



Newsletter

Retired Teachers' Association

Vol 30 No 1 • December 2018

President's Message

Albert Legge

The art of communication is the language of leadership.
~ James Humes

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the RTANL members who gave me their overwhelming support during the election of our Provincial Executive at BGM 2018. It is my hope that I, along with the Executive Members and our Division Presidents, will be able to develop a new approach to serving our members across this great province by launching a new communication process whereby we can reach more of our existing members, connect with our newer members, and encourage members we may have missed along the way.

First and foremost, the RTANL was formed in 1971 with the prime purpose of drawing retired teachers together socially and in a casual and comfortable atmosphere where they could chat and interact casually and engage in activities for their collective enjoyment. Nowadays, across this province the provincial executive and the divisions endeavour to organize all kinds of social activities such as Christmas and spring banquets, luncheon meetings and many other retiree-focused events to help maintain that level of interest to keep the members coming back to share in all their activities.

As our members advance in years and new members come on board, the growing needs of members of our retired teacher fraternity become more relevant as the demands of increasing medical costs, affordable housing, heating and electrical costs and the general cost of living increases, gradually erode incomes and affect our lifestyles. We, as an executive, need to advocate for our members by providing information that will address the needs of members and provide avenues whereby members can get help and assistance for any problems that arise. We are constantly receiving information and possible initiatives from our member organizations and we do our best to pass this information along to our membership. However, we have recognized a rather serious flaw in the flow of information. A large number of our members across the province are unaware that the RTANL can be the vehicle to help promote their concerns and provide help in addressing many of our members' issues. The reason for this flaw is that we are outside the communication loop. In today's world it is possible for our members to become connected through our newsletters, division emails and by other social media outlets.



It seems a little ironic that as a group of teachers we have devoted our lives to the transfer of knowledge and information to our students and we have taken so much pride for all our efforts which have resulted in the best-informed generation in history, yet we ourselves are somewhat uninformed of many of the issues that confront us as retired teachers! Can we now look at our members and decide once again that we have a job to do: pass along all the information that comes from our association to its members? Yes we can!

It is my hope that throughout the coming months each division will embark on a search for members and get them connected by electronic means. Then we have to develop a package of "information goodies" that our association can make available to all members and show the members that we are operating as a family and constantly working for the well-being of ALL members. By keeping all members updated on developments within our field of common interests, our association will become stronger and more vibrant and take on a relevance that will cultivate an overwhelming pride among our members. This model has become the focus of ACER-CART, RTANL and should now become the renewed focus of our Divisions.

It should become a primary aim of all RTANL members to enter a dialogue with other members and ask them: Are you a member of the RTANL? If not a member: Do you want to join the RTANL? Would you like to know what your association and division is doing on your behalf? Would you like to receive information that is very relevant to you as a member of the RTANL? Would you like to receive newsletters and other information via email? Would you like to join our email list? Simply see page 3 for instructions.

With the approach of another Christmas Season, I wish to extend to all of our executive and division members in all of Newfoundland and Labrador my very best wishes for a safe, happy, festive and healthy Christmas Season with family and friends and the very best for the coming year.

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EDITING POLICY

Items accepted for publication reflect the views of the authors and do not necessarily express RTANL policy or imply endorsement by RTANL. We reserve the right to edit material for publication.

Provincial Executive Standing Committees 2018-20

Table Officers President, Vice-President,
Secretary, Treasurer

Benefits Beverley Fisher (Chair)

Finance Clayton Rice (Chair)
Albert Legge, Sharon Penney, Don White

Liaison Albert Legge (Chair)
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Newsletter Don White (Chair)
Clayton Rice, Albert Legge

Biennial Award Sharon Penney (Chair)
Eric Ayres, Thomas Kendell

Provincial Executive Ad Hoc Committees 2018-20

BGM/Reunion: Beverley Fisher (Chair)
Geraldine Wall (Reunion), Clayton Rice &
Don White (Co-Chairs of BGM)

Political Action (Coalition)
Sharon Penney (Chair), Doreen Noseworthy,
Patricia Parsons (Alternate)

**NLTA Group Insurance Managers
RTANL Representative**
. Sharon Penney

ACER-CART Albert Legge (Director)
Sharon Penney (Observer)

Tales Told by Teachers
Thomas Kendell

Provincial Executive Handbook
Don White, Clayton Rice



ACER-CART website: www.acer-cart.org

ADVERTISING POLICY

We accept ads to be printed in our Newsletter. However, we reserve the right to refuse all ads, or to edit them after consultation with the advertiser. The RTANL does not endorse or promote any product, service, or event presented in paid advertisements or in free public service announcements, unless so specified. Cost of ads will be determined by size and purpose. Please contact: Clayton Rice, 709-782-8914; email: clayton@warp.nfld.net.

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NLTA Website

To receive information that may become available between Newsletters, please go to the NLTA website: www.nlta.nl.ca and click on RTANL on the QUICK LINKS page. Please share any information with fellow RTANL members who do not have access to the Web. (Once again, we thank the NLTA for letting us avail of this website.)

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RECEIVE NEWS & INFORMATION ELECTRONICALLY FROM THE RTANL

NEVER MISS AN ISSUE OF THE RTANL NEWSLETTER AGAIN. You can read each issue on your desktop or mobile device as soon as it's available by signing up to receive your copy electronically. Simply send an email to rtanl@nlta.nl.ca and be sure to type "RTANL Newsletter" in the subject line and include your name, mailing address and email address in your message. (You will receive a confirmation email.) By providing your email address we can also ensure that you receive important information between newsletters (i.e. Group Insurance, Pensions, etc.).



DON'T HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

No worries! Our newsletter is also available on our link on the NLTA website at www.nlta.nl.ca/rtanl. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may continue to receive a printed copy by contacting Clayton Rice, Treasurer, RTANL, c/o 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL, A1B 1W1, Tel: 709-782-8914, clayton@warp.nfld.net.



HAS YOUR EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS RECENTLY CHANGED?

Please send an email to rtanl@nlta.nl.ca requesting that we update your email and/or mailing address, and we'd be happy to take care of it.



MISSING EMAILS? Have you checked your SPAM or JUNK email folder? Email service providers' spam filters are very good but occasionally they can send legitimate emails to your spam folder. It's a good idea to regularly check your spam folder if you don't want to miss important emails that may have been sent to spam by mistake.



NEWS & VIEWS

Avalon East Division

Nina Beresford

Warm greetings from your friends at Avalon East!

As we move from our beautiful summer through our colorful fall and into the winter months, we hope this Provincial Newsletter finds you in good health and spirits. For those of you who are recently retired, we encourage you to consider joining your respective Division and come along to reconnect with your peers and share your ideas and suggestions in order to make the activities in your division appealing to you and others. If there is one thing we learned from our many years of teaching, it is that change is good and revitalizing even though we often challenge it. Bring your friends and spearhead a project of interest to you. It will certainly enrich the agenda for the year. Some of the greatest satisfactions and pleasures we experienced in our varied schools came as a result of the projects we worked on together, so bring that enthusiasm with you to our meetings. We look forward to seeing you and working with you.

A look back at some of the events of the past year.

We extend sincere appreciation to our busy Social Committee Co-Chairs: Mary Purchase and Denise Barbour as well as members: Elizabeth Hamlyn, Judy Prim, Sandra Harnett, Carmel Strong, Sue Wade and Anne Marie Smyth who work together to provide entertaining events for our members.

Annual Fun Day

On February 19, 2018, 106 members attended our Annual Fun Day. This year we gathered at the Fluvarium. RTANL President Doreen Noseworthy brought greetings from the provincial. The majority of members played bridge while others enjoyed cards, games or just a social chat.



The day began with an extensive continental breakfast prepared by chef Antoine and his staff. After a leisurely morning of games, we enjoyed a very satisfying and ample lunch. The staff of the Fluvarium accommodated our every need. There were a multitude of prizes to be won, many of which were donated by members.

Thank you to all who donated, especially Rosemary Dillon



who donated a beautiful quilt for a ticket draw. Judy Prim was the lucky winner. As usual, the proceeds from the draw were given to the Retired Teachers' Foundation.



Winter Warm-Up Dance

Our last social event was our Winter Warm-Up Dance held at the Bella Vista on March 3, 2018. A live band, The Stowaways, played through the evening while 145 members and friends danced the night away. This was the first dance sponsored by our division and was well received by all who attended.

Annual General Meeting

On May 15th we held our Annual General Meeting at the boardroom of the NLTA. We were very pleased to have a few new faces join us and show interest in getting involved. We welcomed Doreen Noseworthy, Provincial President, who was our guest speaker and who along with Betty Lou Kennedy, Past President of Avalon East, assisted with our Election of Officers for another term.

We saw a few changes to our executive. Wanda Hand was elected as Vice-President, Cynthia Fardy as Treasurer, and we welcomed Ann Marie Cleary who joined us as Member-at-Large handling communications. Gloria McDonald stepped down from her At-Large position but has decided to continue with the very important job of Visitations serving the members in the Holyrood area.

Provincial BGM

Avalon East Division was very pleased to assist in hosting the 15th Reunion and BGM of the RTANL at the Holiday Inn from October 2-4, 2018. The theme this year was *The Past Shapes our Future*. Sincere appreciation to staff of the Holiday Inn who cared for our every need. We extend our sincere congratulations to Tom Kendall who was the recipient of the Biennial Service Award, to Albert Legge, our new President, and sincere appreciation to Doreen Noseworthy, Past President, for her tremendous dedication and commitment to the members of the RTANL and the varied seniors issues she is working on.

Your time and efforts are valued and appreciated. Thank you to all who made the effort to attend and add their voices to the valuable discussions throughout the conference.

Upcoming Events

Octoberfest

This year we will be changing the venue for our Octoberfest. It will be held at Glendenning Golf and guests will have the opportunity to participate in one of three interesting activities prior to the dinner – Glass painting with Carmel Strong, Yoga with Mary Kelsey, or Running/Walking with Joe Ryan. This should be a great event as we anticipate more than 100 members in attendance.

Christmas Craft Fair and Luncheon

Christmas preparations would never be complete without attending the Annual Craft Fair on December 3 at the Holiday Inn. This is an opportunity for our many skilled crafters to bring and sell their products. It is a big display and well worth a visit.

Following the Craft Fair, our Annual Christmas Luncheon will take place with lots of enthusiastic entertainment to get everyone in the mood for the season. This event usually brings together 300+ members.

Our January Newsletter will have information on events for the winter and spring.

Our Avalon East *Keeping in Touch* newsletter will be totally online by September 2019. That means that this Fall issue and our next one in January will be our final print editions.

Thank you to the 750 who have already signed up for online copies; however, we still have 1350 of you to reach. If you have not already done so, please submit your request to receive our newsletters online to rtanl@nltanl.ca: In the subject line, type: RTANL Avalon East

Newsletter. Be sure to include your name, your regular mailing address, as well as your email address.

When you read this newsletter, we will be well into preparations for the Christmas season. On behalf of the executive and members of Avalon East Division, I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry, blessed and joyful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Bonavista Division

Beverly Fisher

Greetings from Bonavista Division!

Our Division is a very active one, with our focus being on offering to our people opportunities to get together and share social events, recreational activities, and information sessions. Our 94 members range from the newly retired to a dedicated 91-year-old, retired teachers who live on both sides of the Bonavista Peninsula from Charleston to the Cape. We try to offer variety in our program in order to appeal to the varied interests of our membership.

Since our last report, which was written in May for the June Newsletter, we have had several activities and meetings. On May 10 we held our annual Spring Fling. This year we had it at the Fireside Dining Room in Port Union. It began at 6:00 with Happy Hour, followed by dinner, then entertainment by Gord Fudge. Approximately 60 members and spouses attended the event.

On June 4 a group of us set off to Clarendville for our spring bowling trip. Before heading to Caribou Lanes we had lunch together at Jungle Jim's.

They say old habits die hard, and that is the case with us – we plan our year around the school year, starting activities in September and ending them in June. After a gorgeous summer our Division is now back on track



Members of Bonavista Division enjoy some bowling.



General Meeting at the Bonavista Social Club.

with the activities that our executive planned at last spring's meeting at Barbara Duffett's home in Catalina. To make the year flow better, and to ensure that we have a variety of activities, we set up a tentative schedule that will run from September to June. Each month now has a designated activity.

