

RTANL Avalon East Division

Keeping in Touch



Spring 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A very warm welcome to spring! I knew there was a reason I was procrastinating about writing this newsletter. Today is April 22 and Earth Day. Happy Earth Day to everyone! This day is always a good reminder to us of the challenges we have to conserve the earth for future generations. In keeping with this we are continuing with our efforts to “go green” with our Newsletter. Many thanks to all members who have signed up on the NLTA website to receive the newsletter. This saves us money on printing and especially on the cost of mailing. For those planning to sign up please read the information in this newsletter about our attempts to save a few trees and a bit of money. This earth day also brings to mind the wonderful calendar of events that the Botanical Gardens are offering during the Spring and Summer. Check out their website for the schedule.

This RTANL year has flown by quickly as usual. We have hosted many successful events that were well attended. That doesn't mean we can't do with more retired teachers coming out to enjoy the activities and camaraderie. We would like to encourage the recent retirees to check out some of our upcoming events. You may wish to get more involved and take a position on our executive or on a committee. Give this some thought and please get in touch if you would like to become involved in the administration of our organization. We are looking for some new people and ideas all the time.

As I got more hopeful the past few days about spring being in the air I am listening to the weather forecast about the snow on the way. Unfortunately 5 degrees doesn't get us into our gardens. Keep hopeful that we will see the croci and daffodils peeping through soon here on the Avalon. I promised I wouldn't mention the weather but since it is one of our favorite pastimes I just couldn't help myself. Whoops!! I just heard a little bird tweet outside. Ever hopeful am I!

This year, 2016 is an election year and we ask all members to consider running for any position on the executive that may become available. We currently have the positions of Treasurer and Vice-President available for nomination. Please contact me should you be interested in running for one of these positions. Betty Lou Kennedy at bettyloukennedy156@gmail.com

Social Committee Report

On February 22 we held a very successful Fun Day at Bally Haly. There were more than 100 participants who took part in bridge, scrabble and other card and board games. We didn't have sufficient numbers this year to offer curling. It is very likely we will not be offering it in future Fun Days as numbers have been dwindling and the cost has escalated. This year's Fun Day was a great time with lots of laughs and a yummy lunch. Thanks to Sandra Harnett and the social committee for planning this event. Again this year we had a beautiful print donated by one of our own, Pat Ryan. We thank Pat for helping us raise funds for the Retired Teachers Foundation for Children with Disabilities, a very worthy cause with 100% of the monies going directly to the charities.

Thanks to Mary Holloway for arranging the Snow Fun Day in Pippy Park this year. Unfortunately we didn't have any snow on that day or the alternate day. Maybe next year Mary!

This is a good spot for me to thank you for your generosity of donations to the retired Teachers Foundation. We are still accepting the Bakeless Bakesale donations that are our only fundraiser of the year for the Foundation. You received the donation flyer in our mail out in January. Again many thanks!

Communications

In order to ensure we reach all our members we respectfully ask that you inform us regarding the following:

- Any colleague who is not receiving a copy of this newsletter (contact any member of the executive)
- A member who may be ill or for any reason is in need of a visit (contact Sharon Reddy at 579-8169.)
Gloria MacDonald visits in Conception Bay area. (709- 229-7061)
- A member who passes away (contact Denise Barbour at 364-6049). It is important that these members be included in the RTANL Book of Remembrance.

Canadian Cancer Society

The Newfoundland branch of the Canadian Cancer Society is asking for volunteers for their transportation program. If you are able to help please contact Lori Whitten at 757-8533. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

BBQ and Dance

Our annual BBQ and Dance will take place on Friday, May 27, 2016 at The Legion, Blackmarsh Road. "Metro Music DJ Services" will provide music. They play great music of our vintage. Please see the enclosed flyer for details. This event is usually well attended so be sure to mail in your form early so as not to be disappointed.

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General meeting will be held on Wednesday June 8, 2016 from 12:00-2:00 P.M. This meeting will be held at the Network Café in Pleasantville. We will conduct our business and election of officers followed by lunch and a guest speaker from Murrays Gardens who will speak on local gardening. Please see enclosed flyer for further information on location and registration. Many thanks to Judy Prim and the social committee for planning this event.

Deceased Members:

Since our last newsletter a number of our colleagues have passed away. We would like to express our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

Selena Bridget Delahunty, Bernadette Marie O'Neill-Whelan, Sr. Margaret Pittman, Sr. Kostka Reddy, Eileen E. Beh, Terry Doyle, Gertrude Mary Reardon, Betty Ann Bissell, Sr. Carmelita Elsie Power, Sr. Mary Kelly, Mercedes Costello and Carl George. May they Rest in Peace.

Should you be aware of a name we have not included please contact Denise Barbour at 364-6049.

Think Green

Thanks to 350 of our members who have already started 'thinking green' and registered for our newsletters online. We encourage more of you to sign on and help us reduce our annual mail-out postage of nearly \$6000. Please follow these simple steps to receive future Keeping in Touch newsletters online:

1. Email your request to 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 registration forms and payments for upcoming events to be submitted online. So you will need access to a printer to make a copy and then mail the completed form and payment to our social committee as you have done in the past. (Thanks to Cynthia Fardy for coordinating the Go Green project.)

In closing, the Executive and Social Committee take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful and safe summer filled with much sunshine and fun. Sincere thanks to the executive and Social Committee for all their hard work on behalf of all of us retired teachers. It has been a pleasure serving as the Avalon East Division President for the past 4 years. I look forward to continuing on the executive as past president in 2016-17. At this time we would like to thank Dianne Squarey for her long time service on the executive. We truly appreciate the hard work and dedication Dianne.

Members we hope to see you at the upcoming social events. Remember both registration forms are included in this mail out.

Sincerely,

Betty Lou Kennedy

Thought for Today

“A teacher’s job is to take a room full of live wires and make sure they are well grounded.” author unknown.