



January 2023 MHADRTA Newsletter

Volume 6, Number 1



Happy New Year to all our members and everyone receiving this newsletter! Since this is the first newsletter for 2023, we hope that you all had a great Christmas—however you were able to celebrate it! The weather was frigidly cold at the start the Christmas season, but hopefully the warmth of the friends and family made it a more enjoyable one. May you enjoy a happy, healthy and safe 2023.

General Meeting Valentine Theme

Date: **Wednesday, February 8, 2023**

Time: **10:30 am to 1:00 pm**
Meeting will start at 10:30 am

Place: **Ralph's Steakhouse**
1249 Trans Canada Way SE

Program: **TBA**

Cost of Luncheon: **\$22.00**

Dress red/white/pink for the occasion

If you have not been phoned by a member of the phoning committee by **Thursday, February 2, 2023**, please contact **Jim Black** (403-548-2028) to confirm your attendance.



**MHADRTA
TURNS
FIFTY**

On August 1, 1972, MHADRTA officially became a branch of ARTA. We are excited to announce that we will be celebrating our **50th Anniversary** later this spring!

DATE: Friday, May 5th, 2023

VENUE: Medicine Hat Golf & Country Club

TIME: 5:00 pm to

Save the date! More details to be announced soon!

Message from the President

Happy New Year Everyone!

Hopefully with the nice weather we have been enjoying, perhaps you are able to spend more time outdoors. Invite a friend to walk with you. However, with the thawing occurring, sidewalks and walking paths may be icy, so we need to be very careful. Snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and skating are other outdoor options that we can consider. There are many indoor activities as well—exercise, yoga, visiting the gym or playing pickleball. It helps us to stay physically active!

Remember that advocacy is also a part of the mission of ARTA. We must advocate for what we believe in. If you have concerns about seniors' services, education, health care—do not hesitate to contact your local MLA (for some of you, the Premier), or the minister in charge.

Volunteerism is a huge part of who we are and what we do. We are grateful for all our members who do volunteer work in the community or with MHADRTA. Your time and dedication is appreciated far more than you realize.

With this edition starts the sixth year of MHADRTA newsletters. I am trusting you find them timely and informative. I always welcome submissions, suggestions and constructive criticism, so please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address below.

Hope to see you on the 8th!

Thanks,
Mel Deydey
President, MHADRTA
49ermh@gmail.com



Pioneer Village Old Tyme Christmas

(by Vicki McCaig, Pioneer Village Committee)

Thursday, December 1st, from 5-8 PM, it was a festive time at Pioneer Village. There were free hotdogs and hot chocolate. The firemen manned a bonfire and cooked S'mores. Santa was there to greet the children and hear their Christmas wishes. The buildings in the park were open and there was a Christmas market in the Cypress Center. Even though it was a very cold night,

many people turned up to enjoy the festivities. At the end of the night, there was a dazzling display of fireworks. I would

like to thank Delle Lovig, Henk Hof, Laurel Schlaht and Dianne Durda for volunteering to help Bob and I in the schoolhouse. It was a joyous time!



It is with very heavy hearts that we share the sad news of the recent

passing of Donna Smith's husband, Stuart.

We hope that the love of family, friends and the former colleagues of Donna give her the comfort and support she needs as she grieves her loss. Please keep Donna and her family in your thoughts and prayers.



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

**ARTA Reps: Judy Wonnenberg
Dianne Durda**

**Pioneer Village Schoolhouse:
Vicki McCaig**

Cards & Scrapbook: Annita Pinder

**Pension & Financial Wellness: Ray Hoger
(Chair, ARTA Committee)**

**Health Benefits: Jim Black
(Member, ARTA Committee)**

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 Info

If have not already done so, it is time to renew your 2022/23 membership as we hope you will continue to be a part of our organization. We welcome newly retired teachers with a free one year membership. 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 2022-2023 membership will be valid from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. Please invite and encourage your retired teacher friends or colleagues to consider joining us!

Currently, we have 81 members made up of 63 renewals from last year, 10 new members, 6 Lifetime members and two honorary members.

Membership in MHADRTA is \$15.00 per year, payable by cheque or cash. You can also purchase a membership online.

Membership in ARTA is separate. For more information, visit www.arta.net



By e-mail:
mhadrta3@gmail.com

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

Like us on Facebook:



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



South East Alberta Teachers Convention February 23 & 24, 2023

For the first time in three years, the South East Alberta Teachers' Convention will once again be an in-person event. **Deb Gerow**, our new President of ARTA, will be one of the presenters at South East Alberta Teachers' Convention (SEATCA) on Friday, February 24, 2023. Her presentation will take place in the morning. The time and room location of her presentation will be sent out in a separate email. The title of her presentation is "Looking Ahead to New ADVENTURES." It will be geared toward teachers contemplating retirement as well as teachers who are already retired and want to learn more about ARTA and the benefits it affords teachers once they leave the classroom.

Please come out to meet your new ARTA President!