Our first activity was our 'not-back-to-school' outing, an idea which we borrowed from Con-Tri Division. This year, instead of a hike, we had a barbecue at Roseann Ryder's cabin on Clarke's Pond Road. We enjoyed the sunny but cool day relaxing in the woods, chatting and sharing in a meal.

On September 9 many of our members donned our 'Let's Face It Together' t-shirts and participated in the walk for Mental Health and Addictions Awareness, sponsored by the Tip-a-Vista Wellness Foundation.

The first Executive meeting of the year was a breakfast meeting at Hotel Bonavista on September 14. At this meeting we picked dates for our Christmas social and a general meeting and chose a topic for the latter.

From October 2-4 four of our members attended the



Bonavista Division members at the "Let's Face It Together" walk for Mental Health and Addictions.

BGM and Reunion in St. John's. It was certainly a great opportunity to learn about our association and to have input into decisions that were being made regarding our membership. We enjoyed all aspects of the event, from the meetings to the church service to The Rooms tour to the speakers and especially the banquet and dance. We would encourage everyone who is able to try to get out to the next BGM in 2020.

Our first General Meeting took place on October 22 at the Bonavista Social Club in Upper Amherst Cove. It was a cool, damp day but upon entering the restaurant we were met with the warmth of the fire blazing in the pizza oven and the smell of soup cooking in the kitchen. We began the morning with our own business and then turned the meeting over to Chef Katie Hayes and her husband Shane. They led a discussion on organic gardening and talked about how they use all natural and locally grown products in their establishment. They gave a lot of helpful advice to the avid growers in our group. After the presentation Shane led a group on a tour of their gardens, while Chef Katie and her helpers tended to the delicious meal that she was preparing for us. Soup, salad, pizza and homemade ice cream with partridgeberry sauce were on the menu...now that certainly made the meeting worth coming to.

Thursday morning curling has started at Cabot Stadium and we are looking forward to another great season of recreation and lunches. A weekend in April has already been set for the Curling League's Funspiel. We have lots of time to practice and get in shape so that we are up to the challenge and can enter a few teams.

Our next activity occurs in December, with our annual Christmas Dinner on December 6. It's one of our favourite events of the year, so we are really looking forward to a great meal, great socializing, and some festive music.

On that note, I would like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years! Let's hope that Mother Nature will treat us as kindly this winter as she has done this summer and fall!

Con-Tri Division

Don Case & Isabelle Cole

Autumn greetings to everyone from the Con-Tri Division. Our spectacular warm summer has gone and we are now enjoying some very nice autumn days – days when you want to be outside putting the flowers to bed for the winter and tidying up the dead plants, leaves and other debris around the garden.

Our Newfoundland and Labrador Night, which was held in May, went very well indeed. We were served a very delicious turkey and jiggs dinner by Fong's Restaurant in Carbonear, followed by the distribution of Newfoundland and Labrador prizes which the recipients seemed to enjoy. A kitchen party followed with music provided by two of our members – Wayne Button and Howard Sooley. We were treated to country music from the past as well as Newfoundland and Labrador music. We even had an appearance by some mummers. It was a great evening!



Prize recipients at the Newfoundland and Labrador Night.

In August the Biennial Awards Selection Committee met. We were given four applications to review, all of which were numbered. Our selection was number four whose name was not revealed to us until the BGM – Tom Kendell was the lucky recipient. Congratulations are extended to Tom from Con-Tri!

On September 6 we held our annual Not-Back-To-School Walk. We met at Madrock Café in Bay Roberts at 10:30 in the morning to begin our walk. Some of us took the trail over the hill and some of us chose to walk the road along the shoreline and admired the rugged cliffs and birds. At noon we all met back at the café for a delicious brunch of fish cakes, touts and baked beans or the traditional breakfast of bacon, ham or sausage with eggs and toast. Several members joined us for brunch. It was an enjoyable day for all.

On September 18 our Division hosted a question and answer information session in our area with Dr. Suzanne Brake, Newfoundland and Labrador's first Seniors' Advocate. We invited not only retired teachers but any seniors in the area who were interested in attending. Dr. Brake spoke to us about her role as Seniors' Advocate and she entertained comments and questions from the floor about health care for seniors, transportation, and shortage of doctors – all concerns that the seniors in the Trinity-Conception area have at this time. We were very

pleased to have over sixty seniors in attendance. We are looking forward to being able to provide other speakers in the future.

Fifteen of our members and spouses attended the BGM from October 2-4 in St. John's. It was great to meet old friends and make new ones. Congratulations are in order to three of our members who were elected to the Provincial Executive: Albert Legge as President; Sharon Penney as Vice-President and Patricia Parsons who will be taking office as Member-at-Large when Doreen is finished as Past-President. One of our members, Rosanne Slade, presented a cheque for \$600 on behalf of Con-Tri to the RTA Foundation. This money was raised through our Toonie Drives at our spring and Christmas events.

Our fall Executive Planning Meeting was held on October 9 at Hotel Harbour Grace. Our Annual General Meeting with election of officers is planned for October 23 at Hotel Harbour Grace. This will be a luncheon meeting. Our second fall meeting will take place November 13. (Venue to be announced). All members are invited to attend these meetings and become actively involved in our Division. Our Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance is planned for November 27 at Fong's Banquet Hall in Carbonear. Tickets will be going on sale after our Annual General Meeting.

As has happened in the past, we will be presenting scholarships of \$200 each to one student in each of the four high schools in our area. As well, we will be presenting a scholarship to a school in Ghana. A son of one of our members is highly involved in the running of this school.

Our Communications' person, Albert Legge, tries to keep all our members informed of happenings within our Division as well as what is happening and what is of concern at the Provincial and National level. We



Con-Tri members at the Not-Back-To-School Walk.

encourage our members to read Albert's e-mails and to take any action they may feel necessary to help make our retirement better for us and other seniors.

Hoping everyone has had a great autumn and wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Western Division

Wayne Park

You make a living by what you earn; you make a life by what you give.

Good day all and greetings from the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador – Western Division. It continues to be a busy time for retired teachers and it seems the days are long, but the years go quickly. In any event, it is my pleasure to bring you some highlights since the last report.

On October 2-4, 2018 Western Division, as did all divisions, participated in the RTANL Biennial General Meeting in St. John's. The agenda was impressive and full, which made for high quality sessions. Congratulations to the organizing committee for the BGM, and a big 'CONGRATULATIONS' to members who were elected to the 'new' Provincial Executive (please see RTANL website for elected members). The work of the people who volunteer their time and efforts for important roles is much appreciated. Anticipation is already building for BGM 2020 which will be held in Corner Brook.

On October 10, 2018, Western Division held a BGM and Election of Officers. Thanks to Geraldine Wall (vice-president), Roberta Pafford (treasurer), Elizabeth Alexander (secretary), and (members-at-large) Maxine Reardon, Lil Critch, Shirley Dawe and Selina Pieroway for coming forward to serve our division. I am delighted to be back for a third term as President. The big news from our 2018 BGM was the ratification and adoption of the RTANL-Western Constitution. It has been a long time in the making; however, it is a job well done.

On October 23, 2018 retired teachers of Western Division got together to kick off our annual Bake-less Bake Sale. This is a major fundraiser for the Retired Teachers' Foundation, with all donations going directly to the Foundation for disbursement each year in October to various children's charities. Western's Bake-less Bake Sale for 2017-18 brought in a total of \$6,431. This sale is now ongoing for 2018-19. Western Division also made a donation of \$3,000 as its annual donation to our Foundation, making a total contribution to \$9,431. THANK YOU to all who contributed to a great cause. I am delighted to report that the Board of Directors of the

Retired Teachers' Foundation for 2018-20 is located in Western Division.

On October 30, 2018, just on the left yet just as an you Executive Members got together with retired teachers in the Stephenville area for a social time which included a lunch date. What a fantastic time of socialization and comradery. The food was great and we talked about 'people we knew' or 'people related to the people we knew', and of course we chatted about the weather. These are always good topics of conversation! The event was organized by Terry-Lynne Strickland and others. It turned out to be a very 'special and remarkable event'. It started as a suggestion for a 'get together' from terminally ill, retired teacher Kathleen (Kathy) Bourgeois because she had such a fine time at other such socials. Regrettably Kathy missed the social by a few hours. Thanks Rosemary Foley for the appropriate poem as an acknowledgement for a fine, fine teacher.

On November 2, 2018 it was my pleasure to bring greetings from the RTANL, Provincial and Western Division, to teachers attending the Pre-retirement seminar in Corner Brook. These were teachers from the western area who may choose to retire in the next two years or less. As well as bringing greetings, I also gave a brief overview of the function of the RTANL and extended an invitation to prospective retirees to become a member of our Association through the easy application process which will be available when filing for pension.

Please mark your calendars for December 15, 2018 as the date for the RTANL-Western Christmas Social. Again this year, it will be hosted at Bennett Hall, social at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00. The dance afterwards will feature music provided by DJ Barry Wheeler and many prizes will be drawn during the evening. Last year was a fine, fine time and we are expecting the same this year. Members may please call Western Executive for ticket details and the event particulars will be published in the local newspaper and on cable.

To maintain a community presence and membership connection, Western Division has continued to participate in annual events which have become established past practice. The practice of hospital visitation, card and fruit basket gift for members will be maintained. Christmas visitation for ill members in all our regional communities will continue to be the practice. A critical component of these practices is for the regional contacts to communicate the health status to a Western Executive Member and appropriate follow-up will occur.

All the best to all!!!

President's Executive Report to BGM 2018

by Doreen Noseworthy

My dear colleagues and friends, these past two years seem to have flown so quickly, and yet, here we are at our Fifteenth Biennial General Meeting. A lot of things have happened during that time - in the world, in North America, in Canada, in Newfoundland, in our own home towns, and within our own personal lives. Change is everywhere – some of it good, some of it not so good – but it is change nonetheless. Nothing ever stays the same and, as much as we feel we'd like things to be the way they were, I don't believe many of us would really want that. And so it is with our Association. It, too, needs to change to reflect the changing times, demographics and political culture of today. It has to be current with the way things are done in today's society, with the technology, the environment, the political and cultural challenges, the changing needs in an ever-aging demographic the likes of which the world, our country, our province, our communities have never known. For all these reasons and so many more, we need to keep ourselves apprised of what's happening in this era of change in order to, at the very least, help us cope with life in the present and, at best, give us the knowledge and fortitude to move forward with change.

Bearing that in mind, you will have noticed that we have moved from the printed format of our RTANL Newsletters, to the electronic mode of delivery. Not only has this been a more economical move for the Association but, it has also helped the environment and is so much more socially acceptable in today's small "p" political climate. We view this as a major step in moving the association forward but, having said that, we are not unaware of the fact that there are members in the far reaches of our Province who have no access to electronic messaging and are therefore still on our mailing list. Nowadays, instead of printing and mailing almost 6,000 newsletters, we are reaching everyone who wishes to receive the newsletter, within minutes of its completion. That, for many of us, is still a bit incredulous, and yet it is now the ordinary happenings in an ordinary day. For the "faint of heart" who have not yet submitted their email addresses to RTANL/NLTA, perhaps this brief message may be the stimulus you needed to get onboard and move forward with your Association.

Another change within the RTANL over the past few years has been our affiliation with other major pensioners, retirees and seniors groups, both provincially and federally. Provincially, our affiliation comes under the auspices of the NL Coalition of Seniors, Pensioners and Retirees. Federally, it is as a result of our membership and involvement in our national organization, ACER-

CART. This change has been one of the most progressive moves our Association has ever made. The old adage, "United we stand, divided we fall" has never been truer. Not only are we standing up for the causes, needs and concerns of retired teachers, but of every senior, pensioner and retiree in the Province and in Canada. I'm quite sure you'll agree that when Lloyd Buffett held that first meeting of thirty (30) retired teachers, back in 1971, to initiate the forming of a Retired Teachers' Association in Newfoundland, he had no idea it would take on this stature. Again, it's simply a "sign of the times", of change and of being an active participant in that change. Whether we like it or not, we are living in a period of difficult times with respect to an aging population, accessibility to health care, home care, long term care, dental care, proper medications, over-medicating, elder abuse, economic difficulties, the threat of ever-increasing hydro rates and the list goes on. As a result of our ability to communicate with these other organizations on a minute-to-minute basis, if need be, our status as a contender in the fight for the basic human rights of seniors, pensioners and retirees has multiplied exponentially. So, as the Provincial and Federal elections fast approach, your Association will be front and center organizing Town Hall meetings, political debates among candidates in various regions of the province, messages re ongoing activities of the various political candidates as they travel throughout the province and/or country and any other vital information as it becomes available. Federally, much of the direction for this will come from our National Association. Provincially, the Coalition will be hard at work coordinating events and materials to help increase your knowledge of the issues, along with our federal counterparts, so that when we cast our vote it will be informed and chosen wisely. The days of just voting for a particular party are long gone. Today, we need to know the issues and make informed decisions when the candidates come knocking. Sometimes they need to travel the road less taken in order to choose which path to take as they journey through the land of political decision making. With all this in mind, I remind you once again, please send along your email contact information so that you, too, can be informed of the actions and latest developments of your association as, together, we move forward in that mutual acknowledgement of change.

The Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, as many of you know, consists of seven (7) Divisions and two (2) Regionals. We are all painfully aware that our province has many challenges, not the least of which is our geographic outreach. It is difficult

to feel a sense of belonging to any group that is so far removed from one's ability to have a personal experience with its fellow members. As a result, we have taken it upon ourselves, as an Executive, to form a committee to look at ways of better aligning the areas of the province in an effort to make the Association more accessible to its members. This is not something that will happen in the short term and will never happen unless it gets your approval when the study has been completed and recommendations made. However, it is something that we felt was worthy of a closer look because we know we have members throughout this province who have been feeling disenfranchised, and rightly so. We can't change the geography, but we can try to do something which will bring our association closer to, and more meaningful for, its membership.

Part of the initiative of this Provincial Executive was to take a close look at the Constitution and By-Laws that govern it, with a view to updating any sections that were in need of change by deletion, enhancement, inclusion or replacement. As a result of that, there were several areas that were discovered to be in need of change for various reasons. They will be presented in the form of motions, at BGM 2018. Policies of the Association are reviewed on a more frequent basis and changes are then brought to the Executive table, in motion format, to be discussed, voted on and thereby entered in the Policy Handbook which guides the many day-to-day matters which may confront Executive at any given time, continually evolving as it should.

As a group of retired teachers, the profession never really leaves us. We will always be teachers and we will always be known as teachers – within the communities where we taught, among the students we helped educate and among our families and friends. Teaching has always been a very noble and dominant profession; one in which we have always taken much pride. It meant something to all members of society in terms of leadership roles, organizational skills, ability to speak publicly, expectations of refinement, caring, good manners and deportment. In our retirement, we would like to think that that same respect is being shown to our teachers in the classrooms of today, by their students, by parents of the children being taught, by administrators, by society in general and by governments and politicians at all levels. It is that same spirit of professionalism that we wish for our teachers today, which is why, when they are in need of support, we are always going to be there to give it to them. We exist, as an association, by osmosis. By that I mean that in our teaching lives, throughout our careers, we always knew that our professional association was there for us, in good times and in bad. They saw us through many difficult rounds of negotiations with governments

of every stripe and stood up for the rights and privileges we/they worked so hard to attain. That is why, when our teaching force is challenged today, we stand proud and tall with our parent association, the NLTA. When negotiations opened between Government and the NLTA two years ago, we, as an Executive, met with the president of NLTA at that time, Mr. Jim Dinn, and asked what we could do to help. We were made aware of the situation as it existed and immediately offered our full support, if and when required. As there has been little or no movement on these issues since, and the teachers are still without a negotiated contract, there has been little need for our support. However, as things change, they know they can count on us. I can assure you, that kind of support is reciprocated each and every day for, without the assistance we get from the NLTA, we could not exist. Whatever we need, whether it's meeting space, printing, photocopying, advice, expertise, speakers, newsletter articles and the list goes on, it's ours for the asking. That kind of relationship is something that most associations envy. They truly understand what it means to be a Professional Association and we have garnered a mutual respect with them since our early beginnings.

Throughout this report, I have been making reference to the past and learning from the past, to change and to accepting change, to moving forward with change. The reason behind all that has to do with our theme for this year's BGM/Reunion, "The Past Shapes Our Future". As teachers, we had to accept change in whatever form it came, whether it was the "new math", holistic language, no more spelling, or sex education, we had to change our entire belief system on matters we thought were sacrosanct. Despite our reservations on many of these changes, we forged ahead. I've often thought of life as being very much like a snowball going down a slope. It picks up all the snow as it rolls and becomes a much greater force in the end. It accumulates all the little pieces and rolls them all together in a great big ball making that little snowball much better and stronger along the way. That's what we do in life. When we start out on our journey we are a relatively small snowball but, as we roll through the daily trials and tribulations, we pick up little bits of knowledge and experience until we, too, become a force to be reckoned with; a much bigger, stronger individual than we were at the beginning. That's what is meant when you hear people talk about "grey power". We are the generation of grey power. We have rolled with the punches and have become a true force of spirit, determination and knowledge. We have earned our stripes and we are not afraid to show it. We must not bow to manipulation or empty rhetoric. We are better and wiser than that. I have always felt that, as a group of professionals, we were most often underestimated. We

never ran into the streets beating our chests and letting people know how smart we were or about all the things we could do with all the knowledge and experience we had accumulated over the years. Perhaps we should have; I don't know. But it is rather startling to me that, in spite of that, we have produced all the wonderful people a society needs in order to be successful.... great doctors, lawyers, nurses, firefighters, police, leaders in industry, business people, stock brokers, administrators of some of the most powerful multinational companies the world has ever known. Yes, my friends, they were all little snowballs in our classrooms, gathering and securing the little bits of knowledge and encouragement a teacher, on any given day, could impart. Many of them have short memories about their meager beginnings but, thankfully, we don't. As a gentle reminder of that, maybe we need to stand up and be counted as the next election campaigns are rolled out. Ask each candidate what she/he is planning to do about some of the many challenges facing seniors today, i.e. changes to our pension plans, implementation of National Pharmacare, affordable housing for seniors, and many of the other challenges previously mentioned. I will sum this up with a little quote my art teacher used frequently while teaching me how to paint. His famous words were, "Be the object of your painting. Be the apple. Be the flower. Be the boat or the broken down shed". My words to you are, "Be the snowball".

As I conclude this report, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for affording me the opportunity to serve as your president for the past two years. It has been a tremendous experience and my life is fuller and richer because of it. I want to thank you for your faith in me, to do the job I was elected to do. I would also, at this time, like to thank the members of Provincial Executive for their tireless energy and dedication to this Association and for the loyalty and support they have shown me during my presidency. My sincere thanks also go out to the various Board of Directors of the Retired Teachers' Foundation. The dedication and tenacity they bring to the Foundation is something any organization would be proud to have. They are relentless in their efforts to fulfill the objectives

of the Foundation by donating monies each year to various charities which support incapacitated children of Newfoundland and Labrador. The lives of the children they've reached out to are so much better because of the work they do. However, their work would be fruitless without the support of the Divisions who raise the money that the Foundation distributes each year. So, a huge thank you goes out to each of the divisions in gratitude for their efforts in that regard and in everything they do in support of retired teachers throughout the Province. I would also like to especially thank my home division of Avalon East for their constant support of everything I've done through RTANL since my retirement, both locally and provincially. They have always been very encouraging, supportive and loyal to me and for that I am truly grateful but, the thing I am most grateful for and proud of during my RTANL involvement is the friendships I've made along the way. Speaking of friendships, there are none any more valuable to me than the ones I have made during my years of involvement with the NLTA. When I walk into the NLTA building, I feel like I'm home and I float around and am greeted by all that I meet. I want to thank them all for the friendship they have shown me over the years, but I also want to thank them for the lasting relationship they have forged with RTANL. They are the epitome of professionalism mixed with the warmth of being one family. We are treated with such respect and willingness to help in whatever capacity we need. We are truly blessed, and I will treasure them always. I also want to thank the most ardent supporter a person could ever hope to have – my husband, partner, confidante, best friend and love of my life, Gerry. Words can't begin to describe the love and support he has given me through all the choices I've made to become involved in the various aspects of my professional life and into retirement. He's been there through it all, a stalwart of support and a shoulder upon which to lean. I have also been very fortunate to have had the love and support of my family, both immediate and extended, in all that I've done and probably will continue to do, in some capacity or another. Thank you one and all.

Retired Teachers' Foundation Biennial Report 2016-18

E. Dianne Squarey, Chair 2016-18

It is one of a kind! We have heard it many times! It is the Retired Teachers' Foundation!

I feel honoured to have been chair of the Foundation for 2016-18. It has been a busy two years and the Board has worked diligently on your behalf. We have held six meetings, five of which were back to back with Provincial meetings in order to help offset costs.

As many of you are aware, the decision was made during the 1980s at Central Division to assist the most vulnerable children of our province in honour of deceased colleagues. From this ideal, our Foundation was born. It is a registered charity under the Canada Revenue Agency Act. Since the 2006-08 BGM of the Retired Teachers' Provincial Association, it has operated at arm's length from Provincial, but under its sponsorship. To the Provincial body of the RTANL and the NLTA support staff, we say a sincere thank you for their advice, their assistance when required and the provision of financial support to operate the Foundation. The Board has no monies of its own.

Every dollar received goes directly out to the children of this province for which it was intended. It is costly to run a Foundation. Costs incurred are covered from a percentage of members' fees channelled through the Provincial Body. This term we had three members from Western division, one from Central Division, one from Con-Tri and three members from Avalon East as well as the President of the RTANL. No matter where meetings were held, related costs were the same. And they were high! It is our recommendation that, in order to defray such costs, the main body of the Board come from the same division and change every two years if possible. It does not require any change in our Constitution or By-Laws. It would also serve to highlight the Foundation in the various Divisions over a period of time. In today's world, meetings can certainly be held electronically. Indeed, this avenue must be explored. For myself, I sincerely believe that, even using this format, Board members must be able to meet "face to face".

The NL Retired Teachers' Foundation continues to significantly make donations to Newfoundland

and Labrador children's charities. During the past two years, \$58,000 was donated to 6/7 various charities. The recipient charities are chosen on an individual basis. Neither the charity nor the amount of the donation is guaranteed. Charities are reviewed annually. To date, \$313,800 has been given with \$3,589.15 in a savings account to be added to donations in the next fiscal year.

Charities in receipt of donations in 2018 include:

- NL Candlelighters – \$3,000
- NL CNIB Post-Secondary Orientation Program – \$3,000
- NL Downs Syndrome Society – \$3,000
- NL Mazol Shriners Patient Transportation Fund – \$7,500
- NL Rainbow Riders Children's Services – \$3,000
- NL Diabetes Association Children's Services/Camp Douwanna – \$3,000
- War Amps Champs Program for NL Children's Services – \$7,500

From where do these funds originate?

- Donations to "In Memoriam" is one source. (It is worth repeating that for every dollar donated to "In Memoriam", 100 percent goes to assist a child in our province). Updated "In Memoriam Cards" have been designed and printed for your use. They can be obtained from your Division or in respective funeral homes.
- The generous contributions of each of the Divisions and the Provincial body of the RTANL. Certainly, there would be little funds to distribute without the Divisions. They hold auctions, craft sales and bakeless bake sales in order to help. A sincere thank you is extended to all our Divisions for their hard work.
- Bequests. We were just recently advised of such a bequest from the estate of a deceased colleague. Be assured it will be used wisely.

Generally, the Foundation itself does not raise money. It has been done three times in its history. The third time was in the past year. Members, wanting to help, donated several items to the

Foundation. The Board decided to put these items on tickets province-wide. Again, it was the Divisions that made it successful. Certainly, all members of the Board did their part. Despite all odds, it was successful. Just under \$3,000 was realized.

The winners were:

- 1st prize – Quilt donated by Mary Tobin: winner was Beverly O'Reilly (Central Division)
- 2nd prize – \$200 Canadian Tire gift card donated by two members of Avalon East: winner was Lorraine Drodge (Western Division)
- 3rd prize – Lap rug donated by a friend of the Foundation: winner was Sandra Carpenter (Bonavista Division)

Please be advised that while such generosity is appreciated, the Board respectfully recommends that such items be referred to the member's own Division to handle as they see fit.

