



Hamilton Wentworth Branch 2017 March / April Newsletter

...And Here's Hope!

When I was a little girl my mother told me *'time goes faster as you get older'*. I had no idea what she was talking about, but I certainly do now. It seems I just wrote this column,...but that was for 2016, and it's now 2017. Another entire year has flown by! I'm nearing the end of something that has been an amazing experience in my life, and one which I shall never forget,...that of being your RWTO President for two years. I won't get mushy now, because I'm leaving that for a later date,..but this is the time when spring is in the air, and all that coldness, darkness, and gloom is soon gone. I'm a sunshine person,....and I'm really looking forward to basking in it, and enjoying the exciting 'celebrations' that are coming up in our branch. You won't want to miss a thing!



Our February 8th **Friendship Luncheon** at Michelangelo's was a huge success thanks to the efforts of many. We had approximately **'150'** in attendance, including **"5"** new members who received their RWTO pins. Our special Area 4 guests included Haldimand's President, **Evelyn Martin**, ... Vice President, **Sandra Salerno**, Brant's President, **Joanne Daniels**, ... Vice President **Joan Brent**, and Brant member **Eleanor Gloster**. Our food was delicious, and *"The Golden Swing Band"* entertained the room, and created a joyous and very festive atmosphere which our members fully enjoyed. After all,this event was a celebration of our country's **"150th"** birthday,...a great milestone,...for which our members dressed in reds and whites, attempted to answer Canadian trivia questions found on each red/white clothed table,...and clapped along to the music. Thank you once again to **Lynn Anderton**, and the Entertainment Committee for providing a fun-filled afternoon. In our usual spirit of *'Caring and Sharing'*, our members generously donated **\$1,683**, with proceeds from our silent auction, table envelopes, and raffles going to the Syrian refugees in our local areas,...some of our 'newest Canadians'. Thank you to our Outreach Convenor, **Mary McCracken** and her team, for their hard work on the Silent Auction!

Our **'Third Annual Special Outreach Project'** was another huge success. We had **"3"** submissions this year,...and my Committee was delighted to provide suggestions to try to help them all, as we've done in the past. The recipient of the RWTO 2017 **\$500** donation was **Lyndsay Stewart**, a 20- year old woman who suffers from debilitating *Lyme Disease* as a result of a tick bite,...affecting her whole existence . The money was used to pay for some of her tests, and/or ongoing treatments. This one time donation was given in a private presentation, and reported at the Friendship Luncheon. Read Lyndsay's full story in the newsletter . I want to thank my Committee for their hard work, and to the membership for participating in this annual initiative.

Wednesday March 8th is **"Fun and Games"** at our new location,...Emmanuel United Church, with delicious and delectable desserts provided, and many new friends to make. Come enjoy our games of *euchre*, *bridge*, *board games*,...or bring your own. I'm still trying to master euchre, and really want to thank the many, many, many patient encouraging women who have continued to mentor me along the way! Thank you so much!"PASS!" Have you made your reservations and down payments yet for your spot on the **"Family and Friends Wine Bus Tour & Luncheon"**,...to celebrate Canada's 150th!? This is definitely going to be a lot of FUN, so don't miss out!

Thank you to **Annette Rhodes**, and **Joanne Weeks**, who have kindly agreed to audit our 2016-17 Financial Statement which will be sent to Provincial. *Membership participation* is one of our goals, so remember our *'Bright Ideas'* initiative,...to submit FUN ideas for us to try to implement,...and our *"Members Have Spoken"* suggestion box, ...for contributing your valuable opinions, suggestions, and ideas. We love to hear from you!

This is the time of year when our members consider becoming a part of our fabulous Executive. **Mary McCracken**, **Anna Iskat**, and **Sue St. Michael** will sadly be leaving us in May. Thank you so much for all your dedication, hard work, and contributions. You'll be sorely missed! We have one 'elected' position opening in May,...the position of *'Secretary'*, and **Gwen Kirkpatrick**, our *'Interim Secretary'* has kindly accepted a nomination for this position. We are accepting other nominations as well. **Lynn Gillie** has kindly put her name forward for *"Outreach Convenor"*, and **Ann Louise Gloyn** and **Emily De Benedictis** have put their names forward for *"Members-at-Large"*...all 'non-elected' positions. I'm thrilled these ladies are taking this opportunity to try something new, and share this fun and rewarding experience. Till next time!See you soon! *'In Caring and Sharing'*, HOPE LEON, President

When the world says, 'Give up', Hope whispers, ... 'Try it one more time!' (Author unknown, but it's my philosophy, ... and my name is HOPE!)

Honouring Our Over Nineties - Hazel Broker

Following is a short article on one of our over 90 retired teachers. Profiling our over 90's in our newsletters was selected by the Public Relations Committee of RW as a way to honour these teachers who led the way. I recently had an interesting visit with Hazel Broker who lives in a charming home in Westdale.

Hazel grew up in the countryside in the North Burlington/North Oakville area. She enjoyed exploring the country around her home and that love of nature, both plant and animal life, especially birds, has continued to be an important and fulfilling part of her life. Hazel completed high school and then headed to Normal School (Teacher's College) in Toronto. After graduation, she secured a position at a one-room school house in North Burlington, where she taught up to fourteen students from grades one to eight at various grade levels. Hazel boarded with a family in the area and took part in the various community activities. She even organized a special concert to raise money for the soldiers overseas as this was while Canada was involved in WW2.

