

## **Miramichi Area Retired Teachers Association**

The meeting of May 21, 2009 took place at St. Raphael hall in Blackville. President Wendy Matthews called the meeting to order at 11:15. Following a word of welcome, we had a moment of silence for deceased members who passed away since our last meeting. President Wendy then welcomed in a special way the new members to our meeting.

**Announcements** – The focus was on the museum display on the table. Wendy encouraged everyone to visit the museum at the Loggie House. There were photo pages of the Fredericton “School Days Museum” available for those who wanted a copy. Copies of the Newsletter were handed out to those present. All were invited to pick up forms to give to those teachers who retired and did not join MARTA, or to those who dropped out. We were also encouraged to pick up brochures for NBSRT.

President Wendy then introduced our guest speaker, Roger Nesbitt, president of NBSRT. Roger gave us an overview of the background of NBSRT and its evolution. His upbeat speech was well received, and he was warmly thanked by President Wendy.

The **business meeting** was then called to order.

The minutes were approved as read.

**Correspondence** – A letter of thanks was sent to Dave Barker from Fred Holmes, Principal at NSER for the \$[REDACTED] received from the Scholarship fund.

**Treasurer’s report** – Dave went over the written report that was handed to members. He also brought to our attention the report contained in the Newsletter distributed by Villa. He explained that there are two major reports per year, one for the Canada Revenue Agency, and one in February. Total assets as of May 5<sup>th</sup> stand at \$[REDACTED]. Dave moved that the report be filed for audit. It was seconded by Faye Brophy.

### **Motion carried.**

**Business arising from minutes** – Joe Kenny is no longer working on the mentorship program for Big Brothers/Big Sisters. If anyone wants to volunteer for this organization, please call directly to Big Brothers/ Big Sisters. It was reported that Mary Gill has passed away. Although she was not a member of MARTA, Mary was an esteemed colleague.

Following the dinner break, our meeting resumed at 12:45.

**NBSRT** - Wendy reported that Roger had covered much of the report. Rosemarie and Bill Rigley, Pat and Merle Milson, Mildred Campbell, and Faye Brophy attended the meeting at ABU in Moncton as well as Wendy. The highlights included a look at the Constitution, the By-Law changes, Group Insurance, and Wellness which generated a

discussion on the survey of last fall. It was decided to go back and develop a more scientific survey with some help. The Fall meeting will bring recommendations. Because our membership increased, we received \$50.00 for the scholarship fund. The School Days museum renovated their gallery and the storeroom, and work is in progress on the front. There are three new exhibits: Albert Street School, Just Mary, and Graduation Dresses from the '60s. The One Room School collection is growing. The new co-editors of Reflections will include a "Letter to the Editor" page as well as a bulletin board. The Biennial will be held in 2011 in Saint John.

## **Committee Reports**

**Social** – Cil Hickey reported that the games afternoon, although not overwhelmingly attended, was fun for those who do attend. Games Day will resume in October. She reminded the members that if they indicate that they will attend events such as bowling or lunch, to please call her if there is a change as this would necessitate a change in reservations. There are two breakfasts coming up; June 12, and September 8 at the Portage Restaurant. We order from the menu. She thanked Dale MacRae for posting the announcements on the MARTA site.

**Museum** - Joan asked anyone with old cookbooks made by classes of years ago, especially those pertaining to the area, to bring them for the Fredericton museum to display. The museum in Fredericton would like us to participate in the 2010 exhibit. We are encouraged to do so.

**Reflections** – Lynne had nothing to report. President Wendy thanked Lynne for her dedication to the Reflections committee, as Lynne is resigning from this committee. We are looking for someone to take over this job.

**Membership** – In Marion's absence, Wendy reported that there is not usually anything to report at this time of year as membership is more active in the fall.

**Calling** – Gena was absent, but Wendy thanked her and the team for their work.

**Special Projects** – Lenore thanked all who helped and contributed, especially during the Christmas season. A total of \$926.10 was raised. The winner of the "Whimsical Santa" was Mandy Harris. Wendy offered to donate a painting for the lottery.

**Newsletter** – Villa had nothing to report. She is also resigning. Wendy thanked her for her dedication for these many years.

**Website** – There was nothing new to report, but Dale asked that we send him photos to post on our site.

**Courtesy** – Barb sent four cards. We made three donations to the scholarship fund. She asked that we let her know of any important event.

**New Business** – The time and place of Mary Gill's funeral was given to the group.

**Nominations** – Bill Rigley chaired the Nominations committee.

**President** – Rosemarie Rigley

**Vice- President** – Pat Clancy

**Newsletter** –Bill Rigley

All were elected by acclamation. There were no submissions, or nominations for the position of Reflections committee chairperson. No one volunteered, so President Wendy asked that anyone interested contact her or Bill. It was brought to the attention of the group that Cil Hickey's telephone number is under George Hickey in case anyone wants to contact her.

President Wendy thanked the kitchen staff for the very tasty dinner, and the nicely set-up hall.

We were reminded of the breakfast on June 12, at which time the turnover meeting will take place, and also September 8 with the new retirees.

A list of new retirees was read, and we were reminded that the retiring teachers banquets are June 13, and June 15.

Lenore thanked Wendy for her service as President.

Marjorie MacDermaid reported that the Chatham High School reunion (40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its closing) is taking place August 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. The deadline for registration is June 15. Please contact Marjorie or Helen Jones.

Dorothy Creighton spoke very positively and warmly of the games afternoon. She encouraged everyone to come and participate.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:20