

# RTANL AVALON EAST DIVISION

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

### HAPPY NEW YEAR

Greetings and warm wishes to all members of our Retired Teachers community!

Hopefully you have enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and holiday season with your family and friends. Now that we are into a new year, may you experience much happiness, good health and success in all of your undertakings. What do you think of our winter so far? I guess if Global Warming is going to keep our winters milder, we'll take it. Hopefully we won't have to pay for this in the few months left to this winter. Be careful and stay healthy.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

#### Octoberfest

Held on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Royal Canadian Legion, Octoberfest got our Social events off to a great start. A hot turkey dinner was enjoyed by 88 members and other invited guests. This year we were pleased to have the Executive of the *RTA Foundation for Children's Charities* attend and



use this opportunity to present their annual donations. Monetary donations totaling \$28,000 were presented to 7 local children's charities and we were very proud to meet those recipients. Congratulations to all members for your generous donations

and continued support to our Foundation.

We were well entertained by Chris Andrews, from Shannyganock (son of our former NLTA President Fred Andrews 1999-2001). Chris entertained as only he could, with footstomping guitar playing and singing of



familiar tunes interspersed with humorous stories and jokes. What a treat!

We welcomed the President of NLTA – Dean Ingram who brought greetings from NLTA.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Now that the Christmas season is behind us we look forward to two exciting events to help us weather the cold days of winter.

#### **Annual Fun Day - Feb 19<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30am – 3:30pm
- The Fluvarium
- Cost - \$20.00
- Register by Feb 9<sup>th</sup>\*

#### **Winter Warm-Up Dance – Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- 9:00pm – 1:00am
- The Bella Vista
- Cost - \$15.00
- Music by the **Stowaways**
- All proceeds will be donated to the RTA Foundation
- Register by Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>\*

\*See attached flyers

#### **AGM and Election of Officers**

May 15, 2018 (Tues.)

- 11:00 am
- Board Room - NLTA bldg.
- All members are invited to attend
  - AGM
  - Election of Officers
  - Lunch
- **RSVP by May 11<sup>th</sup>** to [ninaberesfordnl@gmail.com](mailto:ninaberesfordnl@gmail.com)

#### **Bakeless Bake Sale**

- Remember to send your donation to the Foundation with attached form ASAP

## Christmas Craft Fair and Luncheon

On Dec. 4th members gathered at Holiday Inn for our annual **Christmas Craft Fair and Luncheon**. A piping



hot stuffed chicken dinner was served to 345 members and guests, probably our largest group yet to come together for this event. In keeping with the spirit of the season, before the meal, we played *Pass the Present*, where 2 prizes were won at each table. Without doubt the highlight of the luncheon was our surprise guest speaker, our own **NL Santa, Bruce Templeton**.

Bruce brought tears and smiles to the faces of those gathered as he shared anecdotes of how he represented Santa to so many in various communities across NL through the years. It was

a very moving presentation; not soon to be forgotten. Our sincere thanks to our dear Santa.

We had a great showing from all of our talented **Crafters** again this year. Each year we look forward to your wares to kick off our Christmas shopping.



## VISITATION COMMITTEE:

The members of the visitation committee, Gloria McDonald and Sharon Reddy, continue to make telephone calls, send cards and carry out visits on behalf of RTANL- Avalon East. We strive to keep in contact with families of retired teachers who have passed away and also with our colleagues who are sick and living in nursing or retirement homes. We find these endeavors very rewarding as they bring a sense of comfort to families and to our fellow retirees. Please continue to assist us by keeping us informed of any retired teacher or family member who may benefit from our personal contact.

Thank you to all of our NLTA executive and to Clayton Rice for their ongoing support.

## OBITUARIES

We extend our Deepest Sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased colleagues who have passed away since our Fall Newsletter.

Roland Peddle

Fred Andrews

Catherine O'Brien

Dorothy Kenny

Sister Josette Hutchings

Paul Stone

Bill Luby

Sister Irene Kennedy

Kenneth Dunphy

Mel Hong

Sister Mary Francesca Dwyer

*Rest in Peace, Colleagues!*

If you know of any of our members who are recently deceased, please be sure to send their names along to Cynthia Fardy. We ask that all new submissions be sent with the name and contact info of a family member of the deceased. It would make things so much easier for us to collect information for the *Book of Remembrance*.