How do we distribute the funds? The vehicle chosen was to work through recognized provincial charities which deal specifically with children's special needs. This term, a committee was struck to review all previous recipients and to present criteria to assist in the decision-making process. A further recommendation for 2018-19 is to develop a more formal application form. A charity would complete said form stating the intended purpose as to how the money would be used to support the incapacitated children of our province.

The Foundation's other mandate is to remember the life and work of our deceased colleagues. Over the past four decades, Books of Remembrance have been compiled. Past volumes are housed in The Rooms Archives here in St. John's. It is with a debt of gratitude to retired teacher, Joe LaFitte, and the NLTA support staff, that submitted profiles of deceased teachers since 2011 are now online at www.nlta.nl.ca/rtf. A blank form can be found there for future submissions. Please peruse. You might even think about printing off the blank form for yourself. Upon completion of the relevant sections, place it among your own important papers. We can assure you that this will be a welcome help to your family at some later time. Relevant insert cards have also been designed and printed to place in a sympathy card.

These cards will help families explore this option should they wish to do so.

Two other items of note are:

- With the help of the NLTA Communications Department and the financial assistance of the Avalon East Division, a banner was designed and purchased. This banner highlights the work of the Foundation. It is hoped that the banner will be displayed at all important functions concerning the Foundation. It will be housed with the incoming Board in 2018-20.
- As noted in the RTANL provincial newsletter, the Board recommended updates to our Constitution and By-Laws. These changes were brought forward at our AGM on October 3, 2018. All were passed.

At our AGM on October 3, 2018, the newly elected Board members were as follows:

- Chair – Geraldine Wall
- Vice Chair – Lillian Critch
- Secretary – Jane Murphy
- Treasurer – Roberta Pafford
- Members at Large – Elizabeth Thomey, Selena Pieroway and Anges Hughes
- Other members – Dianne Squarey (Past Chair) and Albert Legge, President of RTANL

On behalf of the Board 2016-18, we wish them well. We know that under the leadership of Geraldine, the Foundation is in good hands.

In closing, it has been a pleasure to serve as your Chair. A sincere thank you is extended to all who assisted in any way and who offered encouragement along the journey. I would be remiss if I did not say a special thank you to the Board members who served with me these past two years.

Last, but not least, to my husband Art, without whom I could not have travelled this path. His technological know-how was invaluable to say the least!

I believe in the work of the Foundation. It is more than a dispenser of funds. For myself, the answer lies in the fact that just as we chose teaching as our life's work, we choose to continue to help the children of the province even in retirement. Be proud of your Foundation. Support it! Help it grow and develop.

Again, thank you to all.

Summary of Activities of BGM/Reunion 2018

by Sharon Penney

The Fifteenth Biennial General Meeting and Reunion of the RTANL has come and gone. Friendships were renewed and new ones made. This year's event was held at the Holiday Inn in St. John's from October 2-4. We were joined by 64 members 9 of whom were 80+ and 11 guests. The theme this year was *Our Past Shapes the Future*.

Initial BGM registration was conducted online, with a hard copy option for those uncomfortable with the online version, a first for our organization. On-site registration took place between 3:00 and 5:00 pm on October 2 and was hosted by the Avalon East Division of the RTANL. We were all greeted with a loot bag and registration materials. Avalon East Division members were responsible for collecting, collating and distributing all materials needed for the registration. A big heartfelt thank you for all you have done to contribute to the success of the BGM. We know how much work goes into making events such as this proceed smoothly.

The BGM officially got underway at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday night. President Doreen Noseworthy led the association members in a unison reading of the Invocation. She then introduced some invited special guests to address the assembly. The Honourable Lisa Dempster, the Minister responsible for Children, Youth and Seniors, brought greetings on behalf of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Ches West, Executive Member of the NLTA, greeted us on behalf of the NLTA and NLTA President Dean Ingram. Mayor Danny Breen, brother of an RTANL member, welcomed us to St. John's. Sharron Callahan served a threefold role – she brought greetings from the NLPSPA, the Coalition, and the Seniors Advocate Committee of St. John's. Nina Beresford, President of the Avalon East Division of the RTANL, welcomed all fellow RTANL members and reaffirmed the Division's mission to make the BGM and Reunion a successful and memorable one.

Having completed the formal introductions and greetings we then moved on to the speaker for the session, Mary Ennis and her presentation, *Sex After 50 – The Best Sex in Years*. Mary usually does her presentation as part of a duo, but due to unforeseen circumstances, her co-presenter, Gerard Yetman, was unable to attend. This was unfortunate as it left Mary having to rejig the presentation at the last minute to

accommodate Gerard's absence. Mary's presentation, however, was informative and she has a wealth of knowledge on the topic.

At the completion of the organized part of the night, a meet and greet took place in Salon A and B, which provided time to sit, chat and reconnect with friends we haven't seen since last BGM. During this time, a display of educational artifacts from days gone by was available for viewing. Some of the items on display were readily recognizable while others had us scratching our heads. It was interesting to stand back and listen to teachers of yesteryear reminiscing about having actually used some of the display items during their teaching careers. During the evening the first of our prize draws were made.

The second formal session of the BGM was convened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday morning. At this time Jim Dinn, Past President of the NLTA, was introduced as the Parliamentarian for the proceedings. The agenda for the BGM was adopted and the minutes of the 2016 BGM were approved. This session included the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Statement, the President's Executive Report and the Vice President's Report from ACER/CART. This session was very short (since we had to recess for the church service at 11 a.m.) and some of the agenda items were deferred to the Thursday morning session. Again, prize draws were conducted.

After the second session was adjourned we all went across the road to Bethesda Pentecostal Church for our Service of Remembrance. This year there were 213 retired teachers on our Honour Roll. The service was conducted by the two pastors assigned to Bethesda – Pastor Justin Parsons provided the music for the event while Pastor Robert Lodge preached a relevant and uplifting message. Members of the RTANL Executive took part in the service by doing selective scripture readings and the In Memoriam list. A hot lunch was provided at the church.

Following the luncheon, the Retired Teachers' Foundation conducted their BGM. Foundation monies were presented to the War Champs, Mazol Shriners Transportation Fund, Rainbow Riders, Camp Douwana, Down Syndrome Society and the CNIB Youth Orientation Program. A total of \$30,000 was presented at this BGM.

Chair Dianne Squarey gave a report of the Foundation's activities under her leadership. As part of her report, the current executive made several suggestions for the incoming executive to consider as they proceed.

The new Foundation Executive will come from Western Division with the addition of the Past President of the Foundation and the President of the RTANL. It is hoped that with membership on the Foundation Executive coming from a smaller geographical location, expenses will be minimized.

Later in the afternoon members and guests travelled by bus to The Rooms. After a short introductory presentation, we were free to visit the displays at The Rooms at our leisure. The exhibits about Beaumont Hamel and the early history of Newfoundland and Labrador were particularly popular. This visit was positively received by all who attended. Even the bus ride was enjoyable as retired teachers got the opportunity to experience a bus trip where they were not in charge! The banter on the bus was reflective of everyone having a great time.

Wednesday night was set aside for our Banquet and Dance. Following a turkey dinner, the winner of the Biennial Award for 2018 was announced. Congratulations are extended to the winner, Mr. Thomas Kendell from Central Division. We were regaled with a talk by John Norman. Mr. Norman presented a slide show and talk on the preservation of historic buildings in Bonavista. The revitalization of Bonavista has had a positive impact on the businesses in the area, and has even been responsible for an increase in the population in the area. Bonavista, as a result of its increase in tourist traffic, has seen the establishment of several year-round businesses. Mr. Norman, and his wife, through their three companies, Bonavista Living, Bonavista Creative, and Bonavista Creative Workshop, have been instrumental in the revival of Bonavista's Historic Properties. The Bonavista experience is a model for how preserving our past facilitates our future. After John's presentation, and in keeping with the theme of his talk, we presented him with a 445 million-year-old fossil.

After the presentation, our dance was held. All present seemed to enjoy themselves, especially when the women took over the dance floor! The photo booth was utilized and pictures taken to provide memories for years to come. The third round of prize draws occurred at that event.

Thursday morning saw the resumption of our BGM business. Paula McDonald from the Teachers' Pension

Plan Corporation provided a synopsis of our plan as it currently exists. She indicated that the plan is healthy at this point in time and should be stable for the next 40 years. A question and answer session proved to be very informative and gave our members peace of mind that our plan is secure and well run.

After considerable discussion, a motion from the floor calling for cessation of honoraria to Provincial Executive members was defeated. A subsequent motion, instructing the Provincial Executive to investigate the cost of hiring a full-time executive assistant to perform some of the work of the Provincial Executive was brought forth and carried.

A motion was made that the BGM for 2020 take place in Corner Brook.

During this time the RTANL Executive for 2018-2020 was elected and installed, namely:

President.....Albert Legge, Con-Tri
Vice PresidentSharon Penney, Con-Tri
SecretaryDon White, Avalon East
Treasurer Clayton Rice, Avalon East
Immediate Past President.....
..... Doreen Noseworthy, Avalon East
Members-At-Large:
.....Eric Ayers, Burin
..... Beverly Fisher, Bonavista
..... Thomas Kendell, Central
..... Geraldine Wall, Western
..... Patricia Parsons, Con-Tri (Alternate)

The session ended with the newly elected President, Albert Legge, taking the oath of office on behalf of the new executive. The closing prayer was led in unison by President Albert.



Front Row (l-r): Beverly Fisher; Doreen Noseworthy; Sharon Penney; Back Row (l-r): Clayton Rice; Don White; Thomas Kendell; Albert Legge
Absent: Eric Ayers; Geraldine Wall; Patricia Parsons

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSMENTS

SEPTEMBER 2016 – AUGUST 2018

Receipts	Sept'14---Aug'16	Sept' 16 – Aug'18	Budget
Advertising	1050.00	1,900.00	1,050.00
Donations (BGM/Reunion)	3,300.00	4,800.00	4,300.00
Fees from Divisions	540.00	504.00	540.00
Interest	2,597.86	1,589.74	1,500.00
NLTA – ASA Credit	30,000.00	29,000.00	34,000.00
Payroll Deductions	202,860.00	202,539.25	203,000.00
Registration Fees	3,350.00	2,450.00	3,500.00
Tales Told by Teachers"	<u>2,563.97</u>	2,171.79	<u>1,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 246,261.83	\$ 244,954.78	\$ 248,890.00
 DISBURSEMENTS			
Accounting Fees	2,333.45	200.00	300.00
BGM/Reunion -2012 -2014	19,501.94	-----	-----
BGM /Reunion 2014-2016	566.94	23,347.61	20,000.00
ACER-CART Fees	3,976.70	3,955.35 ✓	4,000.00
ACER-CART Expenses	7,173.90	7,297.21	7,000.00
Committee's	-----	1,207.20	2,000.00
Divisional Presidents	7,047.29	5,997.59	6,000.00
ECRTO	2,540.69	3,744.17	2,500.00
Executive:	31,244.71	30,396.75	32,000.00
Honorarium	25,468.75	26,250.00	26,250.00
Membership Cards	390.48	362.94	400.00
Paper/Office Supplies	2,109.82	1,902.47	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	776.53	1,251.15	1,000.00
Printing/Postage	21,194.88	20,831.46 ✓	2,500.00
Political Action	3,958.07	4,438.14	4,000.00
President/Vice-President	1,760.10	334.00	2,000.00
Rebates to Divisions	100,331.00	116,817.00	101,000.00
Retiring Allowances	-----	750.00	-----
RTF Expenses	11,134.85	17,919.97	15,000.00
RTF Donations	6,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Bank Charges	462.52	251.50	240.00
Telephone/Internet	3,615.00	1,620.00	-----
Visits to Divisions	<u>848.56</u>	1,674.55	<u>3,000.00</u>
	\$ 252,436.18	\$ 274,549.06	\$ 235,190.00

	August 2016	August , 2018
Excess of receipts over expenditures---	(6,174.35)	(29,594.28)
Cash at beginning of	<u>110,859.56</u>	<u>104,685.21</u>
Cash at end of period	\$104,685.21	75,090.93
Cash Balance		
Voting Share	164.58	200.05
Incentive Share	2,000.00	2,000.00
GIC # 41- 4 (1.8 % Maturing 03/31/20	10,000.00	10,000.00
GIC # 42 -4 (1.9 % Maturing 10/27/20	20,000.00	20,000.00
GIC # 43 -4 (1.65 % Maturing 10/27/18	25,000.00	15,000.00
Interest Account	4,172.81	1,243.95
Chequing	<u>32,877.20</u>	<u>26,646.93</u>
	\$110,859.56	\$ 75,090.93

Bank Statement August 31,2018 -- 27,843.66
Outstanding cheques -- 1,196.73
Balance as er cheque book -- 26,646.93

August 31, 2018

Clayton Rice
Provincial Treasurer

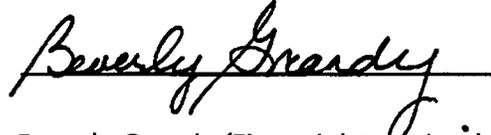
NOTICE RO MEMBERS

We have reviewed the statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (RTANL) for the period September 2016 - August 31, 2018

Based upon our review, we believe these statements to be true and accurate.