Before long Hazel moved to Hamilton, was hired by the Hamilton Board as an occasional teacher and soon found her niche as a kindergarten teacher at Strathcona. Jobs were scarce at this time but some jobs became available because of the war. There was an active Kindergarten Association which Hazel found both helpful to her job and enjoyable socially. At this time Strathcona was a 'Model school' because students from Normal school came there to observe and to do practice teaching. During her teaching time it was the practice in some schools to have a moveable wall across the gym and the kindergarten class would be placed on one side. Not an ideal learning environment but with cooperation it was workable.



Hazel joined RWTO upon retirement but did not attend the events until recently when she attended some luncheons and joined the knitting group which she enjoys.



Hazel looks after her own home, garden and even keeps her side of the street tidy by picking up the items some have tossed aside and pulling the weeds that manage to invade areas of grass. She is also a very active member of her church, regularly cleaning the kitchen and keeping an eye on the upkeep of other areas. Hazel likes travelling and spent several weeks in British Columbia and Washington last fall. A keen interest in nature has been a constant in her life and she is a long time member and one-time President of the Hamilton Naturalist Club. Talking with Hazel was a joy. She truly makes this world a better place. Mary Dayman

Insurance

Manulife Insurance

This is a note from Terry at Manulife

I've completed my negotiations with Manulife for this year and am pleased to tell you that the plan is renewing again this year with no rate increase. Furthermore I've secured some plan improvements...

- 1) Including Cochlear Implants in the Hearing Aid Benefit (to the plan maximum of \$200.00).
- 2) Including Volunteer Drivers (cancer society) to the Transportation Benefit. This will have a cap of \$100 which is the amount the cancer patient has to pay the cancer society to arrange for a driver for treatments, and
- 3) Inclusion of Walking Poles, when prescribed by a physician and required for a medical condition (such as balance), under the Mobility Assistance Benefit, to the current \$150 maximum. **Phyllis Macdonald**



Email Address

Are you changing your email address?
If so, please send your new address to Marion Jutzi
at copperwomen@hotmail.com

Thanks
Marion

Outreach



Upcoming Outreach foci
at the Breakfast in the Valley:
we will be collecting school supplies
for Wesley's backpack program
and cash donations for Bob Kemp Hospice
as well as the Alzheimer's Society.

Please bring in books
for the summer reading exchange table.

Thanks for all your support.

See you in the Valley!

Mary

In Memorium

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the family
and friends of Betty Joan Near
who passed away on Wednesday February 22, 2017.*

Photographers Needed!!!!



To ensure that photos are
taken at each of our major
events, our branch would like
to have 2 or 3 members
volunteer to take photos from
time to time. If you would
like to help, please contact
Linda Sargeant

rwto.linda@gmail.com
905.575.3831

If you have photos which
have been taken at your
Interest Groups, please send
them to our fabulous
newsletter creator,
Patty Alexander!
rwto.patty@gmail.com

(note; Patty did not
write this compliment!



2017-2018 Executive Team Complete!

Many thanks to the following members for
donating their time and service by joining the
Hamilton-Wentworth Executive for the coming
year!

Secretary: Gwen Kirkpatrick
(nominated, pending election)

Outreach: Lynn Gillie

Members-at-large: Ann Louise Gloyn
Emily De Benedictis
(volunteers – election not required)

Annual Special Outreach Project

Our 'Third Annual Special Outreach Project' was another huge success this year. We had "3" submissions,...and my Committee was delighted to provide suggestions to try to help them all, as we've done in the past. The recipient of the RWTO 2017 \$500 donation was **Lyndsay Stewart**, a 20- year old woman who suffers from debilitating *Lyme Disease* as a result of a tick bite eight years ago at Scout Camp. This disease affects her whole existence. Eight years ago when Lyndsay was first bitten, the Ontario Medical Profession did not recognize tick bites as a carrier of Lyme Disease in Ontario, and had no protocols for dealing with it. She was misdiagnosed for 1- 1/2 years, and thought to have several other ailments. This once vibrant girl involved in Scouting, Irish Dancing, and soccer required a walker and sometimes a neck brace. She relapsed three times, each one worse than the last. She dropped out of her studies at the University of Windsor to focus on her health, as Lyme Disease can be life threatening without the proper treatment, which is available in the United States .

Our 'Special Outreach' donation of \$500 was used to pay for some of her tests, and/or ongoing treatments and travel. A 'GO FUND ME' webpage titled, "*Lindsay vs. Lyme*", and a special tribute dinner have raised some money, but her family is in great financial need. This one time donation was given to Lyndsay on Wednesday February 1, 2017 in a private dessert/beverage presentation at *Emmanuel United Church*, with Lyndsay, her Dad, nominator Linda Sargeant, and our Committee present. It was in first speaking to Lyndsay's Dad by phone, and then meeting both Lyndsay and her Dad at this presentation, that I learned even more about her challenges,... determination, ... and positive attitude, which have all helped her to get to the point she's at today.

I wish that YOU, the members could have seen, met, listened to, and been inspired by this lovely young woman, as we the committee were when we met her. Instead of giving up hope,....she fought to get well,.... and is making good progress now. She's not using the walker any more, and is enrolled back in school online. She will be going back to school full time at Mohawk College in September, with the goal of helping other disabled people and sharing her knowledge, experience, expertise, ... and hope. She's a caring and very giving person, who was an absolute pleasure to meet in person. Lyndsay (and Dad) enjoyed posing for some photos of our time together, so they could be shared with you.