Cynthia Fardy

c\_fardy@hotmail.com or 368-671

## NL RETIRED TEACHER'S FOUNDATION REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the **Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation**, may I once again wish everyone a Happy New year! You will find a more detailed message in the RTANL Newsletter of December 2017.

As noted there, the Foundation has had a busy and successful year. We have strived to continue, and to build upon, the Foundation's twofold mandate;

1. to assist Newfoundland and Labrador children with special needs through their respective charities, and
2. to remember the life and work of deceased teachers by compiling Books of Remembrance in their honour.

Recognizing an ongoing difficulty in collecting data for the Books of Remembrance, we have been working diligently to address this concern. With the help of the NLTA Communications team, we have formatted a standardized, online Book of Remembrance form that may be used by all divisions. The link is [www.nlta.ca/rtfform](http://www.nlta.ca/rtfform). This form may be completed using present relevant information, then printed and filed amongst the member's important papers. Alternately, it may be used on the passing of the retired teacher.

We are currently compiling our latest Book of Remembrance. With the Newfoundland and Labrador database now up and running, we are ready to scan the most recent 91 forms received. Consequently, we are actively seeking a person or persons who would have the ability to undertake this worthwhile project. It is estimated to be a two -week project. Please contact me by email or phone should you be interested in taking this on. I can be reached at [dsquarey@bellaliant.net](mailto:dsquarey@bellaliant.net) or 709 781-0369.

We are also very pleased to announce that, on your behalf, the Foundation was able to donate \$28,000 again this year to Newfoundland and Labrador Children's charities.

The Board would like to thank all parties for their support of the Foundation. Each donation, whether through **In Memoriams**, a gift by individuals or small groups or as a result of divisional fundraisers is sincerely appreciated.

In this light, your generous support of the Avalon East division's upcoming **Bakeless Bake Sale** would be most welcome. Let's help make this their most successful fundraiser to date! You will find the related flyer attached. Please fill it in now (you know how forgetful we are becoming – well, some of us at least)!

Respectfully, Dianne Squarey, Chair RTF



## BUISNESS

### Note changes to executive contacts

Secretary	Barbara Young	<a href="mailto:twoyoungs@nl.rogers.com">twoyoungs@nl.rogers.com</a>	
Visitations	Sharon Reddy	<a href="mailto:sharon.reddy@nf.sympatico.ca">sharon.reddy@nf.sympatico.ca</a>	579-8169
Visitations	Gloria MacDonald	<a href="mailto:gloriam9@eastlink.ca">gloriam9@eastlink.ca</a>	229-7061

### Thanks to our generous donors

In particular we say Thank you to **Paula Cramm, Pat Hayden-Ryan, Josephine Greening, Sam Wolfrey and Carmel Strong**. These members donated amazing prizes for the ticket draws raising funds for the **RTANL Foundation**



### Think Green in 2018

We now have over **710 of our members** signed on to receive our **Keeping in Touch** newsletters electronically. If you're not yet part of that group, please help us reduce our postage costs and sign up today! Just follow these simple steps or have a friend sign you up.

1. Email your request to: [rtanl@nlta.nl.ca](mailto:rtanl@nlta.nl.ca)
2. In the subject line, type: RTANL Newsletter -Avalon East Division
3. Please include your name, your regular mailing address for our records, and your email address.

Please Note: We are not set up for the online submission of registration forms for upcoming events. You will need access to a printer to make a copy and mail it with your payment to the address provided.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



We look forward to your participation in the social events we have planned for you. Call your friends and make plans to sign up and get out there to reconnect with your former colleagues and friends. Make that your New Year's resolution to get involved this year. Your second resolution should be to see how you can make a difference in the life of someone near you who needs support, encouragement or just a listening ear. Good deeds can be as simple as a smile or a friendly greeting but even that can make a difference in the life of another. Finally, your third resolution is to eat healthy and get active. You may be retired but you must take care of your body and continue your youthful living.

Have a very happy and healthy 2018.

Nina Beresford