Larry Grandy (Financial Examiner)



Beverly Grandy (Financial Examiner)



HONOUR ROLL

We mourn the passing of the following retired teachers
and extend sincere sympathy to their families and friends

James Abbott (St. John's)	Maud Collins (Dover)
Maxwell Adams (Tilton)	Gregory Cooke (Deer Lake)
Doris Andrews (St. John's)	Anna Courish (St. John's)
Fred Andrews (Torbay)	Melvin Critch (Dunville)
Maxwell Badcock (Mount Pearl)	Douglas Dalton (Little Catalina)
Roy Baker (Bonavista)	Harold Dawe (Coley's Point)
Louise Baldwin (St. John's)	Mary Dawson (Kippens)
Margaret Bennett (Conception Bay South)	George Day (St. John's)
Margaret J. Bickford (Bell Island)	Ruby Decker (St. John's)
David Blagdon (Windsor, ON)	Desiree A. Dichmont (Carbonear)
Daniel Blackmore (Grand Falls-Windsor)	Vera Dicks (St. John's)
Donald Blundon (Heart's Content)	Frances C. Downton (Grand Falls-Windsor)
William Blundon (Chapel Arm)	Sr. Mary Genevieve Drake (St. John's)
Sr. Helen Bonia (St. John's)	Emma Drodge (Hillview)
Wilbur Boone (Kingston, ON)	Kenneth Dunphy (Holyrood)
Evelyn Bown (Bell Island)	Edna Dwyer (Corner Brook)
Eileen W. Bradbury (St. John's)	Sr. M. Francesca Dwyer (St. John's)
Leslie Brown (St. John's)	Edna Grace Earle (Bay Roberts)
Casimir Browne (St. John's)	Fanny (Fay) Eveleigh (St. John's)
Theresa Bruce (Happy Valley-Goose Bay)	Aida Fernandez (Deer Lake)
Marion Burke (Cape Breton, NS)	Mary Loretta Fitzgerald (St. John's)
Zeta Burt (Little Burnt Bay)	Doreen Flight (St. John's)
Ross Bussey (Port de Grave)	Cyril J. Foley (Tilting, Fogo Island)
Sonia Byrne (Botwood)	Flora Mary Follett (St. John's)
Clara Case (Mount Pearl)	Frederick Freake (Pasadena)
Naomi Case (Salmon Cove)	Marjorie Rose Freeman (St. John's)
Samuel Chaulk (Port aux Basques)	Jackson Gillingham (Gander)
William Chapman (North Sydney, NS)	Viola Gillingham (Carmanville)
George Childs (Burgeo)	Annette Goodyear (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Linda Clarke (St. John's)	Maisie Goodyear (Stephenville)
Maureen Mary Clements (Torbay)	Sr. Perpetua Gosse (St. John's)
Leveson Cocarell (Bishop's Falls)	Charlie Gregory (Corner Brook)
Barbara Coles (St. John's)	William Greeley (Upper Island Cove)
George Collier (St. Alban's)	Florence Green (Hillview)
Daphne F. Collins (St. John's)	James Greene (Lourdes)

Evelyn **Griffin** (Riverhead)
Michael **Haley** (Lawn)
Barbara **Hall** (St. John's)
Gerald **Hall** (St. John's)
Shirley **Hallett** (St. John's)
Ruth **Hann** (Millton, ON)
Ron **Harris** (Waterton, ON)
Norman **Hatt** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Mary **Haynes** (Halifax, NS)
Ann **Hearn** (St. John's)
Audrey **Hiscock** (Bishop's Falls)
Beulah **Hobbs** (Gander)
Bernice **Hogan** (Carbonear)
Melvin **Hong** (St. John's)
George **Horvath** (Mount Pearl)
Wilson **Horwood** (Brooks, AB)
Edith M. **Houlihan** (Conception Bay South)
Gilbert **House** (Kippens)
Warren **Hudson** (Western Bay)
Stephen **Hurley** (North River)
Leander **Hussey** (Corner Brook)
Sr. Josette **Hutchings** (St. John's)
Linda **Janes** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Sr. Irene **Kennedy** (St. John's)
Sr. Josephine **Kennedy** (St. John's)
Dorothy **Kenney** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Ronald **Kieley** (St. John's)
James **King** (Berwick, NS)
Leonard C. **King** (St. John's)
Sister Elizabeth **Lawlor** (St. John's)
Madonna **Lee** (Paradise)
Teresa Mary **Lee** (Goulds)
Roseanne **Linehan** (Mount Pearl)
Daisy L. **Littlejohn** (Bay Roberts)
Cyril **Lockyer** (CBS)
Albert **Loveless** (Seal Cove, Fortune Bay)
William **Luby** (Tors Cove)
Ronald **Lurie** (Victoria, BC)
Nancy Anne **MacAdam** (PEI)

Netta R. **Macinnes** (Toronto)
Jackie **Maloney** (Marystown)
Brother Joseph **Manning** (St. John's)
Priscilla Ethel **March** (Clareville)
George **Martin** (Clareville)
Lloyd **Martin** (Goobies)
Marguerite **Martin** (St. John's)
Michael **McDonald** (Mount Pearl)
Elizabeth **McGrath** (St. John's)
Gerald Rex **Meadus** (Whitbourne)
Bernice **Mehaney** (Herring Neck)
Marguerite **Michelin** (North West River)
Joseph **Moore** (Mount Pearl)
Richard Leo **Moriarty** (Ferryland)
Sr. Rosalie **Morrissey** (St. John's)
Hilda **Morrow** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Donald **Murphy** (Vancouver, BC)
Edward **Neil** (Spaniard's Bay)
Peter Harris **Noftle** (Bloomfield)
Robert G. **Newhook** (Savage Cove)
Brian **Nolan** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Hubert **Norman** (St. John's)
Catherine **O'Brien** (St. John's)
Marilyn **O'Dea** (Bay Bulls)
Ellen **Parrott** (Halifax, NS)
Audrey **Parry** (Wales)
Annie **Parsons** (Pasadena)
Cecil **Parsons** (Conception Bay South)
Gertrude **Parsons** (Corner Brook)
James **Parsons** (Markham, ON)
John R. **Parsons** (Woody Point)
Louise **Payne** (Corner Brook)
Margaret **Peddle** (Holyrood)
Roland C. **Peddle** (Lethbridge, AB)
Evelyn **Pelley** (Shoal Harbour)
Roberta **Pomeroy** (Burnside)
James **Pottle** (St. John's)
Douglas **Power** (North River)
Elizabeth **Power** (Hr. Grace)

Honour Roll *(cont'd)*

Richard **Power** (Conception Bay South)
Veronica **Power** (St. John's)
James **Preston** (Leading Ticks)
Norm **Purchase** (Eastport)
Elizabeth **Quick** (Okotoks, AB)
Marcella **Quinlan** (St. John's)
Olive **Reeves** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Clarence **Riggs** (Glovertown)
Raymond **Riggs** (Bay de Verde)
Marjorie **Roach** (Coley's Point)
Una Kathleen **Roberts** (Lewisporte)
Martine **Robinson** (Mount Pearl)
Eli **Rogers** (Brig Bay)
Olive **Sanger** (Lewisporte)
Sr. Pius **Shea** (St. John's)
Catherine A. **Simpson** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Jean **Skanes** (Corner Brook)
Calvin **Smith** (St. John's)
Cornelius **Smith** (Dunville)
Ed **Smith** (Springdale)
Kenneth A. **Smith** (Conception Bay South)
Llewellyn **Smith** (Dildo)
Robert **Smith** (St. John's)
Susie **Smith** (St. John's)
Raymond **Snow** (Buchans)
Shirley **Squires** (New Brunswick)
Wallace **Squires** (Embree)
George **Standford** (Mount Pearl)
John Anthony **Stephenson** (Kentville, NS)
Austin **Stewart** (Glovertown)
Gilbert **Stone** (Glovertown)
Lloyd **Stone** (St. John's)
Paul **Stone** (Conception Bay South)
Roy **Stoodley** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Doris Mary **Strickland** (Milltown)
George J. **Sutton** (Gander)
Hector **Swain** (Mount Pearl)

Clyde B. **Taite** (Glovertown)
Myrtle **Taylor** (Glovertown)
John **Thorne** (York Harbour)
Margaret **Thorne** (Grand Falls-Windsor)
Elizabeth Ann **Tilley** (St. John's)
Marjorie Blanche **Tilley** (Clareville)
Sister Patricia **Tobin** (St. John's)
Robert **Toms** (Forteau)
Catherine A. **Tremblett** (St. John's)
Benda **Tricco** (Logy Bay)
Olive **Troake** (Summerford)
Roy **Trowbridge** (Whitby, ON)
Raymond **Tucker** (St. John's)
Linda **Vatcher** (Corner Brook)
Sr. Regina **Vickers** (St. John's)
Sr. Lillian **Wakeham** (St. John's)
Gerard M. **Walsh** (Little Bay)
Michael **Walsh** (St. Alban's)
Mary **Ward** (St. John's)
Dr. Alice **Wareham** (St. John's)
Rose **Warren** (New Perlican)
Gilbert **Wells** (Gander)
Edward **Whalen** (Bell Island)
Lorna **Whalen** (St. John's)
Wayne **Wheaton** (Corner Brook)
Genevieve **Wheeler** (Corner Brook)
Joan **Whelan** (Bell Island)
William **Whiffen** (Truro, NS)
Florence **White** (Trinity)
Mildred H. **Whiteway** (St. John's)
Kathleen E. **Willis** (Moncton, NB)
Gordon **Williams** (Grand Prairie, AB)
Donald **Woodman** (Norman's Cove)

A Visit to The Rooms

by Beverly Fisher

The theme of our 2018 BGM was *The Past Shapes Our Future*, and to support this theme our RTANL members and their guests were offered a free tour of The Rooms on the afternoon of October 3rd. For some, it was their first time visiting the facility.

The Rooms is Newfoundland and Labrador's largest public cultural space. The size of the building, and the magnitude of its collection, is staggering. Its displays tell the story of our people, from our indigenous ancestors to the early settlers to the armed conflicts of the twentieth century. The building also houses exhibits and collections that interpret our world through art, artifacts, and archival records.

Upon arriving at The Rooms we were met by a guide, who gave us a brief introduction and handed out maps for us to use as we set off to pursue our own interests. Some of us strolled from gallery to gallery, studying each display in depth, while others scurried to try to take in as much as we could. Several of us wanted to see the Books of

Remembrance but discovered that it was situated in the Archives, and to retrieve it we had to be registered. It was a great visit but it didn't take us very long to figure out that our allotted hour and a half wasn't quite enough time to see all that there was to see.

The daily adult admission rate for The Rooms is \$10.00 (\$6.50 for 60+). I would recommend that if you have an interest in such displays and wish to avail of the vast archives, you buy a membership that allows you access any time you wish to go there. The membership fee for The Rooms is \$35.00 per year (for 60+), and you get free parking; however, you can register with the Archives for \$11.50 and obtain a permanent Researcher Registration Number that allows you access to that collection for life. The latter does not come with free parking though; that will cost you \$2.00 per hour. Admission is free on the first Wednesday of each month, from 6-9 p.m. For more information on The Rooms go to www.therooms.ca.