Lyndsay and her family are very appreciative of the \$500 donation, and send their thanks to all of you in RWTO. We certainly wish Lyndsay the very best! I want to thank my Committee,....*Mary McCracken*,...*Anna Iskat*,...*Gwen Kirkpatrick*,....for their hard work, and thank you to the membership for participating in this annual initiative.

Hope Leon, Branch President

"Annual Special Outreach Project" Chair



*Front row: Linda, Lyndsay, Hope (chair of the 'SpecialOutreach Project')
...back row: committee members: Mary McCracken, Gwen Kirkpatrick, Anna Iskat...Dad.*

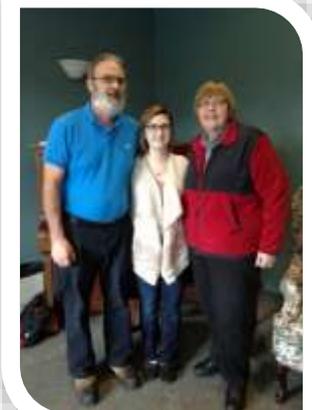


Me with Lyndsay

Lyndsay and her Dad



*Lyndsay, Dad, and
nominator...Linda Sargeant.*



Special Outreach Project Committee

"Did You Know???"

Euchre East Club: Contacts: Lynn Gillie & Sue St. Michael

Lynn Gillie is currently our Executive *'Member-at-Large'*, and has put her name forward for *"Outreach Convenor"*. She loves to travel, read, watch movies and TV., play cards, have lunch/dinner with her friends, knit, and most of all,....she loves her iPad. She has 3 children and 3 grandchildren,... who live in BC, Grimsby, and Long Island, ... hence Face Time on her iPad.

Sue St. Michael is currently our Branch's *co-Insurance Convenor*. She loves to bike, walk, swim, travel, and spend time at her cottage on Lake Erie. She volunteers once a week at West Lincoln Hospital doing clerical work, and loves to read, play cards, and enjoy lunches and other outings with friends. She is married and has 3 children and 1 grandson who all live out West.



- When: Meets the second Thursday of the month
- Time: Noon to 3pm.
- Where: At "Teddy's" on Main St. in Grimsby
- Great lunch, euchre, friendship & lots of laughter
- Come join us!
- For information contact: Lynn [905-309-4438](tel:905-309-4438) ldjg1999@gmail.com
or: Sue [905-945-4896](tel:905-945-4896) sueduncan55@gmail.com

Did you know that...

- We began "3" years ago.
- We started at five, and now have ten regular members.
- One of the funniest things that's happened so far is when we all stood up to change places, and we ended up with the same partners.



"Did You Know???"

Euchre West Club:

**Contacts: Jeanette Potter
& Heather Clark**

Jeanette Potter began teaching with the Hamilton Catholic Board having taught mostly JK/SK, and retired as a Teacher Librarian.

She's married with two sons and a daughter. She likes to travel and stay active by walking her grand dogs Chewy and Ace, making stain glass projects, curling, pickle ball, yoga, and taking care of her garden and pool. She enjoys her book club, working part time at Theatre Aquarius, volunteering at the Good Shepherd Centre and coffee time at Tims with her former staff .She looks forward to playing cards every month and socializing with RW Euchre members.

Heather Clark retired from teaching in 2008. She returned to teaching in the early 90's after her children were in school, and taught Special Education at the primary and middle school levels. She's been blessed with a son and two daughters. The joys of her life are her five grandsons and one granddaughter. She also has a wonderful little dog who is great company. She lives at St. Elizabeth's Village and is involved in many village activities. She enjoys reading, playing cards, doing lunch and going to the movies. She is also involved in playing euchre and in a book club. She has made many new acquaintances since joining RWTO, and has also reconnected with many teachers she taught with in the past.

- When: Meets the last Monday of the month
- Time: Lunch: 12:00 noon; cards begin @ 1:00pm.
- Where: Fortino's West End, ... Upper Level Community Room:
1579 Main St. W.
- Who: Easy-going fun group, interested in learning or improving skills
- RWTO members welcome to join any month
- For information, contact
Jeanette, jeanette.24@icloud.com or
Heather, hclark1943@hotmail.com

- Gail Gulas was the first euchre leader.
- We began with only a few members.
- The first euchre game was played at a restaurant on the mountain.
- "At this 'certain' mountain restaurant, we were told to relocate because the owners thought we were 'gambling' instead of playing a fun game of cards.



"Did You Know???"

