



RWTO/OERO

*The Retired Women Teachers of Ontario /
Organisation Des Enseignantes Retraitées De L'Ontario*



St. Catharines Branch Newsletter – October 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



October! How did that happen?

Only one month to read my first “revolving” book, plant bulbs, prepare for Thanksgiving and Hallowe’en and of course, our October 24th Luncheon at the Greek Cultural Centre. OPA!

Our social convenor, Louise Farquhar, is excited by this “new” venue and hopes that our members will enjoy the Greek cuisine. It is so close to Hallowe’en, we could dress like ancient Greeks? ... Maybe NOT. Perhaps, we could try to wear our favourite Fall colours? Yes, that would work. Let’s wear our favourite Fall colours. Never miss a chance to

celebrate!

Caring and Sharing is our motto and we are women who live it.

We:

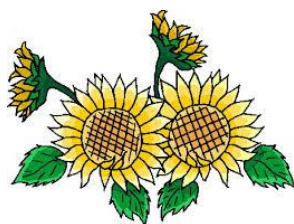
- create Comfort Kits for the homeless
- welcome new members and make sure no one feels left out at our Luncheon tables
- give of our time and compassion to Community Care and the Toy Bureau

The Newsletters are an important way your executive gets to care and share with you. Please send submissions of RWTO/OERO happenings, including photos, to Marilyn Emmett. (marilyn.emmet5@gmail.com)

I used to ask my students to write about how they would like to be remembered. When they’d turn the table on me, I’d say I’d like to be remembered through a recipe. I have so many that have been passed to me or down to me, all with a memory attached. The recipes in my mom’s beautiful penmanship are my favourites.

Happy Fall.

Enjoy,
Patti Malkiewich
President



Sweet Potato Muffins

Beat first 4 ingredients together

- 1½ cups brown sugar
- ½ cup canola oil
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 eggs

Add

- 2 cups cooled, cold sweet potatoes
- ½ cup raisins
- ½ cup chopped pecans

Stir dry ingredients together and add to first mixture.

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- ½ tsp allspice
- ½ tsp salt



Bake at 350° for 12 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

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A Note from Jan Harlos - First V.P.

Our first guest speaker, Marion Woodcock from the Jordan heritage Gift Shop, spoke about the gift shop and its connection to the Jordan Museum. The Gift Shop, a non-profit enterprise is supported by volunteers. The Gift Shop earnings are donated to the Jordan Museum’s new build project.



Marion delighted us with fudge samples, a mini fashion show and a short history lesson about the Museum.

We will hear from Alan Unwin Jr. about the New Cannabis Program at Niagara College at the October luncheon. That should be interesting and timely.

Nominations for Cora Bailey were collected at the September luncheon. You will have another opportunity to nominate someone who has demonstrated outstanding service and shown dedication and leadership to the St. Catharine’s Branch. Nomination forms will be on the luncheon tables.

Jan Harlos – 1st Vice President

INTRODUCING OUR NEW SECOND VICE



As the second Vice President for 2018-2019, I would like to introduce myself. I taught at several secondary schools with Niagara South and D.S.B.N. (Welland Centennial, A.N. Myer, Grimsby, Governor Simcoe, Sir Winston Churchill). My infamous father was A.R. Petrie at the board. I have one husband and handyman; one daughter who teaches art for T.D.S.B.; one son at Niagara Region Capital Works; one yellow lab, and one grand-dog, a brown lab. In my retirement, I sing with Chorus Niagara and golf at Sawmill.

As your program planner for 2019-2020, I hope I have “20-20” vision about what will inform, amuse or entertain you. Attending the convention on June 2018, I had an introduction to the duties of an executive of R.W.T.O. and to the lovely ladies who so proficiently perform their roles as executives. I hope they all continue on the executive with me into 2020-2021 to coach and support me in my role as president.

Susan Lewis – 2nd Vice President

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to welcome new and returning members to our Branch.

*Anne Cameron
Grace Desiri
Donna Lynn Fraser
Marilyn Gennings
Frances Lovett
Carolyn Romanin*

Carolynne Canham



*Sandra Chyburn
Anne Dupont
Linda Gaudet
Kelly Kohler
Jane Luczkiw
Elizabeth Tulloch*

In Memory Of



Lola Phillipson

**"A Life So Beautifully Lived And
A Heart So Deeply Loved"**

Your **ST. CATHARINES BRANCH MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY** will be available for pick-up at the **October** luncheon.

