - Sheila Park
- Membership & Online Office - Noeleen Bunney
- Sunshine - Mary Ellen Patterson
- KTRTA Bridge Newsletter - Donna Sharpe

Merritt is working with Nicola Valley Food Bank, United Way, Red Cross, and other organizations on how to best help Merrittonians most in need. The best information about where people can donate to Merrittonians is from Merritt City Hall, and they highly recommend the rotarymerritt.com website. When you donate to Rotary there is no administration fees deducted. All of the money you donate will be spent in Merritt directly on people who need it the most, and in a timely manner. The Merritt City Hall merritt.ca. Thank you for your interest.

Fondly, Raven (260 319 0963)

Note from BCRTA President, Grace Wilson to local Retired Teachers' Association branch presidents, province wide:

To BCRTA Presidents,
 We are all aware of the torrential downpour that has resulted in floods and landslides in the various parts of our province. Many of you are well and safe, but we have concern for other BCRTA members that may have had to evacuate their homes and will be struggling with additional challenges upon being able to return. British Columbia communities have always responded to these situations. Please make yourself aware of community efforts and supports for your area so that you can inform other members who want to help out or who need to access community support.

It will be some time before our infrastructure is repaired but it is the people that matter the most. We await the news that all of our BCRTA members are safe, warm and back in their own homes.

Grace Wilson,
 BCRTA President



Photo Credit: Glenn Dreger

New KTRTA Members ALWAYS Wanted!

Please invite the retired teachers you know to join our local association of the BCRTA. They may not know that BCRTA has local branches for retired educators throughout the province. It's just \$5.00 per year to join your local association of BCRTA. Your friends can sign up using the online form at BCRTA or contact Laurie Boyd, Office Manager, at our provincial BCRTA office in Vancouver: office@bcrt.ca or 1-877-683-2243.



Kids - Gotta Love 'Em!

Please send your humorous and memorable stories from your teaching career to Sheila Park at onlineoffice.ktrta@gmail.com.

We are compiling this collection of funny teaching stories into a book!

KTRT Club Executive

President - Bev Maxwell

Vice President - Sheila Park

Secretary - Donna Walsh

Treasurer - Sandy Baird

CHES - Pat Petley

TRU/R.R. Smith:

- Glenda Miles,

- Donna Sharpe

Members-at-Large:

- Marlene Olineck

- Carolynne Miller

- Suzanne Legault

- Sharon Olson

Wanted! Member Contributions to our KTRTA Bridge Newsletter

Please submit your interesting and creative contributions on topics such as local activities, health, gardening, travel, hobbies, history, and creative writing. Photos and artwork to feature in each issue. Please send your submissions to:

Donna Sharpe at onlineoffice.ktrta@gmail.com

50 Members Attending KTRTA 50th Anniversary Celebration & Festive Christmas Lunch (and...we still have a few seats available!)

Fifty! Yes, fifty members are registered to attend our 50th Anniversary Celebration this Friday Nov, 26th. How perfect is that? Fifty at our 50th! We will have entertainment, a Christmas turkey dinner with all the trimmings along with laughter, loving and sharing. There are a few spots left. Please RSVP [250-299-1974](tel:250-299-1974) onlineoffice.ktrta@gmail.com

We are Thinking of You All!

We want to offer our support to all of our members. Please keep in touch with us. We appreciate hearing about any KTRTA member needing a little extra *sunshine* in their day. Mary Ellen will write a *thinking of you* note of good cheer. You may phone Mary Ellen with the names of any member that needs a boost at [\(250\) 372-1762](tel:250-372-1762) or email us at office.ktrta@gmail.com.

We also hope we have inspired you to take action to be the best you can be with our suggestions for helping our neighbours in Merritt and beyond. Bravo to all who help. Give yourself a pat on the back for doing something very kind.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year filled with laughter, joy and sharing.

Best Regards,

Your KTRTA Executive,

Marney, Donna W., Sheila, Sandy, Mary Ellen, Betty, Rosemarie, Noeleen and Donna S.