First Cup @ Second Cup: Contact: Hope Leon

Hope Leon, ... a mother of two, is a proud grandmother of two adorable granddaughters, *Ellie*, ... nearly four years old, and *Maggie*, ... four months, ... the greatest joys of her life! Hope is **President of RWTO**, Hamilton-Wentworth Branch, which keeps her very busy. Besides the famous *'Bumper Babes Bowling'* group she created seven years ago,...and *"The Bachelorette, the Musical"* play, she wrote, directed, and starred in,...she managed in addition to her VP. and Presidential duties, ... to *'make time'* to create **'13'** brand new initiatives for our Branch, which include the successful *'Public Relations' initiative*,...*'Annual Special Outreach Project'*, ... and this newsletter column to honour our many interest groups and leaders. She taught grades 2-6, plus many years of *music on rotary* during her over 28 years with the Public Board,...(two years in Toronto). As a *Drama Specialist*, she specialized in bringing *'learning to life'* through the use of the *'Arts'* (Art, Music, & Drama) and her well known classroom *'floor settings'* which began in 1968. Doing the *'unique and unexpected'* was her norm, e.g. her yearly *Shakespeare plays* in an inner city school, which brought a whole new dimension to learning. Retiring twelve years ago, she joined RWTO immediately, ...utilizing those same creative skills whenever possible,...and the rest is history. She offered her *'Pioneer'* teaching experience and expertise to become a member of the initial *Curriculum Planning Committee* for the Mohawk Trails Museum, ...and is looking forward to her future stints as a *'Pioneer Teacher'*,...of course in costume! During her *'spare time'* she enjoys being a member of RTO, ... RWTO's Bowling Club,... Book Club #3,... Art Appreciation Group, ... Lunch Bunch (she loves good food,...and is a *'social being'*), ... I-pad Club, ... Movie Club, ... Theatre Club, ... *'also attending as much theatre as possible, ... everywhere'*, and is attempting to learn the art of playing Euchre,..."PASS!" She enjoys travel, often checking off her *'bucket list'* on bus trips or cruises,...with *Alaska*,...*Greece*, and watercolour painting on the hilltop of a magnificent *European Villa* on her dream horizon.... Hmm! Writing about oneself is quite a challenge, but fun! ... Boy! ... I am one busy lady,...(so I'm told), ... with lots more yet to come!



- Time: 10:00am. – 11:30am.
- Last Friday of the month... check the newsletter for dates
- Location: 'Second Cup' in Westdale Village
- Informal friendly setting
- Meet and socialize with other RWTO members
- New participants are most welcomed!
- RSVP: Hope: hleon@bserv.com

Did you know that...

- This Westdale coffee shop location was once a hardware store
- This is 'Hope's informal 'office' since retirement "It's like 'Cheers'... where everyone knows your name!"
- All ages from infants to 'Over 90's frequent this establishment regularly
- Hope's favorite Second Cup coffee is 'Paradiso Dark'!
- Second Cup was featured in an episode of TV's "Undercover Boss Canada", ... which aired on Thursday, March 5, 2012



"Did You Know???"

Writing Club: Contact: Hope Leon

- Time: 10:00 a.m. to Noon
- Location: Fortino's Upstairs Meeting Room, West Hamilton
- Dates: Usually a Friday... Check our newsletters for dates
- What: Journalling, ... Poetry, ... anything you want!
- Share thoughts, ... contacts, and socialize
- Occasional guest authors and mentors attend, including Deborah Morrison
- New members welcomed!
- Bring a notebook & pen
- RSVP: Hope: hleon@bserv.com



Did you know that writing...

- Has many forms. It can be just a single word, ... a sentence, ... a short little story, ... or poem, ... a journal, "blog", or "tweet", ... expressing how we feel, or what's happening, ... or describing someone, something, or a situation.
- Can be lethargic, and therapeutic
- Makes you think, feel, and express those feelings and thoughts with words
- Can be used to share experiences and help you communicate with others
- Has been linked to improve mood, wellbeing, and improve stress
- Can make you happier and healthier
- Can make you achieve goals
- Encourages deeper thinking, and/or use of your imagination
- The benefits are many!
- Most of all... it can be totally stimulating and fun!
- "Many thanks to our special guest speaker, ... author Deborah Morrison, ... for visiting, and sharing her writing and publishing experiences with our RWTO 'Writing Club'. We learned so much from you!"



"Did You Know???"

Bridge Club: Contact: Sandie Bender

Sandie Bender spent most of her career as an English teacher and department head in Ottawa. For nine years prior to retirement she was Coordinator of Secondary Academic Programs. After this she did contract work for several publishers as well as a non-profit foundation that developed curriculum-based software. After moving to Hamilton seven years ago to be closer to family, she immediately became involved in RWTO serving on the Executive as President and other positions. Currently she is Area 4 Director. Apart from leading the Bridge Interest Group, Sandie participates in a branch book club, bowling, and golf. She has two adult grandchildren who live in Calgary but visit regularly.



- When: Meets the first and third Tuesday
- Time: 1:00pm. to 3:30pm.
- Where: At a member's home- usually Sandie's
- Who: Easy-going group, interested in improving bridge skills
- If interested in joining, or for more information, ... contact: Sandie: sbender1@cogeco.ca

Did you know that...

- The earliest beginnings of RWTO, '61' years ago, was due to the efforts of four retired teachers meeting for their monthly bridge game at the *Rendezvous Club* in Toronto.
- Since our Branch's Bridge Club began, three 'beginners' have joined who are doing well and enjoying the games.
- Though Bridge is the focus, ...there are lots of laughs!



Friendship Luncheon



"Members! What a wonderful turn out we had for our annual Friendship Luncheon! The food was delicious, and the entertainment delightful. What a great way to celebrate our Nation's "150th" birthday. The reds and whites in clothing and room decor were lovely, and the 'Caring and Sharing' donations for the Syrian refugees,...most generous! Thank you to our Area 4 guests from Haldimand and Brant branches for celebrating with us: Evelyn Martin, Sandra Salerno, Joanne Daniels, Joan Brent, and Eleanor Gloster!"
Hope :o)





"Thanks for inviting us to come to your Friendship Luncheon today. We always enjoy coming and seeing you and all the friends from your Branch that we have made over the years. The weather was perfect for travelling, the food was superb, I liked the entertainment as I enjoy that kind of music, being with colleagues from Haldimand - in short, a wonderful way to spend a February day. Please convey my thanks to your executive for hosting us. Ellie really enjoyed herself and felt comfortable being with your group....." Joanne (Brant President)

LAST CALL!!!!