Change of Information? Contact Linda at 905 935-6182 or rwstocatharines@gmail.com



Linda Foster – Treasurer/Membership

ISSUES and CONCERNS

Samples of Ridiculous Scams

1. "The computer we installed for you last year has been red-flagged. Please call our technician at 1 800 etc. who will immediately correct the problem."
Very funny, I don't have a computer!
2. "Revenue Canada has a warrant out for your arrest. You are criminally involved in tax evasion and need a lawyer. Call us immediately at 1 800 etc."
This call came two days after I had paid my quarterly tax installment. I was not amused!

Advice from our Provincial Issues and Concerns Convenor

DO NOT RESPOND to calls about problems with your computer or taxes. Refer to your September "Connections" or Canada Revenue: www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency



Marg Newby – Issues and Concerns

A BARREL OF FUN!

Planning for the Convention 2019 to be held at the Holiday Inn in St. Catharines is well underway. At this year's convention held at Nottawasaga, members of the Area 13 Branches (Niagara Falls, Niagara South, Lincoln West and St. Catharines) invited the other Branches from across the province to come to St. Catharines in June 2019 and have **A BARREL of FUN**. All information, a short video and some pics are on the Provincial Web-site at rwto.org. (Click Convention, then Call to Convention)



How Can You Help?

- Collect Wine bottle – interesting shapes, colours, sizes
- Assist with computer work and printing
- Bottle Wine for Favours (Early in New Year)
- Contribute new or hand-crafted items for the Silent Auction
- Special Interest Groups can create baskets to represent their groups for the Silent Auction
- Save gently used pocket novels (no hard cover books)
- Pack Convention Bags
- Take photographs during Convention
- Help arrange table centers and put favours on table
- Serve in Hospitality Room

Ask friends, family, local businesses for support. Donation letters will be available at the October meeting!

We are looking for talented musicians to play for the In Memoriam service on Thursday morning, June 6, 2019. There will be a practise on Wednesday afternoon, June 5. If you would like to participate, please let me know and I will give you the contact information for the Provincial Archivist who will be organizing this.

Contact: Marilyn at 905 646-5543 marilyn.emmet5@gmail.com

Patti at 905 356-4132 pmalkiewich@gmail.com

or sign-up at the October luncheon

RWTO St Catharines Needs You!

Are you interested in joining the **RWTO Executive** for the **2019-2020** year?

Care about our organization.

Share your talents.

Become part of this dynamic group of ladies.

We meet 5 times a year and work cooperatively to make our organization the best it can be.

Don't be shy! We need you!



Positions available: **2nd Vice President, Interest Group Convenor**

If interested, please contact **Susan McLaughlin** 905 935-9966 susseansdchris@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON - 2018

We held our September meeting at St. John's Ukrainian Church Activity Center. 180+ members attended. We enjoyed a delicious family style Ukrainian meal in a lovely fall themed hall. We have 13 new members. Those who were able to attend were welcomed by Branch President, Patti and Provincial President, Sharron Colter.



Two of our "Forever Young" members were able to attend. We had the privilege of welcoming a 101-year-old member to her very first RWTO/OERO meeting!

Our Outreach initiative collected many comfort kits for Start Me Up Niagara who will then distribute them to those in need.



Members picked up their books for our Revolving Book Clubs, signed up for Special interest Groups and volunteered for Convention 2019.

We had an interesting and informative talk on the History of the Jordan Historical Museum and Gift shop. Models wore clothing that can be purchased at the gift shop. We all received delicious samples of the gift shop fudge.



Our day ended with Provincial President, Sharron Colter, bringing greetings from Provincial and a delicious dessert of pumpkin pie and ice cream.

What a great day!

See more pictures of the September meeting at rwto.org.

- 1. Click on Branches, then Branch News.**
- 2. Scroll down past the map.**
- 3. Under Area 13, click on St. Catharines.**
- 4. Click Gallery.**

HUSH HUSH BRAVERY DURING WWII A Tribute to Marian McKnight



Sometimes our best weapon against the forces of tyranny is the power of communication, especially if it is top secret. It is hard to imagine what it must have been like for eighteen-year-old Marian McKnight, who, after only six months training as a wireless telegraphist volunteered for a job where the two British officers simply said, “We won't tell you where you're going or what you're doing.” What a risk taker!! Marian joined eighteen other young members of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRENS) to “man” a lonely Long-Range Navigation (Loran) station in East Baccaro, Nova Scotia. Intense focus during four-hour shifts was required to keep signals synchronized for every minute of every day, making accurate sea and air navigation possible between England and Halifax harbour without lights, ship-to shore communication or

breaking radio silence.

