



October 2022 MHADRTA Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 5



Hello Everyone!

We are enjoying a beautiful fall! I am not a winter person, so this beautiful weather can continue for a while yet!

We held our "To Hell With Bell" meeting last month with 40 members in attendance with a wonderful welcome and excellent service and meal at Ralph's Steakhouse. Those in attendance were thrilled to be able to meet again after the summer break and socialize with their the colleagues.

We look forward to our second meeting at the end of this month. It is a Hallowe'en theme and you are asked to dress in costume, fall colours or something Hallowe'en related. Please confirm with the MHADRTA phoning volunteer when they call you. We realize that many are still uncomfortable attending the meeting and we both understand that and fully respect your decision.

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General Meeting "Hallowe'en Theme"

Date: **Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

Time: **10:30 am to 1:00 pm**

Place: **Ralph's Steakhouse**

Presentation: **Meliora Service Dogs**

Cost of Luncheon: **\$22.00**

If you are a MHADRTA member and were not contacted by a member of the phoning committee as of **Thursday, October 20, 2022**, please contact **Jim Black** (403-548-2028) to confirm your attendance.

Prospective members please contact Mel Deydey at 403-527-0054





MHADRTA Executive 2022-2023

President: Mel Deydey

Past President: Jim Black

1st Vice-President: Therese Bullin

2nd Vice-President: Lori Karwandy

Secretary: Ray Morrison

Treasurer: Henk Hof

Membership Chairman: Jim Kaupp

ATA Rep—Local #1: Darlene Dee

ATA Rep—Local #2: Laurel Schlaht

ATA Rep—Local #39: Dianne Durda

SEATCA: Delle Lovig

**Branch Benefits Reps: Judy Wonnenberg
Dianne Durda**

**Pioneer Village Schoolhouse:
Vicki McCaig**

Cards & Scrapbook: Annita Pinder

Contact: Barb Taylor

Website: Ed Dick

Phoning: Jim Black

Programs: Donna Mae Goldade

ARTA Board Of Directors: Mel Deydey

**Contact information for the executive
(email addresses and phone numbers) is
available to MHADRTA members on the
website. It is password protected.**

MHADRTA Membership Update

If you have not already done so, it is time to renew your 2022/2023 membership! We hope you will continue to be a part of our organization.

Of course, we welcome newly retired teachers with a free one year membership—and SEVEN new retirees have already take us up on our offer. Welcome to MHADRTA.

We also invite previously retired teachers who have not yet joined us since they've retired or those who allowed their membership to lapse. Your 2022-23 membership will be valid from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023.

Membership in MHADRTA is \$15.00 per year, payable by cheque or cash. Membership in ARTA is separate. For more information, visit www.arta.net

CONTACT US

By e-mail:
Contact Secretary
mhadrta3@gmail.com
President
49ermh@gmail.com

Visit our website:
www.mhadrta.wixsite.com/mhadrta

Like us on Facebook:



Follow us on Twitter:
[@mhadrta](https://twitter.com/mhadrta)





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Please note that our meetings start promptly at 10:30 am this year. We encourage you, if at all possible, to arrive a few minutes early. Meals are ordered just before the meeting starts and they are served just before 12 noon. The cost of the meal is \$22.00. When you arrive there will be a sheet with a choice of five meal items from which you will select one that will arrive shortly after the adjournment of the meeting.

2022 marks the 50th anniversary of MHADRTA becoming a branch of ARTA. We are in the beginning stages of planning an anniversary celebration. Watch upcoming newsletters for details and more information as it comes available.

The results of the 2022 ARTA Wellness Challenge were announced at the AGM. Once again, Calgary Retired Teachers Association was the winning branch with one of their members, Margaret Inkster being the overall winner with 19,209 steps. Okanagan Retired Teachers Association had the highest percentage of their members participate in the challenge at 48%. MHADRTA had nine participants submit totals.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the 26th.

Continue to enjoy the beautiful fall! Stay strong, keep healthy and stay safe!

Mel Deydey
President & Newsletter Editor/
MHADRTA

WE ♥ OUR volunteers

Volunteers for our October 26th General Meeting

GREETERS:

Lori Karwandy
Paul Nederveen

50/50:

Rita Hof
Joan Kaupp

DECORATIONS:

Annita Pinder
Delle Lovig

PRAYER/GRACE:

Ray Morrison



WELCOME to
"brand new
retirees" who
have joined
MHADRTA—

Susan Withers and Tania Haynes—
who both took advantage of a free membership just for being a first year retiree. They were not recognized in the last newsletter as they joined after the last newsletter was already sent out. We are honoured to have both of you join us. If you know of other first year retirees, please encourage them to get in touch with us.



The **ARTA Annual General Meeting** took place in Edmonton as an in-person meeting with a ZOOM option—October 4 and 5, 2022. Below are some highlights.