WE  OUR
volunteers

Volunteers for our Feb 8th General Meeting

GREETERS:

Allyson Love
Darlene Dee

DECORATIONS:

Barb Taylor
Therese Bullin

50/50:

Henk Hof
Rita Hof

PRAYER/GRACE:

Mel Deydey



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Do you know one of our members who has done a lot of volunteering (not only limited to our organization) and should be recognized for those efforts? I am seeking nominations for **Volunteer of the Year**. The volunteering of the member does not have to be restricted to MHADRTA or ARTA but can encompass volunteer work within the community, church or other organizations. Has someone been an exceptional volunteer over the past year? Please submit your detailed nomination for **Volunteer of the Year 2023** by email to me at 49ermh@gmail.com.

Deadline is February 28, 2022.





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.

Doors open at 10:00 am. Please arrive early as the meeting will start at 10:30 am sharp. Meals are ordered before the start of the meeting.

MEDICINE HAT **Rotary Music Festival**

This year's Rotary Music Festival will be an in-person event. Our branch sponsors a trophy and \$125.00 cash for the top school choir.

The Rose Bowl event will take place on Friday, March 17.

We are both honoured and privileged to be a part of this wonderful annual event—Sunday, March 5 to Sunday, March 19.

Please visit their website for more information: rotarymusicfestival.com

This years events will take place at the Cultural Centre, Medicine Hat College and St. Barnabas Church.

Christmas Meeting



Our biggest crowd since the start of the pandemic! Fifty members attended the Christmas Meeting and Luncheon held at Ralph's Steakhouse on Wednesday, December 14. Nelly Mac Music provided musical entertainment and everyone appeared to enjoy her selection of songs. Thank you to everyone who brought donations of gifts, cash and/or gift cards which were taken to the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter. They were most appreciative of our generous support toward their programs.



2023 PHOTO CONTEST

ARTA is proud to sponsor its **eleventh annual photo contest**. All ARTA members — regular or affiliate — are eligible to enter. This year, once again, we have two categories: Masters and Novice. If you have won in the past, you fall under the Masters category; if you have not been a past winner, enter the Novice category. Winners will be announced in the autumn 2023 issue of *news&views* and posted on ARTA electronic media sites.



Contest Categories

- Nature
- Well-Aged
- Travel
- Contrast

All entries must be received by ARTA no later than 4:00 p.m., May 31, 2023.

Entries should be mailed to

ARTA Photo Contest
15505 137 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5V 1R9

Digital images can be emailed to
contests@arta.net

Visit arta.net/photo-contest for contest rules and entry form.

Mark Your Calendars

“STEPPIN’ OUT 2023”

The Calgary Retired Teachers’ Association is delighted to announce that the planning has begun for our annual banquet and conference.

Thursday, April 27 and Friday, April 28
Riviera Hotel and Conference Centre
3515 26 Street NE, Calgary, Alberta

(Same location as past conferences.)



calgaryretiredteachers.org

Pension & Financial Wellness Webinar: ATRF—Alberta Teachers Retirement Fund

If you missed or want to rewatch the last Pension & Financial Wellness webinar (on January 11), you can find the recorded video on our YouTube channel. This presentation from the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund (ATRF) covers the 2022 ATRF financial report, and a rundown on how the transition to using AIMCo as ATRF's investment manager impacted teacher pensions. You can also find the link on the online version of *ARTAfacts*.



WELCOME to “brand new retirees” who have joined MHADRTA—**Allan Thompson** and **Carol Hilsendager**—who both took advantage of a free membership just for being a first year retiree. If you know of other first year retirees who have not taken advantage of their first year of free membership in MHADRTA, please encourage them to get in touch with us.



What are YOUR hopes for the future of public education in Alberta?

Alberta's students need *you* at the table—literally.

Here's what the ATA wants to know:

What are your hopes for Alberta's children and our public schools so that they can thrive now—and into the future?

During this time of rapid change, they're seeking your help to generate aspirational new ideas, approaches, and solutions for the future of public education in this province. Their ultimate goal is to advance and promote a hopeful vision for Alberta's public education system.

An in-person roundtable was held on Thursday, January 26 at the Medicine Hat Lodge with teachers, retired teachers, parents, grandparents, board members and trustees, business people, health care workers and concerned citizens attending. It was well attended and great feedback was provided. Thank you to all the retired teachers from MHADRTA who attended—at least eight—and I would name them except for the fear of missing someone. Thank you for sharing your voice. If you missed it, you can still register for the online session to be held January 31, 2023 beginning at 6:30 pm. Go to their website standforeducation.ca and register for the session.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you know retired teachers who are not members of MHADRTA, please encourage them to join our organization! It is a great way to get connect with former colleagues and friends!

I know that many members are still reluctant to join us in person, and we fully understand and respect your decision. Hopefully, you will feel comfortable to join us soon!

I will keep you informed.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION

For those who have no changes in their contact information and wish to pay their membership renewal by eTransfer, please contact our Treasurer, Henk Hof for details and security question. You can contact Henk at hrhof@shaw.ca

There are other options to renew you your membership. You can also fill in the renewal form and mail it or drop it off at the address indicated on the renewal form. Include your payment (cash or cheque) with your renewal form.

Membership Form for 2022/2023 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 (cheque or money order) and send to: MHADRTA, 36 Prairie Dr. NE, Medicine Hat, AB T1C 1R2

Membership will be valid until **August 31, 2023.**