Sometimes the strongest form of communication is to say nothing at all, to be as quiet as a mouse, especially when an enemy submarine was reported as encroaching upon our silent shores. Hopefully, this U Boat would regard this dreary outpost at East Baccaro as inconsequential and rather retreat back into the cold, dark waters of the North Atlantic. Yet, within this insignificant station



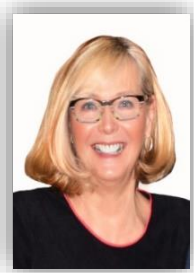
consisting of a Quonset hut, rocks, thin scrubland and a frame building was the secret weapon. “Hush. Hush” was the code name for this incredible operation. I can just hear the little chorus sung quietly by these dedicated and disciplined young women. “We will keep sync through rain and stormy weather, the ships at sea depend on me.”



What would have happened if this cutting-edge communication tool known as the Loran system had been seized and analyzed? The secret would be out, the never-ending war prolonged, and more lives lost. As Remembrance Day approaches, we pause to think of our brave citizens who served selflessly. Thank you, Marian McKnight, along with eighteen other young women for your courageous resolve to keep our Canada strong and free.

Submitted by: Alice Bradnam, Goodwill Convenor

INSURANCE MATTERS



- While many members make claim submissions in a timely manner, there are eligible claims which are never submitted. Remember to check your policy for your entitled insurance coverage.
- Also, do you know a member who has insurance but requires assistance in completing claim forms? Perhaps suggesting a family member or a friend as a solution in navigating the paperwork would be helpful

Chris Graham – Insurance

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Interest groups are under way. Because some of the groups are full, these will not be offered again until next fall. The sign-up sheets will be available in the spring. This is another great reason to attend the Spring Luncheon! You will have an opportunity to join some of the available groups at the October Luncheon where the forms and information will be displayed.

If you would feel comfortable to lead **an ART group**, there are interested members, please let me know so I can include this activity.

I know you will enjoy the group (s) you are involved in this year. Enjoy the opportunity to spend time with RWTO colleagues!!

Nadine Martin



REVOLVING BOOK CLUB



Our Revolving Book Club has 80 members this year reading a variety of books over the next 10 months. It is hoped that there is something of interest for everyone.

Remember that at the end of each month, you pass your book on to the person listed below your name on the chart which is located on the inside of the front cover of each book. Happy reading, ladies!

Patt

pchivers@cogeco.ca

OUTREACH PROGRAM

Many comfort kits were collected at our September meeting. We will be collecting again at the October meeting. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Kathleen Bradley, Susan McLaughlin



LUNCHEON INFORMATION

- The **October luncheon** begins at 11:00. **Doors open at 10:30 AM.**
- The **December luncheon** begins at 12:00. **Doors open at 11:30 AM.**
- The luncheon costs **\$30.00**. Luncheon prices are determined by our cost to provide the meal **(including the room, taxes, and gratuities)** plus additional expenses including door prizes, AV equipment rentals and flowers.
- **Payment for luncheons must be received by the**
October Luncheon: *Wednesday, October 17*
Christmas Luncheon: *Wednesday, November 28.*
- **PAYMENT:**
 - Please indicate the appropriate luncheon month(s) on the cheque.
 - Cheques are payable to: ***RWTO St. Catharines***
 - Cheques mailed to: ***Linda Foster***
14 Woodgarden Court
St. Catharines L2M7C9
 - You can e-transfer the amount using this email address: rwstocatharines@gmail.com
- Your name tag, including a door prize ticket will be waiting for you at the door.
- Please tear the door prize ticket in half, save half and put the other half in the basket.
- Luncheon payments will be returned for any cancellations received by **Linda Foster at 905-935-6182, on or before the Wednesday prior to each luncheon.**
- You will receive a luncheon reminder either by phone or email.
- You will be notified by e-mail (If you have it) when your cheque or e-transfer has been received.
- **Escorts needed.** Sometimes our members need a ride to the luncheon. If you can help out, please call **Alice Bradnam 905 934 - 7108.**

October Luncheon

OCTOBER 24, 2018

**The Greek Community Centre
585 Niagara St, St. Catharines**

MENU: (Buffet)

Greek salad and rolls
Spanakopita/Tiropita
Chicken/Gyros with Tzatziki and Bruschetta
Greek rice
Pastichio
Desserts
Baklava or Galaktoboureko
Greek Yogurt with honey and walnuts /fruit



TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON.

December 5, 2018

Symposium 11:30 Lunch 12:00

St. Catharines Golf Club

We will have a festive buffet and celebrate the season by singing Christmas favourites led by Chris McLaughlin and accompanied by John Butler.

Donations for Community Care will be collected at the door **before the luncheon**. Receipts will be issued for amounts of more than \$10.00. Please put your donation in a sealed envelope with your **name, address and the amount on the front.** (No stamps)