

RTANL AVALON EAST DIVISION

KEEPING IN TOUCH

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Winter 2025

Happy New Year!

Warm greetings and sincere best wishes to all members of our retired teachers' community. Our hope is that the New Year will bring you good health and happy times with your family and friends. Can you believe our weather? May this mild weather continue throughout the entire winter.

Your executive is busy planning two events for the remainder of this year. Our St. Patrick's Day Luncheon will take place on Monday, March 10 and our Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday, June 9. Our new executive will be elected at this AGM.

Our AGM this year is critical for our association as we have three members of the executive who will not be seeking reelection. To do the work of the association and continue to provide meaningful opportunities for our members to gather it is important that we have a full executive. We are asking you to please consider becoming involved in our Division. We have four events each year that are well attended and well received by our members. The work of our executive is not all consuming, but is necessary if we are to continue to provide the same level of engagement that we have provided for many years. If you are interested in the work of our association, please contact any member of our current executive. We thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

We look forward to seeing you at our March Luncheon and our AGM in June.

Mary D. Purchase
President

Our Executive:

President: Mary Purchase
Vice President: Shirley Sheppard
Secretary: Marlene Audeau-Joyce
Treasurer: Pam Bry

Members At Large: Betty Lou Kennedy, Sharon Reddy, Paula Redmond, Sandra Shepherd

The executive held its winter meeting on Tuesday, January 14 at the NLTA Boardroom and we are looking forward to continuing the year with our St. Patrick's Day luncheon on Monday, March 10, and finishing with our AGM on Monday, June 9.

Upcoming Events

St. Patrick's Day Scoff and Scuff- Lunch With Frank Davis Irish Band

Monday, March 10, 2025- Noon

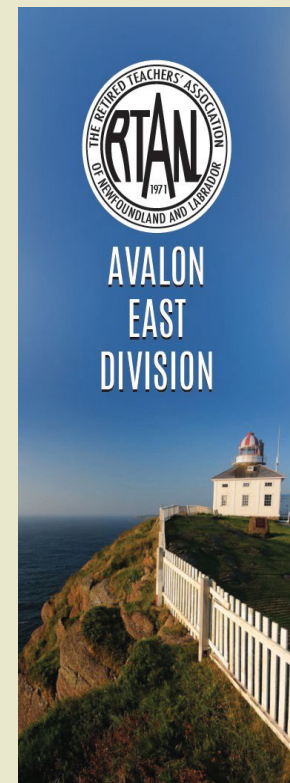
- Legion on Blackmarsh Road
- Cost: \$20 Members, \$25 Non-Members
- Soup, Sandwich, Tea/Coffee, Dessert
- Prizes
- Register by **Monday, February 24, 2025**

Annual General Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2025- 10:00 am

- Sandman Hotel, 227 Kenmount Road
- Cost: Free for all members
- Lunch Provided
- Election of officers will take place
- Register by **Monday, May 26, 2025**

NOTE: Please let us know if after you register you can no longer attend the AGM.



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Octoberfest 2024

On October 17 retired teachers from Avalon Division and guests were treated to a lovely Thanksgiving luncheon at Lester's Farm Chalet. 104 people attended and enjoyed a home-cooked lunch of either salmon or turkey with Lester's own fresh garden vegetables. Based on comments made it was a very successful event.

Retired teacher Joan Dohey was the guest speaker. She did a great presentation on "Practical Self-Care for Seniors". The Topic had lots of great ideas to help us retired folks to keep our minds and bodies in good shape. Thanks to Joan for a very informative presentation with some great comedy mixed into it.

We raised more than \$200 on our 50/50 draw with proceeds going to the Retired Teachers Foundation which supports children with special needs.

There were great prize draws throughout the event. All in all a great time was enjoyed by all.