Presidents and delegates from each of the 18 branches were in attendance either in-person or virtually. Based on the number of MHADRTA members who are also ARTA members, we were allowed to send the President (or designate) and two delegates. Mel Deydey (attended virtually), Delle Lovig and Ray Hoger represented MHADRTA in person.

Annual Reports were given by members of the Executive Committee, the CEO, the Chairs of each of the Trust and the Charitable Foundation. The budgets for both ARTA and ARTARx for 2022-23 were presented and approved. There were presentations from Rod Matheson and Julie Joyal of ATRF and Jason Schilling and Dennis Theobald from the ATA.

There are now 28,162 members in ARTA—with membership growth rate increase of 6.12% (2021-22). This includes both retired teachers and private and public sector retirees who belong to the ARTA Benefit Plan. There are 29 members who are over 100 years of age.

Rod Matheson reassured the group that ATRF's key investment strategy and risk responsibilities have not changed after being moved to AIMCo. ATRF sets the strategies and AIMCo implements and delivers those strategies. ATRF (as of August 2021) showed a one year return of 15.6% and a return of 10% over ten years. There are 84,601 plan members with 30,582 collecting a pension. Retired teachers are encouraged to read their annual January statements to ensure all information is correct. Visit www.atrf.com for more information and to view their Annual Report. The oldest person receiving a pension is 104 years young and has been receiving a pension for 46 years. The average age of the new retiree is 60 years old. The average ATRF pension is \$34,790.00.

Elections are a part of every ARTA AGM. The Executive positions are one year terms. The Committee member positions are four year terms with the exception of the Health Benefits Committee which is a five year term.

Deb Gerow is the new **President** of ARTA for 2022-2023. Deb has served as Vice President for the past two years. She was acclaimed to the position and is a member of Elk Island Retired Teachers Association (EIRTA).

Leo Richer from Central Alberta Retired Teachers (CARTA) was elected as **Vice-President** elected over Dolaine Koch. Dolaine was previously ARTA's Treasurer since 2015.

Lawrence Hrycan, from WCRTA, was acclaimed as **Treasurer** for 2022-23.

Committee Members (Acclaimed or Elected):

Communications: Maria Lentz (WCRTA)—acclaimed.

Governance: Keith Elliott (CDRTA)—acclaimed.

Health Benefits: Jere Geiger—elected over Karen Atkinson

Pension & Financial Wellness: Craig Whitehead (SWARTA) — acclaimed

Strategic Planning & Advocacy: (Two elected) **Rob Pearn** (WCRTA)—elected to a 4 year term. **Dennis Espetveidt** (CRTA)—elected to a 2 year term. The third nominee was Rose Marie Sackala.

Wellness: (Two elected) **Ron Jeffery**—4 year term and **Joyce Loucks**—2 year term. The third nominee was Dr. Eugene Krupa.

Lorna McIlroy will serve as ARTA's Past President.

Marilyn Bossert (formerly the Past President) continues as the Western Canada Regional Representative for ACER-CART.

Lawrence Hrycan who serves as the Alberta representative on ACER-CART was appointed as the representative to Public Interest Alberta.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The **2022 MHADRTA Volunteer of the Year** was honoured at our September meeting. We extend our congratulations to **Lori Karwandy** who was nominated by two fellow MHADRTA members—Bonnie Spruyt and Laurel Schlaht. Lori has been a member of MHADRTA since 2018 following her retirement after a career of more than thirty years in the classroom.



(MHADRTA President, Mel Deydey presenting Lori Karwandy with her Volunteer of the Year Award)

Lori started as a teacher intern at George Davison School in 1985. She was hired full time the following year and remained at the school until her retirement in 2018. Lori was the French lead teacher for her school district and became the French facilitator for Medicine Hat College, Prairie Rose School Division, Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education and Medicine Hat Public School District 76. Mme. Karwandy taught Grades 4-6 throughout her career (most subjects) depending on her French teaching schedule.

Her nominators—Bonnie and Laurel—spoke of Lori's willingness to volunteer in a variety of activities. However, Lori was not only a volunteer, but she often became the leader of the group for which she volunteered. She followed this up by encouraging and inviting others to join these groups.

Lori is an active golfer and during the golf season can be found on the golf course where she not only plays but organizes different groups who meet weekly to golf. When asked (besides golf) about her hobbies, Lori replied in the following manner:

"I play chess, pickleball, ping-pong and attend aquasize classes. I love to read and because I love to share with friends, I started a book club called the Outlanders. We bring our favourite memorable books we've recently read and share them with each other.

"In 2008, I started a French conversation group that is still going strong today. I am part of a French literary group who read a French novel every couple months and get together for a discussion."

Lori is secretary of her church women's group, and volunteers for many activities with them.