ACER-CART Report, June 1-3, 2018

by Albert Legge

We are only as strong as we are united, as weak as we are divided. ~ J.K. Rowling, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"

With our cold and windy departure from St. John's we arrived in Ottawa to temperatures in the mid 20s Celsius. This helped set the stage for three days of meetings and social gatherings in and around the Ottawa Marriott and the CTF headquarters where our business meetings were held. The gathering of approximately 35 ACER-CART Directors, Observers and guest speakers became the forum for the many presentations, discussions and resolutions brought forward at this year's AGM.

The meetings started at 12:45 on Thursday in the Queen's Suite of the Hotel Marriott with an Orientation Session for New Directors by Roger Regimbal, Executive Director, ACER-CART. This was followed by two presentations: (i) Advanced Care Planning by Alyson Hillier (NS); and (ii) Deprescribing by Barb Farrell of the Canadian Deprescribing Network. These two presentations were both timely and highly relevant to retired teachers and other seniors right across this country. More information on these issues will be presented to our members in the days to come and may be accessed at the respective websites. Regional meetings were then convened in preparation for the AGM on Friday and Saturday. At our regional meeting, chaired by Margaret Urquhart of NB, both she and Cynthia MacDonald, Director from PE, reminded us that the ECRTO Conference would be held in Charlottetown, PE on October 24 and 25, 2018.

After our first meeting session we met at the hospitality room to socialize and arrange transportation to the AGM at the CTF headquarters starting at 8:30 on Friday morning.

The Friday meeting convened at 8:30 a.m. on Friday June 1 in the CTF Boardroom with a warm welcome from President, Brian Kenny, and greetings from CTF representative, Sylvain Cleroux, followed by introductions by all members in attendance. After approval of the agenda, the minutes of the 2017 AGM were presented and approved.

As the meeting progressed, it became noticeably ap-

parent of the importance of sharing ideas with our members in other provinces by using material from each other's newsletters. Since we all experience many of the same issues right across the country, it will become more advantageous to draw from each other's expertise by sharing various news items. Highlighted in the President's report was the need for all 13 associations to work together for the cause of seniors' rights across our great country. Members were reminded about the ACER-CART Newsletter "Options" and were encouraged to submit articles for inclusion in the newsletter. ACER-CART has a Political Advocacy Committee headed up by Bill Berryman spearheading the National Pharmacare Formulary. Information may be accessed from the website www.aplanforeveryone.ca. They are promoting a pamphlet on Elder Abuse that contains reproducible documents that may be obtained from Bill Berryman or by emailing a.legge@eastlink.ca. A number of other seniors advocacy groups were recommended for access to information on various issues including Seniors Voice (a committee of ACER-CART), the Canadian Labour Congress and Demand a Plan, etc., which focus on many relevant issues of pensioners and seniors.

We were encouraged to keep the issue of opposing Bill C-27 front and centre and make our opinions count. Efforts to have a federal Minister of Seniors was being emphasized by ACER-CART and other seniors groups across Canada. The Pension and Retirement Income Committee are urging members to be vigilant to protect our pensions. Various issues are being examined and members need to keep informed of all developments such as Bill C-27, indexing, and any other threats to our pensions. Members need to relay all their concerns to their MPs, especially as they relate to Defined Benefit Plans versus Target Benefit Plans. ACER-CART is developing various strategies involving lobbying, letter writing and liaison with other seniors' organizations across the country to inform the government what our concerns are and work for improvements.

Following the President's Report, other reports were presented from the following committees: Communications, Health Services, Political Advocacy, Pension and Retirement Income, Legislation, Nominations and

Election, and Seniors Voice. After receiving the reports and the ensuing discussions and strategies, the meeting moved on to the Member Association Reports.

Most of the reports focused on the make-up and operation of each organization and illustrated the involvement of the membership and the successes and challenges experienced in each region.

The RTANL Report was presented by our ACER-CART Director, Doreen Noseworthy, and she emphasized our local involvement with meetings with Federal Government MPs on advocacy issues identified by ACER-CART. Areas of involvement by RTANL consisted of: concerns surrounding Bill C-27; the CARP “Day of Action” issues relating to Pensions; the National Health Care Strategy/National Health Accord as it applies to local cataract surgery clinics; the Canadian Labour Congress Town Hall Meeting on Universal Pharmacare; RTANL initiatives requesting a Federal Minister of Seniors; and concerns surrounding the future viability of the Canada Pension Plan. Doreen outlined RTANL’s major concerns and the involvement of our association in dealing with these concerns. Much of our advocacy entails meetings with the Provincial Government agencies, Federal Representatives, the Coalition and our newly appointed Seniors Advocate, Dr. Suzanne Brake.

One of the major concerns in several of the provincial and territorial jurisdictions deals with membership. It seems that many retiring and newly retired teachers are being excluded (or excluding themselves) from becoming members of our associations. Some areas are offering free membership trials, reduced fees and other incentives to attract new members as well as retain older ones. Our focus in RTANL needs to look at making contact with more of our members, use our current members as advocates for our association, and produce a package of incentives which will make our association more inclusive and attractive to members who show hesitancy towards joining our association.

After Friday’s meeting, delegates met at the hospitality room before attending the dinner hosted by ACER-CART and sponsored by Johnson Insurance. The dinner was held at the top floor banquet room of the Ottawa Marriott Hotel and it offered our group a panoramic view of the Ottawa downtown, including Parliament Hill.

At the completion of the meal, several awards were given out and our Director, Doreen Noseworthy, was presented with a plaque recognizing her for her years of involvement and her contribution and commitment to ACER-CART, in addition to her years of service and leadership to RTANL. After the dinner, many of the delegates and observers enjoyed the rest of the evening chatting and socializing at the hospitality room.

The Saturday portion of the AGM convened at 9:30 a.m. at the CTF venue and after a few updates the member reports were received. This was immediately followed by a presentation by Richard Harrison and the team from Johnson Inc. The presentation gave information on medical insurance re drug coverage and focused on coverage for medical marijuana. They finished up with an update on world travel insurance and explained the importance of travel insurance as it applies to today’s travel to destinations throughout the world.

Following the presentation and adoption of resolutions from members and the adoption of the budgetary resolutions, the ACER-CART priorities for 2018-19 were outlined and adopted.

After some revision of wording the following priorities were outlined:

- Participate in the 2019 Federal election by cooperating with other seniors affiliated groups to: 1) Protect pensions; 2) Advocate for a single payer national pharmacy; and 3) Advocate for a Federal Minister for Seniors.
- Promote and continue to monitor: 1) The 10-year bilateral health funding agreements with the provinces; and 2) The conversion of defined benefit plans to target benefit plans.
- Support the enhancement of the Canada Pension Plan.
- Oppose the privatization of health care.

Following the adoption of these priorities the Election of Officers was held with the following results:

- President – Bill Berryman, NSRTA
- Vice-President – Gerry Tiede, BCRTA
- East Regional Rep. – Margaret Urquhart, NBSRT
- Ontario Rep. – Martin Higgs, RTO
- West Rep. – Gordon Cumming, ARTA

The gracious hosts for our two-day meeting, the Canadian Teachers’ Federation, took great care of us by providing a BBQ lunch on Friday and followed up

on Saturday with a catered lunch. The BBQ lunch and the Friday night dinner, as well as the Saturday catered lunch, gave all the attendees the opportunity to share many conversations about our respective regions which reinforced the intense respect and devotion we all share about this great country and the opportunities offered to our retired teacher members and seniors in general.

After the Saturday meeting some of the directors and observers went on a stroll of downtown Ottawa and shared an evening meal before departing on their journey back home to resume the work for their respective associations.



RTANL President, Doreen Noseworthy receiving a Certificate of Appreciation for all her service to ACER-CART from ACER-CART President Bill Berryman

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ECRTO Conference Summary

October 24-25, Charlottetown, PEI

by Albert Legge & Sharon Penney

ECRTO is an organization which is a forum for the Retired Teachers' Associations from Eastern Canada and its aim is to meet every two years to share ideas and discuss concerns and activities common to Member Associations. It was originally called the Atlantic Division but after the first meeting, the English Teachers from Quebec became part of the group. Every two years the conference meets in one of: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador or Quebec. Newfoundland and Labrador hosted the conference in 2016 in St. John's. In October 2018, President Albert and Vice President Sharon attended this conference in Charlottetown, PEI and this is their report:

1. Introductions by all delegates including our two from NL. All five areas (NL, NS, NB, QC and host PE) were represented by two delegates each plus the PE executive.
2. The first presentation was by Dr. Stephan Wong titled Rediscover the Sounds of Life and dealt with hearing examinations and getting fitted with the proper hearing aids as determined by the tests. "The best hearing aid is the one you are most comfortable with." Only 20% of people with hearing loss actually get tested. Auditory deprivation is linked to a lot of health conditions. Hearing checks are recommended every year.
3. The second presentation was by Bill Berryman, President of ACER-CART. He referred to several conference calls which served as meetings as ACER-CART does not have a lot of money. The next ACER-CART AGM will be on June 6-8 in Ottawa and it is very possible that the Minister of Seniors, Philomena Tassi, will be in attendance. ACER-CART will continue to work with various coalition groups to act on the priorities outlined at the 2018 AGM and included in my report to Newsletter and in Sharon's Report from ECRTO. In addition, he made reference to Minister Tassi's mandate letter from Mr. Trudeau that outlined many of the issues that ACER-CART is actively working to implement. Bill referred to the Round Table Discussion on Pharmacare and the three questions that were addressed. He also made reference to a Resolution put forward at the 2018 ACER-CART AGM and passed. ***That the Provincial Members who together comprise ACER-CART remain committed to develop guidelines to advocate and promote the issues impacting education sector retirees and seniors in Canada while concurrently promoting the specific benefits and services of their association to education sector retirees focused within their own provincial or territorial jurisdiction.*** (Motion approved June 2018) We ask that you review the protocol and if you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to me or Roger who will then inform the executive. He also enclosed Protocol 7 – Advocacy and Promotional Guidelines for Retired Teachers and Seniors in Canada.
4. Next was a presentation by Dale Weldon of Johnson Insurance, who gave an overview of the various coverage and how they are similar or different from province to province throughout Atlantic Canada.
5. A Hospitality session was held from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. (Hotel Hospitality Time). The Hotel on Pownal where we stayed had a complimentary hospitality hour each day from 5:00 – 6:00 pm
6. A Dinner was hosted by Rendezvous Catering on Wednesday night at 6:00 pm and we returned to the Hospitality suite for some socializing from 8:30 – 10:00.
7. Thursday morning started out with Greetings from the City of Charlottetown by Deputy Mayor, Mike Duffy.
8. Olive Bryanton, now in her 80s, who was introduced by Joyce McCardle, gave us a presentation titled "Growing Old Gracefully", which was based on her PhD thesis "Pioneers in Aging: Women Age 85 and Older in Place in Rural PEI".

9. PEITF President, Bethany MacLeod, brought greetings on behalf of their Federation. She takes up the position of President of the CTF in July 2019.
10. Next were two sessions of Round Table Discussions organized by Marg Urquhart, Eastern Representative of ACER-CART. The representatives from PEI were assigned as recorders and we are awaiting the reports. Any helpful information coming out of the discussions will be sent to the executive. Marg sent an email and suggested that all suggestions and recommendations be shared through her as East Rep and then everyone would know what responses may be made to the various questions and suggestions.
11. Bill Berryman continued his presentation by sharing two documents – “The President’s Meeting Round Table Discussion” and “SHIFT – Nova Scotia’s Action Plan for an Aging Population”. The SHIFT document is in booklet form and may be obtained online at novascotia.ca/shift.
12. Quebec volunteered to host the next ECRTO conference in Montreal in 2020.
13. Lunch was provided in the Hotel Pownal Breakfast Room and delegates were offered a Tour of Cow’s Creamery in North River. The guided tour was not available, so we took in the video clips and spent some time in the gift shop after sampling some of their world famous home-made ice cream.



Front row (l-r): June McNair, NB; Cynthia MacDonald, PE; Wayne Spires, NB; Bill Berryman, NS; Wayne Denman, PE; Jim McAulay, PE; Jacques G. Albert, NB; Pat McCardle, PE.
 Back Row (l-r): Linda LeBlanc, NB; Phyllis Horne, PE; Joyce McCardle, PE; Marg Urquhart, NB; Jan Langelier, QC; Alyson Hillier, NS; Albert Legge, NL; Ruth Sudsbury, PE; Katherine Snow, QC; Denise Gaudet McPhail, PE; Michel Plamondo, PE; Maria Bernard, PE; Sharon Penney, NL; Kimball Blanchard, PE; Leonard Legere, NB.