Last call for entering the "Provincial Follow the Dream Project"! If you have something amazing you're doing during your retirement, and 'following your dream'....please let Provincial know. (and me too!) The details are below in the newsletter. So far, I know of three submissions: ninety-eight year old **Hazel Faris**,...a gifted new artist, **Theresa Randles**,...gifted mixed media artist,...and **Marlene Buchanan**,new author. Their works were featured in our newsletters.PS> I could use some recommendations for our next "Inspiring Members" feature column. Thank you *Hope:o)*



June 6, 7, 8 2017

FOLLOW THE DREAM IN THE WORLD OF RETIREMENT

WHO IS THIS DREAMER? WHAT IS HER DREAM? WHAT CHALLENGES DID SHE FACE? HOW DID SHE OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES IN HER PATH?

As retired women teachers, many of our RWTO/OERO members have pursued activities in retirement that have taken them on an entirely different journey from their previous careers as educators.

AT AGM 2017, we would like to honour the women within our organization who have set forth on a whole new adventure upon retirement. We would like to collect their stories and a picture for each member who may have followed or is actively pursuing a dream in retirement. We are planning a display of these stories to honour these achievements.

Please include this information with each submission:

- Member's name, address, branch (and e-mail address if applicable)
- a **short** (approx. 125 words) description including the dream and how this member set about achieving that dream. Perhaps there were challenges along the way, obstacles to overcome.
- Each story will be unique and inspiring and will form part of an interesting display of those in RWTO/OERO who have followed a dream in retirement.

Please email each story *** to carol.nelson@sympatico.ca or peggystock3@gmail.com or lois_lockhart@hotmail.com

Also please mail a 'hard' copy of the same information plus a picture of the member to:

Carol Nelson
#717--10 Dean Park Road

Mental Health Rights Coalition

Members.... This beautiful card was sent to me by the "Mental Health Rights Coalition" to thank RWTO members for their generous contributions to them at the 'Celebration at the Station'. Your 'Sharing and Caring' spirit was most appreciated!

Hope:o)



Outreach



Outreach Report from the Friendship Luncheon: A HUGE THANKS to all the wonderful ladies who took part in our fundraising at the Friendship Luncheon. We had some interesting items donated for the silent auction. The amount raised from the silent auction, 50/50 draw and the table envelopes was over \$1683 for the Syrian Refugee Fund. Thank you one and all for your outstanding generosity. You, ladies, are the best!!!
Mary



Caring and Sharing

RWTO Hamilton Wentworth Branch

Breakfast In The Valley

A tasty breakfast, time with friends, & the Annual Meeting!

Wednesday May 3, 2017 \$30

Coffee 9:30 ~ Breakfast 10am sharp! ~ Meeting 11am

Dundas Valley Golf & Curling Club

10 Woodley's Lane, Dundas

West on #8 HWY (King St.) – turn left just before the railway overpass

Please bring your copy
of the Provincial
Resolutions, found in
your RWTO
Connections Magazine
(soon to be arriving!)

Gently Used Book Sale!
Donate some books & pick out
your summer reading!

~

School Supplies will be
donated to the Wesley Centre
for Syrian Refugees and Area
children.

Donations to
'The Alzheimer's Society'
&
'The Bob Kemp Hospice'

Tickets & Table Reservations by Wed. April 19th, please!

Pinky Moro
24-1967 Main St. W.
Hamilton, ON L8S 4P4
pinky1@cogeco.ca
905.527.5756

*Please write your cheque for April 1st,
2017 or later (for our new fiscal year).*

RWTO Hamilton-Wentworth Branch





150 years!!!

Celebrating Canada's Red and White

Are you ready to make many Canadian Birthday toasts?

Plans are well underway for our **RWTO Red and White Celebration Wine Tour**.

Maxima has made a **small correction** to the flyer,

by **reversing the order of the pickup locations** for our tour, so take note.

Please remember that this special event is open to friends and family.

Consider taking your spouse or friends on what looks to be like a fabulous outing!

We will be visiting 4 excellent wineries, touring a Lavender farm with a wagon ride,

having a scrumptious lunch and enjoying fun and games on the bus.

This price is considerably better than all bus tours in the area,

and it runs round trip from Hamilton.

Most tours require that you drive to the Niagara area to pick up the tour!

Book soon.

Don't be disappointed!

A \$50.00 deposit holds your spot when you call Maxima Tours.



Our RWTO Great Canadian Trivia Trip

Over the course of our RWTO 2017 Newsletters we will travel in our mind's eye from coast to coast across our great country, enjoying some trivia tidbits. Hopefully we will learn more about our wonderful nation or recall some facts you really did know! Hope you enjoy.
Lynn Anderton

Let's continue on our tour of the Atlantic Coast, where most of our former visitors/settlers first arrived.