Christmas Luncheon 2024

Our Christmas Luncheon was held at Glendenning Golf Club on Monday, December 2, 2024 with 219 people registered. We enjoyed a delicious meal of stuffed chicken breast with all the trimmings and a slice of delectable chocolate pie for dessert. We were entertained by The Boogie Babes, a three-part acapella local group. Lesley Dove Smith, Clare Hewlett, and Jodie Lear offer singing telegrams and are available for bookings such as weddings, parties, and Christmas luncheons. They beautifully serenaded us for thirty minutes with Christmas favourites, and their rendition of O Holy Night was breathtaking!

One invited guest joined in our merriment, Joseph Lafitte, the newly elected President of RTANL. Mr. Lafitte was delighted to be in attendance and took the opportunity to address us. He emphasized that during his term, he is eager to reach out and connect with all our retired members. He also encouraged us to ensure that our information with the RTANL is correct so that we are kept in the loop.

We were very fortunate to have 2 donations for ticket sales, an exquisite Christmas quilt from Paula Cramm, and a huge Christmas stocking with donated items lovingly collected and assembled by Pam Bry. Janet Bishop was the very pleased winner of the quilt, and the stocking was won by a joyful Trudy Harte. Sandra Harnett was the lucky winner of the 50/50 Draw which amounted to \$510.00. A total of \$1316.00 was raised for the Foundation. Everyone also enjoyed the draws for 20 prizes which were thoughtfully purchased and wrapped by Denise Barbour and Elizabeth Hamlyn.

This event certainly helped to instill the Christmas Spirit in all attendees. With everyone cozy and comfortable inside in our tastefully decorated venue, a wonderful time was had by all.

Co-Chairs:

Betty Lou Kennedy – (709) 754-0784

Paula Redmond – (707) 437-6636

VISITATION COMMITTEE

It is with deep sadness that we pass on to you the following information.

From September, 2024 until January, 2025 twenty-six of our retired teachers of Avalon East have been laid to rest. The names of which are listed below.

Treasured Memories!

We have passed on comforting words to family members on your behalf.

Unfortunately, we could not reach all families as addresses have changed and cards have been returned. Condolences to those who have been missed.

When notified of colleagues who have had surgery or are experiencing illness, get well cards have been sent. Wishing you all a full recovery.

We continue to remember our members who live in seniors' homes and nursing homes.

Sending Big Hugs!

We wish to acknowledge Clayton Rice, Cynthia Fardy, executive members and other retired teachers for keeping us updated with information concerning our colleagues. Many thanks!

Visitation Committee Members:

Gloria McDonald (CBS and surrounding areas)
gloriam9@eastlink.ca
(709) 229-7061

Sharon Reddy (St. John's)
sharon.reddy@nf.sympatico.ca
(709) 579-8169

OBITUARIES

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of our deceased members.

Gervase Flynn
Sister Patrice Bourgeois
Gloria Reddy
Edward Thistle
Elizabeth Williams
Sister Elizabeth Kennedy
Sherry Bissell
Alice Moyst
John King
Gillian Grant
Ron Pittman
Angela Keating
Sister Ellen Pomroy

Kevin McCarthy
Sister Consolata Power
Mabel Kean
Goldwyn Mercer
Kevin Clarke
Sister Gertrude Bennett
Brian Bursey
Barbara Dunn
Judy Houlihan
Hugh McGettigan
Geraldine Cahill
Marion Pond
Patrick O'Brien

Rest in Peace Colleagues

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

We have a membership of approximately 2,100 retired teachers in our district. Since 2019 we have communicated to our membership through email or postal mail (if a member made a written request). Some members have indicated to us that they are not receiving our newsletters. If you know of any members who have not requested an electronic copy of our newsletters, please forward the following information. We would like to reach as many of you as possible and encourage you to participate in our upcoming events.

If a member is not receiving an electronic or print copy of our newsletters:

- Submit your request to rtanl@nlta.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.
- If you wish to receive a printed copy of our newsletters, please mail this request, including your full name and address to: Avalon East Newsletter c/o 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL A1B 1W1

Has your email or mailing address recently changed?

Please advise your Division President and RTANL Vice-President c/o 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL, A1B 1W1 or email VicePresident@rtanl.ca. When sending a change of address, please include your previous address.

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 do not want to miss important emails that may have been sent to spam by mistake.