Birthday Greetings to a Wonderful Lady

Rosalie (Patey) Spurrell was born in St. Anthony, Newfoundland, where she attended the first integrated school in the Province – the Wilfred T. Grenfell School. At a very early age she obtained various jobs with the Grenfell Association and later as a more permanent worker with pre-school children at the Grenfell Orphanage in close contact with a trained Kindergarten teacher who inspired her toward the teaching profession and a great desire to work with young children. After three summer sessions and a year at Memorial College in St. John's, Rosalie returned to the town as a Primary teacher, where she spent five memorable years at the Grenfell School, as well as three years with the Grenfell Handicraft Department. Rosalie went to Deer Lake for a year but in 1950 was accepted into the integrated school at Gander for one year only. However, that one year stretched until her retirement in 1980. Rosalie saw many changes in the Gander system from the time she became a Kindergarten teacher to her preferred Grade Two classroom and finally to her position as Vice-Principal of the Primary Department, having experienced the great move from Hunt Memorial Academy on Foss Avenue to the new and modern Gander Academy in 1957. Rosalie found time during the years to upgrade in her profession and attained a Grade IV teaching certificate through summer sessions and personal courses on weekends and nights throughout her busy schedule with family and school.

Through the years Rosalie played an active role as a volunteer at the James Paton Hospital, a member of the Gander Institute, and along the way with her husband, was very active for many years in collecting for the various organizations so vital to the needs of the town. She assisted the Kiwanis Music Festival as a volunteer, the Heart Foundation, the Mental Health Society, and many cancer functions. Rosalie is one of the few remaining Ladies of Gander BPO Elks Royal Purple, a long-time member of the Ladies Masonic Association and is recognized as a Lady Shriner, an organization in which her husband played a very active role.

Rosalie's great ambition in life was to travel through Canada, the USA and, after retirement, through Great Britain and Commonwealth Europe, which she did on eight different occasions. She was never happier than when she could see first-hand the many countries of her studies in history and geography during high school, but which then seemed so "out of reach" or so she thought. From the slate mines in North Wales, through Scotland,

the Grenfell Boys' School in Parkgate, England, the Great Masonic Hall in London, south of Poole, Dorset, and all countries bordering the English Channel where much Newfoundland and Labrador history originated, the Swiss Alps, the Zuider Zee in the Netherlands, the German Rhine, the Coliseum of Rome, the Eiffel Tower of France and the Scandinavian countries, etc., as well as visiting friends and places of note with whom exchange visits were experienced. Rosalie realized her dreams of earlier years as she travelled with family and friends.

For fifty years Rosalie and her husband Eric resided in Gander and made their home on Hawker Crescent in a home built by them in a co-op group in 1956-57. Gardening and well-kept grounds were a must and a favourite hobby of Rosalie. When her husband predeceased her in 2004 and age was beginning to take its toll, Rosalie sold her property in 2006 and moved to reside with her daughter Sharon, also a retired teacher. Her many friends rallied around to provide a source of company and a way to keep in touch with the Gander activities. Rosalie loved her career as a teacher and never wanted to look forward to not being in the classroom. She has fond memories of her relationships with her students and their parents.

Rosalie took great interest in the Retired Teachers' Association and was a strong supportive member since her retirement in 1980. She enjoyed the social aspect of meetings and always found them interesting and informative. She was always appreciative of the Executive for giving so freely of their time and interest to the concerns of retired teachers of the Central Division.

On November 21, 2018 the Central Division held a beautiful "tea party" in honour of Rosalie's 100th birthday – a birthday she will celebrate in January 2019. Many of Rosalie's friends were there to celebrate, including her daughter Sharon. Unfortunately, Rosalie was hospitalized and unable to attend. It was most fitting that the Provincial Executive of the RTANL was meeting in Gander on that day and they were delighted to take time from their meetings to celebrate with the family. Albert Legge, President of RTANL, presented Sharon with a beautiful bouquet of flowers to bring to her Mom along with our best wishes for a return to good health.



My Visit to the Holy Lands

by Ada Hollett, Retired Teacher

On November 7, 2012 I found myself on a flight from Toronto to Tel Aviv. On our arrival in Tel Aviv we were met by our tour guide and boarded a bus for Netanya, Israel where we spent our first night. We were so tired from our long flight and a long walk on the beach after we arrived that we ended up going to bed early.

After an early rise the next morning we found ourselves on our tour bus, which took us across the Plains of Sharon and the old coastal road to Caesarea. Caesarea, an ancient Roman seaport, was once the capital of Israel and where Pontius Pilot had his base. Many of the sites have been unearthed by archeologists, for example, Pilot's pool, a colosseum and aqueducts, etc. We visited Magiddo, one of King Solomon's fortified walled cities; Mount Carmel: Eligha; and stopped by the Sea of Galilee to view the Golan Heights.

Our second night was spent at a kibbutz on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. We spent four nights at this wonderful resort and toured the surrounding area. We took a boat at Tiberias and crossed the Sea of Galilee in an older type boat (in meditation); visited Capernaum where Peter's mother-in-law's house has unearthed an ancient synagogue (center of Jesus Galilean ministry); Tabgha (site of the loaves and fishes); visited the Mount of Beatitudes (traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount).

On the third day of our trip we left the kibbutz to go to the Jordan River. What an experience! There were lines of people waiting to be immersed in the Jordan River to be baptized or to renew their baptismal vows. During a short service I was one of those who had my baptismal vows renewed in the Jordan River. This was a very emotional time for me and one that I will never forget. I bought several bottles of holy water (small souvenir bottles) from the Jordan. We went to Banias (Ancient Caesarea Philippi) at the foot of Mount Hermon. Banias is one of the three sources of the Jordan River. We drove along the Golan Heights to see the Crusader Castle of Nimrod with its view of Upper Galilee; Golan and Lebanon. In the Hula Valley we saw how modern



farming methods have changed swampy land into rich farmland and saw the borders of Israel, Lebanon and Syria. After eating an interesting lunch at a Druid place, we visited Kursi (Gugesu) where Jesus cast the demons out of the men into the swine.

After these daily excursions we would gather in a room for a Bible Study session. Here we would discuss each day's events and how those experiences affected us. (At each site throughout the day there would be daily Bible readings.)

On the fourth day we left the kibbutz and the bus took us to Cana where we visited a church on the site where Jesus attended a wedding feast and performed the miracle of turning water into wine (The Wedding Church). From there we went to Nazareth, the hometown of Jesus. Here we visited the Basilica of the

Annunciation, where Mary received the message from God. The Church is built over what was once Mary's house. We had to walk through a large market place to get to the Church. We also visited the unadorned Church of the synagogue where Jesus was rebuked and thrown out because of His teachings. We

went back to Cana for lunch. After lunch, we went to the heights of Mount Tabor, the traditional site of the Transfiguration of Jesus. We had to go to the site in open jeep type vehicles. The road was very narrow and winding. It was quite an experience driving up and down this very winding, narrow road!

On the fifth day we left the kibbutz for the last time. Our first stop was at Beth Shean-Roman- Byzantine City with extensive excavations of Scythopolis. From there we went to Jericho, the oldest city in the world and the site where Jesus endured the temptations in the wilderness. We had lunch just outside of Jericho and went on to Jerusalem. We went to the Mount of Olives where we could overlook the Holy City of Jerusalem. From there we could observe the Gold Dome which was built over the site where Abraham offered up his son Isaac as a sacrifice but changed his mind and sacrificed

a calf instead. (The dome is gold and was paid for by a King of Jordan). We went to the Church of Ascension where the Lord's prayer was presented on the walls in all the languages of the world and the small dome-shaped church where Jesus ascended into heaven. That night we stayed at the Grand Court Hotel in Jerusalem. This is where we would stay for the remainder of our trip. On this our sixth day, we left the hotel and drove to the Western Wall – known as The Wailing Wall. Men and women were separated. Men visited one side and women the other. People came here to pray. The notes we wrote the night before were inserted in crevices in the wall as we prayed. There were so many people we had to line up and wait our turn to get to the wall. Another great spiritual experience! From there we visited the Israel Museum to view a model of the Old City of Jerusalem (which was quite different from the modern-day Jerusalem); and also the Shrine, home of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

We drove into Bethlehem singing the Christmas Carol "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem". Our regular tour guide wasn't allowed to enter Bethlehem. Our new tour guide was a Christian Palestinian. (He told us it wasn't easy being a Christian in Bethlehem.) Here we witnessed the birthplace of Jesus and the manger. The Church of the Nativity was 1500 years old! There were crowds of people – line after line – groups from all over the world. Our tour guide took us there very early in the morning so that we wouldn't have to wait too long. The church had been built over the Nativity site. We had to go down a stairway, underneath to the site. We each knelt (in turn) and placed our hands over the site which was surrounded by burning candles. Another great spiritual experience!

Day seven we set out again for the Mount of Olives and a panoramic view of the city of David and the old walled city. We visited the Garden of Gethsemane with its Basilica of Agony. (There was an artist in the very quiet garden, painting.) We looked down a road where Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday. You could just close your eyes and visualize the scene. We walked the Via Delorosa – the way of the cross – the 14 stations-of-the-cross; the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the traditional site of the burial place of Jesus; and the Arab Market of Old Jerusalem. In New Jerusalem we visited the Hadassah Hospital in Ein Kerem to view the world-famous Chagall stained glass windows.

On our way home that evening we saw tanks being transported on very large trucks. They were mobilizing! The news on BBC TV that night was that trouble had broken out again between Israel and Palestine. Israel had

killed a Palestinian leader they had been seeking for ten years. Palestine retaliated. They were firing missiles at Jerusalem, but they were not powerful enough to reach the city. We had heard the air raid sirens on our way home that evening. We were a little uneasy, to say the least, but we had an excellent tour guide who made us feel that we were in good hands.

On day eight, in spite of all, we set out again the next morning to continue with our touring. First we went to Mount Zion to see the traditional Tomb of David and the Room of the Last Supper. (This room was surprisingly very small.) From there we went to the Holocaust Memorial. What a large memorial! Maybe the largest in the world! From there we visited Gordon's Calvary with its garden Tomb. (Our guide there was from England.) We visited the garden and took turns entering the tomb. This was the tomb where the body of Jesus was laid when it was taken down from the cross. We entered the tomb one at a time. Each person had the experience of being inside the tomb. Our Canadian tour guide was a United Church Minister who held Communion in the garden before we left the site. On our way back to the bus we heard the air raid sirens! We were all pretty scared! However, our tour guide was quick to put us at ease. We had a lot to discuss at Bible Study that night. The Palestinian Arabs from Gaza were sending missiles over to Jerusalem. Israel was also firing on Gaza.

On day nine we left the hotel and drove to Masada, one of Herod's fortress castles. Here we viewed a movie of Masada before we took a cable car to the top of Masada. (It was a very frightening experience because of the height!) Here we explored the site of the last holdout of Jewish resistance to the Romans in 70 A.D. From there we could view the Mountains of Moab in Jordan. We continued on to Ein Gedi with its nature reserve (ibex and cooney) and waterfalls. We went on to Qumran to see the caves, site of the Dead Sea Scrolls discovered in 1947. We then proceeded to the Dead Sea where many people changed into bathing suits and floated in the Dead Sea. The water was very salty and slippery. It was like quicksand. You had the feeling that you could get sucked under. This was another very special experience!

Day ten was a Sunday and a day on our own. We walked to St. George's Anglican Church for the 11:00 a.m. service. There were many different services scheduled at the Church that Sunday but the ENGLISH service was at 11:00 a.m. We had to wait for one group to come out before we could enter. Surprisingly, two people from our group were asked to do the readings at the Holy Eucharist.