Nova Scotia

1. Nova Scotia is in the shape of a lobster (isn't that weird).
2. Nova Scotia - claimed by John Cabot in 1497 is Britain's only colony named in Latin (New Scotland) by James I of England, VI of Scotland, in 1621.
3. Also referred to as Acadia-France in the 1500's, which means "land of beauty" in ancient greek..This has a similar meaning in Mi'kmaq.
4. Numerous Triassic and Jurassic fossils have been found in Nova Scotia, making it a favourite research spot for paleontologists. When Europeans first landed on Nova Scotia's shores in 1497, the region was inhabited by the indigenous Mikmaq people.
5. It's believed the Mikmaq were there for 10,000 years before Europeans arrived, and there's some evidence that Norse sailors made it to Cape Breton well before anyone from France or England arrived.
6. The Official Welcome in Nova Scotia is : "Ciad Mile Failte" - (Key-ut-me-la falchuh), Gaelic for "One Hundred Thousand Welcomes"
7. Although it is one of the more densely populated of Canada's provinces, Nova Scotia's total area is only 20,400 square miles. Its population hovers just below 1 million people.
8. The largest single migration of English speaking people was in 1783, with the evacuation of 10,000 New York City Loyalists to Shelburne, Nova Scotia - then North America's 4th largest city. Sam Adams said: "America, love it or Nova Scotia" - in 1783.
9. The Halifax Explosion in 1917 was the world's largest man-made explosion prior to Hiroshima. About 2000 people were killed and 9000 injured when the SS Mont Blanc, a French cargo ship loaded with wartime explosives collided with an empty Norwegian ship. It caught fire and 25 minutes later exploded. A tsunami and pressure wave also occurred and caused considerable damage.



10. The **“Not Since Moses”** Walk and Run is held the first week of July on the day of the lowest tide of the year, at Five Islands, Nova Scotia. Started in 2007, this event offers participants the experience of a lifetime. It is the only day of the year that you can reach Long Island by walking on the ocean floor. Whether you choose to run or walk this 5K, you can't dawdle. You have only 6 hours before the no tide, returns to a 15metre high tide!

11. Quote from Alexander Graham Bell about Nova Scotia: "I have travelled around the globe. I have seen the Canadian Rockies, the American Rockies, the Andes and the Alps and the Highlands of Scotland; but for simple beauty, Cape Breton outrivals them all." - The Bells are buried in Baddeck, Nova Scotia

12. Windsor, Nova Scotia, is the birthplace of World Hockey - 1820's

13. The first North American documented sighting of a UFO October 12th, 1786 at New Minas, Nova Scotia.

14. Nova Scotia has the most universities than any other province in Canada. There are 81 post secondary students per 1000 people, three times the national average.

15. In Halifax there are more pubs per capita than any other city in Canada.

16. Halifax is closer to Dublin, Ireland than it is to Victoria, British Columbia. Halifax boasts the second largest ice free natural harbour in the world after Sydney, Australia.

17. The province of Nova Scotia is famous for its high tides, lobster, fish, blueberries and apples. It's also known for an unusually high rate of shipwrecks on Sable Island.

18. About 160 kilometers (99 miles) southeast of Nova Scotia is a very large sand bar called Sable Island. It is only 1.5 kilometers wide (one mile) but is 42 kilometers (26 miles) long.

19. Prince George (future King George V) was saved from drowning in Nova Scotia in 1883.

20. People live longer in Nova Scotia than in another part of Canada! More people get to celebrate their 100th birthday here, especially in Lunenburg and Yarmouth. On average, 14 to 15 per 100 000 Canadians become centenarians, but in these two cities, as many as 50 per 100 000 do! Perhaps we should move there to collect our pensions longer! Could it be due to Nova Scotia's Blue Gold! That would be their production of wild blueberries. Or could it have something to do with those UFOs from 1786?



New Brunswick

DID YOU KNOW?

1. The first ice cream cone was invented in Sussex, NB, the Dairy Capital of Canada, mid-way along the Fundy Coastal Drive. Locals tell the story of baker Walter Donnelly who made a bad batch of dough. He was at a loss with what to do with his hard, crispy pastry. So, he ran next door to the ice cream parlour....and the rest, as they say, is ice cream cone history.

2. LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!!! Film mogul Louis B. Mayer grew up in Saint John. New Brunswick musicians made history in May of 1907 at the Nickel Theatre in Saint John. They were the first to accompany silent moving pictures in North America. The port city has been home to several Hollywood legends, including distinguished actors Walter Pidgeon and Donald Sutherland.

Donald was introduced to the theatre through puppet classes at the New Brunswick museum in Saint John.



3. TAKE COVER!

The world's longest covered bridge was completed in Hartland, NB in 1899. It's 390 metres (1,282 feet) long and spans the Saint John River. It was built in 1901 and for its time was an engineering phenomenon. Back in 1906 it was a toll bridge and cost 0.03 per person.

There are 62 covered bridges in the province. Many of them are in the Sussex area of Kings County- the Covered Bridge Capital of Atlantic Canada. Be sure to make a wish as you drive through. (Oh, and ask one of the locals to tell you why covered bridges are called Kissing Bridges) !

4. FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

The world's largest lobster lives in Shediac, NB, the Lobster Capital of the World! If you go to enjoy their Lobster Festival during the first week of July, you may be one of three people chosen to participate in a lobster eating contest each night, but be prepared to crack, shell and eat them with your bare hands! Also, check out the concrete lobster sculpture in the park at the west end of town—a 5 metre-wide and nearly 11 metre long, 50 tonne lobster...the biggest in the world. Nearly half a million people a year come to see it. Many of them also visit Shediac's other big sculpture—a huge white rooster in front of a fried chicken restaurant.