Lori continues to keep in touch with her fellow retirees at George Davison School. She invites them, along with other friends who join them, to meet for weekly coffee and monthly supper dates.

As you can see, Lori is a very active person who loves to volunteer. We are blessed to have Lori on our MHADRTA branch executive as 2nd Vice President.

Lori enjoys walking and has a dog that holds her accountable for that every day! She concluded her email to me in which I asked about her hobbies with the following: "My Dad, who is 92, is not a hobby, but he certainly keeps me hopping, too!"



(Pictured are Mel Deydey, Lori Karwandy and Lori's two nominators, Bonnie Spruyt and Laurel Schlaht)

The Clarence M. Goldade Memorial Scholarship



On October 7, 2022 at an Awards Ceremony at Eagle Butte High School in Dunmore, AB., Donna Mae Goldade presented Kaitlind Kelly with the Clarence M. Goldade Memorial Scholarship. Kaitlind is presently a first year student at Medicine Hat College where she is beginning her journey towards becoming a teacher. After completing the two years of the Education program at MHC, she will transfer to the University of Lethbridge to complete the combined Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Science degrees with a specialty in Mathematics.

Kaitlind is currently enjoying her practicum at Alexandra Middle School and hopes to teach at this level; although she has not ruled out becoming a senior high Math teacher.

Congratulations, Kaitlind!

A Milestone Birthday!



MHADRTA is very pleased to recognize and congratulate **Clare Blore** on the occasion of her 95th birthday which she celebrated with family and friends. The official date is November 3.

Clare (Wagner) Blore, one of eight children, grew up near Lemsford, SK. Directly after completing high school, she went to Moose Jaw Normal School and completed the "then required six week program" to become a teacher. Her first school was a country school east of Leibenthal, SK which was a 1-8 school with about 12 students.

Clare taught in three other country schools before moving to Calgary where her teaching career spanned 37 years—loving every minute of those years. She and her husband, Bill (recently deceased) retired to Vancouver Island, before moving back to Medicine Hat to be closer to family. In retirement, the Blores loved to travel. Once in Medicine Hat, Bill & Clare joined MHADRTA where they became very active members.



October 11—Executive Meeting

October 26—General Meeting
"Hallowe'en Theme"

November 29—Executive meeting

December 14—General Meeting
"Christmas Theme"

January 24—Executive Meeting

February 8—General Meeting
"Valentine's theme"

March 28—Executive Meeting

April 12—General Meeting
"Spring Theme"

May 30—Executive meeting

June 14—General Meeting
"Annual General Meeting"

ALL **General Meetings** will be held at **Ralph's Steakhouse** beginning at 10:30 am.

All **Executive Meetings** will be held at **Ricky's Restaurant** beginning at 10:30 am.

Alberta Retired Teachers Charitable Foundation (ARTCF)

At the ARTCF Annual General Meeting which coincides with the Nov. ARTA Board of Directors meeting, there will be an election for one new member to serve a four year term on the Foundation. If you are interested in being that member, please contact Mel Deydey for a Nomination Package. The deadline to apply is November 10, 2022.



it's time to
**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP**

Membership Page

It is **Membership Renewal Time** for existing MHADRTA members. This year you have couple of different options in renewing your membership. I want you to be informed with what is happening locally and provincially through this medium—the newsletter, emails, and social media. If you are on Facebook, please like the page or follow us on Twitter to be kept up to date.

OPTION 1: Please fill out the form below and mail it to the address on the form below with your cheque or if you are in the neighbourhood you can drop it off in my mailbox.

OPTION 2: Newly retired teachers (those who retired June, 2022 or if you retired January, 2022) who received the June newsletter as part of their retirement welcome envelope from MHADRTA may use this membership form to join for free. Simply circle NEW and fill out the information. Again, please scan the form & email it to **49ermh@gmail.com**, mail or drop off the form to the address found at the bottom of the form. This way you will always be sent the newsletter.

OPTION 3: Ed Dick has created an online method for anyone who visits the website to join MHADRTA or renew their memberships, and you can pay by using eTransfer. Just contact **Henk Hof** (at **hrhof@shaw.ca**) for information on eTransfers. Lots of options for you to choose from on how to join us!

Membership Form for 2022/2022 School Year

Yes, I would like to **RENEW** or **PURCHASE A NEW** (Circle ONE) membership in MHADRTA for the 2022/2023 term.

Cost of the Membership: **\$15.00 per year**. Cash or cheque only.

Name: _____

Address: _____ **Postal Code** _____

Phone : _____ **E-mail:** _____

Providing an e-mail address will enable you to receive the newsletter electronically. Your e-mail address is never shared or revealed to anyone as all mailings are sent as a Bcc (blind carbon copy).

Please enclose payment and send to: MHADRTA, 36 Prairie Dr. NE, Medicine Hat, AB T1C 1R2

Membership will be valid until August 31, 2023.