After lunch, a shuttle from the hotel took us to the Java Gate, entrance to the Jewish marketplace in Old Jerusalem. There were many gates because it was a very large place, like a walled city. While we were shopping, there was an announcement that the entrance was to close because of a bomb scare. We tried not to panic and very calmly finished our shopping. (The price for each item was settled by bargaining.) Luckily, by the time we got back to the entrance, the gate was opened again but the square was swarming with soldiers. We both noticed that those soldiers looked to be very young (male and female)! We felt a little uncomfortable so we left and walked to a more modern shopping mall that was nearby. When our shopping was finished we took a taxi (as per instructions from our tour guide). She even told us the right amount to pay for the taxi and not to pay more.) Fortunately, we arrived safely back to our hotel where we attended our farewell dinner.

On day eleven, we had an early rise with luggage outside the door by 7:00 a.m. We left the hotel at 8:15 a.m. for our ride to the airport in Tel Aviv for our trip back home. It took us an hour or more because of the heavy traffic. Our tour guide accompanied us. The Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv is very large and was very crowded. It has the biggest duty-free shopping center in the world. At first it was reported that our flight was late, 1:15 p.m. instead of 12:30 p.m. We started boarding at 1:30 p.m. but had to wait another hour or more before we were finally airborne. We were told the airport had to close to clear up the air traffic. Whether that was the case or not,

we were not sure; however, we were all relieved to take off and head for Toronto, Canada. Our tour guide had to meet a new group from Australia after we left. She assured us that everything would be okay for them.

Thus ended my awe-inspiring and spiritual experience to the Holy Lands. It really made everything more meaningful to walk where Jesus walked and to visit the actual site where he was

born. I had visited Egypt a few years prior to this but the Holy Land trip was an entirely different experience all together. This trip has had a lasting effect on my Christian journey. It has strengthened my Christian beliefs and has had a great influence on my life. I have since become a Lay Minister in my church and continue to live a new life in Christ Jesus.



RTANL MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

On **January 15, 2019** the fee for members of the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (RTANL) will increase from \$0.75 per pay period to **\$1.00 PER PAY PERIOD** for a total annual membership fee of \$24.00.

The increase, recommended by the RTANL Provincial Executive, was endorsed by the Biennial General Meeting held in St. John's on October 2-4, 2018.

In order to work effectively, the Provincial Executive members (who often reside at great distances from each other) need to meet at least twice each year. The Provincial Executive will also meet with the Division Presidents and the Retired Teachers' Foundation at certain times. The cost of transportation, hotel accommodations and meals have all increased considerably since the fee of \$18.00 was approved at BGM in 2002. The RTANL also has financial commitments to the Newfoundland and Labrador Coalition of Seniors and Retirees, the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART), and the Eastern Canada Retired Teachers' Organization (ECRTO). Be assured that the Executive and Committee members endeavour to keep a careful eye on expenses to get the greatest value for the dollar.



IMPORTANT NOTE FOR RETIRED TEACHERS re: GROUP INSURANCE

All information regarding the NLTA Group Insurance Program will now be sent directly to all members of the program (active and retired) electronically, as well as placed on the NLTA website for access. Given the ever-increasing costs of postage, no longer will direct mailing be an option. Any changes to the insurance program will also be provided to the Retired Teachers' Association for inclusion in their Newsletter. If you have an email address and have not already provided it to the NLTA, please do so as soon as possible by emailing: mail@nlta.nl.ca or by contacting the NLTA office at 709-726-3223 or toll free in the province at 1-800-563-3599. If you do not have an email address, please contact the NLTA office.

VOLUNTEER AS A CULTURAL AMBASSADOR AT THE ROOMS

The Rooms is looking for volunteers with traditional skills to knit, split fish, hook rugs and mend nets in our exhibition galleries this July and August one afternoon a week. Training will be provided in mid-June.

To volunteer as a Cultural Ambassador, or for more information, please contact:

Gillian Davidge at 757-8109
gilliandavidge@therooms.ca

Welcome to All New Retirees

We extend a warm welcome to all new members of our Association and encourage you to get involved. You'll find participating in Division activities is an enjoyable way to begin your retirement, especially since so many of your friends are already members.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND BLACKHALL HOUSE REUNION 2019

Event Dates:

Friday, August 9 to Sunday, August 11, 2019

Target:

All Blackall House Alumni from 1967 - 1985

Location:

MUN Campus, St. John's NL (various locations)

Organizing Committee Contact:

Email blackallreunion@gmail.com

It's been 50 years since Blackall House on MUN's St. John's campus opened. That was 1967 and up till 1985 it was an all-male residence. A committee is in place planning a resident's reunion for those early years 67-85.

August 9 - 11, 2019 will be a fantastic weekend of activities that will get you and your former housemates reminiscing about past stories while creating a host of new memories.

To ensure it is a success, we need YOU ... the former residents of Blackall House from 1967 to 1985! If you lived in Blackall during those years and you want to stay in the loop of what is being planned and when registration goes live, please go to this link, www.mun.ca/alumni/reunions/blackallreunion.php, click on "REGISTER FOR UPDATES" at the bottom of the page and submit all contact information requested. We are missing a lot of names and contact information and we want to reach as many people as possible

We look forward to seeing you in August 2019!!



VISITATION

All Divisions have Sick-Visiting Committees. Please notify your Division as soon as you hear that any member is ailing at home or in the hospital, so that visitations can be arranged. Members from other Divisions sent to hospital in St. John's will be visited by Avalon East members, if requested by those Divisions. Early notification is essential. Contact person in St. John's: Clayton Rice at 709-782-8914.

REMINDER re DECEASED MEMBERS

Please notify your Division President if you hear that any Member in your area has passed away. All Divisions make an annual donation to the Retired Teachers' Foundation in memory of their deceased members. Also, your Provincial Executive extends sympathy to their families and friends through our *In Memoriam* column, and honours their memory as we read their names from the *Honour Roll* during the Church Service portion of our Biennial Reunions. We need your help to make sure that every name is included in the *In Memoriam* column and on the Honour Roll.

MEMBERSHIP CARD BENEFITS

All members are reminded to shop around for best prices. Pharmacies charge varying dispensing fees.

If you live in an area where more than one pharmacy operates, it might be worth your while to check such fees. It is impossible for the editors of this Newsletter to publish details for all areas of the province so members, be vigilant. It may be of benefit to show your RTANL Membership Card to avail of discounts.



Please be advised that the Teacher Discount List can be accessed on the RTANL Link on the NLTA website (www.nlta.nl.ca). Go to Quick Links, R for Retired Teachers' Association, and then click "Retired Teachers' Discount List".

RTANL Newsletter Submissions

Our members are invited to contribute to their newsletter. We are pleased that many of you continue to respond with personal articles, stories, and letters of interest and we look forward to receiving many more.

The RTANL, however, does not accept excerpts from books or promotions of printed materials or other items which may be construed as unpaid advertising.

Please send your submissions
(preferably in electronic form) to:

Don White, don.white01@bellaliant.net or
76 Glendale Avenue, Mount Pearl, A1N 1N6
prior to **October 15** for the Fall edition and
prior to **March 15** for the Spring edition.

The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit all submissions.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time your Provincial Executive receives requests to advertise "job opportunities" which may be of interest to our retirees. We view these as potential "Benefits" to our members and therefore deem them important to include in our Newsletter. Often though, we receive such queries between our newsletter publishing dates, so to be timely for our members we have decided to include them on our website. It is suggested that members check our website from time to time to view these ads.

IMPORTANT NOTICE • AUTO REGISTRATION

As of **April 30, 2018**, renewal reminders for Driver License AND Motor Vehicle Registration are no longer sent by mail.

Vehicle registration renewal reminders can now be received by email. Make sure your email address is updated with Motor Registration Division. **If you do not have email**, your vehicle registration must still be renewed annually. The registration expires the last day of the month shown on your registration document and on your vehicle stickers. We advise that you mark this date in your calendar yearly.

Do you need extra help remembering when to renew your registration? The next time you renew your vehicle you can sign up to change your renewal date to your month of birth. For example, if you were born in the month of November, your vehicle registration would expire on November 30. This request can be made in person at any Motor Registration Division office. For further information about this option, please call 1-877-636-6867.

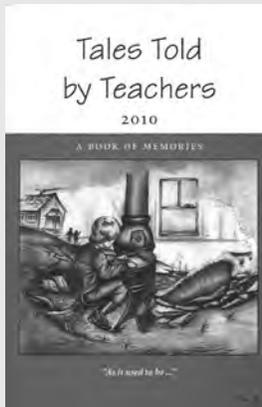
How will I know when to renew my driver's license?

You must renew your driver's license every 5 years, on or before your birthday. Your expiry date can be found on your driver's license card.

If you have email, you may also sign up to receive a renewal reminder re your Driver's License by email. It is your personal responsibility to maintain a **valid Vehicle Registration and a valid Driver's License**. There is a **\$250.00 fine** if either is expired!



NL MOTOR REGISTRATION DIVISION



Tales Told By Teachers, Vol. II

(Note: Volume I now **SOLD OUT!**)

Need a great gift idea (birthday, Christmas, retirement)?

This is it!

And what a bargain: a special price of \$10.⁰⁰

*(*plus postage where applicable)*

Contains stories, poems, amusing anecdotes – recalled by retired teachers:

“tales out of school” to make you laugh or cry – nostalgia at its best!

Volumes I and II were published by the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador:

Volume I in 1998 and Volume II in August 2010.

Order by phone, e-mail or post:

Clayton Rice: clayton@warp.nfld.net;; (709) 782-8914

Albert Legge: a.legge@eastlink.ca; (709) 683-2782

Don White: don.white01@bellaliant.net; (709) 368-7269

RTANL, 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL A1B 1W1

In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of the following retired teachers and extend sincere sympathy to their families and friends:

Philomena Abbass (Happy Valley-Goose Bay)

Hazel Batstone (Gander)

Sr. Helen Bonia (St. John's)

Iris Bonnell (St. John's)

Kathleen Bourgeois (Stephenville)

Eileen W. Bradbury (St. John's)

Theresa Bruce (Happy Valley-Goose Bay)

Zeta Burt (Little Burnt Bay)

Linda Clarke (St. John's)

George Collier (St. Alban's)

Mary Dawson (Kippens)

Donald Drover (Upper Island Cove)

Frances C. Downton (Grand Falls-Windsor)

Donald Drover (Upper Island Cove)

Fanny (Fay) Eveleigh (St. John's)

Aida Fernandez (Deer Lake)

Doreen Flight (St. John's)

Cyril Foley (Tilting, Fogo Island)

David Fowler (Portugal Cove-St. Philips)

Annette Goodyear (Grand Falls-Windsor)

Edith Florence Green (Hillview)

George Horvath (Mount Pearl)

Edith Houlihan (Conception Bay South)

Stephen Hurley (North River)

Isabel Marie Kelly (Harbour Main)

Sr. Josephine Kennedy (St. John's)

Gladys Leshane (Mount Pearl)

Nancy Ann MacAdam (Prince Edward Island)

Jackie Maloney (Marystown)

Priscilla March (Clarenville)

Lloyd Martin (Goobies)

Gerald Rex Meadus (Whitbourne)

Marguerite Michelin (North West River)

Richard Leo Moriarty (Ferryland)

Catherine Murphy (Mount Pearl)

Madeline Nash (St. Bride's)

Edward Neil (Spaniard's Bay)

Audrey Parry (Wales)

Gertrude Parsons (Corner Brook)

Margaret Peddle (Holyrood)

Evelyn Pelley (Shoal Harbour)

Jewel Pelley (Clarenville)

Elizabeth Power (Harbour Grace)

Richard Power (Conception Bay South)

Una Kathleen Roberts (Lewisporte)

Gary Schurman (King's Cove)

Llewellyn Smith (Dildo)

Robert Smith (St. John's)

Susie Smith (St. John's)

Raymond Snow (Buchans)

Ian Sparkes (St. John's)

Wilbur Sparkes (Bay Roberts)

Peggy Spurrell (Carbonear)

Wallace Squires (Embree)

John Anthony Stephenson (Kentville, NS)

Gilbert Stone (Glovertown)

Lloyd Stone (St. John's)

John Thorne (York Harbour)

Marjorie Blanche Tilley (Clarenville)

Sr. Patricia Tobin (St. John's)

Sr. Regina Vickers (St. John's)

Michael Walsh (St. Alban's)

Mary Ward (Mount Pearl)

Wayne Wheaton (Corner Brook)

May They Rest In Peace

BGM & Reunion, St. John's, Oct. 2-4, 2018