One third of the world's French Fries come from New Brunswick's "French Fry Capital", Florenceville-Bristol. This small town is home to the McCain empire. Here you can also visit the New Brunswick Potato World Museum.

The fertile, alkaline soil of the St. John River Valley is ideal for the cultivation of potatoes. Some farmers plant their crops in a traditional manner, according to the phases of the moon. Scattered along the roads on both sides of the border, you can sometimes spot small stone sheds built into the side of a grassy mound, where potatoes were stored'



5. BIGGEST BAR NONE!

The Eel River Bar, near Dalhousie on the Acadian Coastal Drive, is one of the longest natural sandbars in North America. Fresh water laps its shores on one side, salt water on the other. Talk about spin cycles.

6. OLD SOW!

The largest tidal whirlpool in the Western Hemisphere lies off the shores of Deer Island off the southwestern mainland. It's called the Old Sow. Best seen a couple of hours before high tide when it is more active than at other times of the day, the Old Sow gets its name from the loud, slurping sounds that the water makes as it swirls into a vortex.

7. FOR PEAT'S SAKE!

Next time you plant in your garden, read the label on the bag of peat moss. More than likely, it says: " Made in New Brunswick." As the second largest peat exporter in the world, the largest share of Canada's peat moss comes from the northeastern area of the province which we refer to as the Acadian Peninsula. The region's moist climate and flat terrain make it an ideal spot for harvesting peat. Every July, the people from Lamèque celebrate the harvest during the Peat Moss Festival. Be sure to visit and see how harvesters and their families decorate their properties with bales of peat.

8. "CYMBALYLY" FANTASTIC! The Sabian Cymbal factory in Meductic, NB is one of the first in North America. Musicians in over 80 countries play New Brunswick-made Sabian cymbals. Drummers for Eric Clapton, Phil Collins and Billy Joel, as well as percussionists with the Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Cleveland and New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestras won't venture on stage without their Sabian cymbals.

9. CHOCOLATE!

Arthur Ganong returned from fishing expeditions with a sticky gooey mess in his pockets. It seems that Arthur, the son of the founder of Ganongs Chocolates of St. Stephen, had a sweet tooth and would never leave on a fishing trip without a handful of chocolates in his pockets. In 1910 tired of cleaning up the melted mess, young Arthur began wrapping his chocolates in a tin foil. Soon after, Ganongs made individually-wrapped bars of chocolate and sold them for a nickel. They became the world's first chocolate bar! Ganong Bros. Ltd. in St. Stephen also invented the ever popular pink cinnamon-over-chocolate "chicken bone" candy, a Christmas favourite. There is a chocolate museum housed in the original Ganong factory.

10. ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Nackawic has an axe to grind. It's 15 metres (50 feet) high, making it the biggest in the world. You'll find the gigantic axe in the town which depends on the logging industry for its survival just off the Trans- Canada Highway on the River Valley Scenic Drive.

11. WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND

Today, mahogany is one of the most expensive woods available, but in New Brunswick during the 19th century, it was actually one of the least expensive woods! Because of its heaviness, mahogany was used as ballast below the deck of sailing ships arriving at New Brunswick's many ports. The wood was then discarded dock side into the waiting hands of local furniture makers.

During the colonial era, lumber from this region was very much in demand, especially by the Royal Navy. It is said that Admiral Horatio Nelson went to war during the Battle of Trafalgar with a fleet whose masts were forged from white pine, floated from Edmundston, down the St. John River.

12. HOT SEAT ?

Wait 'til you hear this one. In November 1789, it seems that respected Saint John lawyer Ward Chipman received a basin stand and table specially crafted by Alexander Ross and James Hunter of Fredericton. Letters between Chipman and Hunter & Ross were found discussing details of the furniture's shipping and so on. However, the return address on one letter bears the name of Fredericton Prison. It seems Ross and Hunter were jailed for debt and the furniture was part of their payment to Chipman for legal fees. A chair made for another one of Hunter & Ross' creditors is on display at the New Brunswick Museum in Saint John.

13. DOWNTOWN IS ACTUALLY UPTOWN

Check those brakes! Saint John has the steepest main street in Canada. King Street has an 8 per cent grade. In other words, over the distance of two city blocks, the street rises 80 feet... (roughly the height of an eight-story building). So it's no wonder people in Saint John go " uptown " to do their shopping. Oops!

14. DID WE SAY SQUARE ?

King Square in Saint John, NB is modelled after the British Union Jack. Despite the name, King Square is not square. It's rectangular, like a flag. In fact, if you were to hitch a ride with one of the pigeons near the bandstand, you'd see the pathways are designed to look like the Union Jack. Just a little reminder of our Loyalist roots.

15. A RIVER RUNS BACKWARDS

At low tide, watch the Saint John River crash through a narrow gorge and tumble into the harbour. Come back at high tide and watch the same river go the other way. Serious Folks! The Bay of Fundy's incredible tides are too strong for the mighty Saint John River, forcing the waters to flow upstream twice a day, every day. Something to see with your own eyes to believe. AWESOME!!!

16. FUN FUNDY FACTS

The Bay of Fundy has the highest tides in the world. They rise at a rate of one metre (3.3 feet) per hour. The tides yield many edible treasures, among them mineral-rich sea salt and "dulse" - dried seaweed, which can be eaten as a snack or used to flavour soups and stews.

The Bay of Fundy is home to up to 15 species of sharks including threshers, makos, porbeagles and believe it or not even the Great White Shark. Only one has been sighted so far this summer. Whale watching trips out of Grand Manan Island and out of St. Andrews are particularly worthwhile.

Each July and August up to 2.5 million shorebirds migrating south for the winter, gather in New Brunswick's Bay of Fundy, site of the world's highest tides. It is like a busy service centre, where birds stay for a few weeks to feed and build up their strength before flying non stop to South America. When the tide is out, the exposed seabed teems with tasty morsels.

17. MAGNETIC HILL in Moncton is a gravity hill and an optical illusion. You can experience it today by paying a fee for the experience; then put your car in neutral where you will roll backwards though it will feel like you're going uphill.

18. PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?

New Brunswick is the only province in Canada that is constitutionally bilingual. French is spoken by about a third of the population, especially by people of Acadian origin. The French spoken in the Northern New Brunswick region is called "brayon" – a term derived from the textile industry. Brayon (which can also refer to the people themselves) is a blend of Quebecois and Acadian French, with a sprinkling of American English and Scots/Irish idioms thrown in for good measure.

19. BOUNTIFUL BEVERAGES

Moosehead Brewery, in Saint John, is Canada's oldest independent brewery. There are at least 14 wineries in New Brunswick now.

20. HAPPY TOWN

According to 2007 Research, the **happiest Canadians** live in Saint John, New Brunswick and it was rated the most livable city in Canada.. Moncton New Brunswick was rated fourth in Canada. Could it be the brewery and wineries? Or could it be the over 500,000 Christmas trees are harvested every year in New Brunswick?



Message Board

Art Appreciation Group News

Save the Dates:

Wed., March 22- Carnegie Gallery, Dundas :

-optional lunch, 11:30 at Bangkok Spoon, 57 King St. W., Dundas

-1:00 guided tour of Fibre Optics Exhibit, Mosaics display and Textile Exhibit, free.

Thurs., April 6- Dundas Valley School of Art

--optional lunch, 11:30 at Il Fiasco , 2 King St. W, Dundas

- 1:00 self guided visit to DVSA Auction Preview, free

Wed., May 24- Workers Arts and Heritage Centre

-11:30, optional lunch at Jack & Lois, 301 James St.

-1:00 guided tour of building, Marlene Yuen Exhibition , and other permanent Exhibits at 51 Stuart St.



Watch for rsvp email a couple weeks prior to each event and reply to it if you would like to join us.

If you would like to add your name to the Art Appreciation email list, notify Lynn Anderton via rwto.lynn@gmail.com

Bumper Babes Bowling

The Bumper Babes resumed bowling in February with 5 bowlers enjoying fun, exercise, a few strikes and spares and all of us breaking 100 in both games. We are looking forward to more bowlers joining us in March. Don't forget that the date had to be changed in March due to the March Break. We will be bowling on [March 22](#). In April we return to our regular 3rd Wednesday which will be April 19 and then on May 17.



We meet at Mountain Lanes at 335 Upper Wentworth St, Hamilton, just around the corner from Concessions St. There is free parking on both sides of Upper Wentworth or a paid lot one block further down from Upper Wentworth. We meet at 11 for social time and begin bowling 2 games at 11:30.

We are always looking for new members so please feel free to contact me if you are interested in joining and I will add you to the e-mail list. Gwen Kirkpatrick

Euchre East

Lots of Fun, Euchre, Laughter & Friendship

Where: Teddy's (Main St, Grimsby)

Time: Lunch at NOON, Euchre 12:30 to 3 pm

When: We meet one Thursday a month

March 16th, April 13th, May 11th & June 8th

Please come & join us. Contacts:

Sue - sueduncan55@gmail.com

Lynn - [905-309-4438](tel:905-309-4438) ldjg1999@gmail.com



Euchre West

Come out of the cold and warm up to some cards on the Last Monday of Every Month:

Feb. 27; Mar. 27, Apr. 24, May 29; June 26th

at Fortinos, 1579 Main St. W. (upper level)

Lunch at 12 Noon

Cards at 1 p.m

Contact Jeanette at jeanette.24@icloud.com

or Heather at hclark1943@hotmail.com

"FIRST CUP @ SECOND CUP", WESTDALE

1. Fri. Mar. 31st
2. Fri. Apr. 28th
3. Fri. May 26th
4. Fri. June 30th



- 10:00 am. - 11:30am.
- Socialize
- Make new friends
- Contact: Hope: hleon@bserv.com OR: 905- 528- 2348



It's that time of year!! Not spring cleaning!! GOLF !! Calling all golfers to our organizational meeting on April 20th , 10:00 at Williams' on Discovery Dr. We will decide the golf courses, dates and golf Madames.

Hope to see you there. Danielle

iPad Interest Group



New participants are always welcome!
We meet on Thursday mornings once a month,
from 10 am - noon.
Fortinos Community Room
1579 Main St. West

March 23rd, April 20th, June 1st

Send your questions/topics to Linda Sargeant
905.575.3831 rwto.linda@gmail.com



Citizenship Celebrations

Next date will be on a Tuesday in April (T.B.A.)

Six times a year, four of our members attend Citizenship Court at the Federal Building, to welcome our newest Canadian citizens. RW provides the beverages, and the members donate cookies and squares. If you would like to participate in one of these events, contact Georgina Hewitt, who handles the recruitment of members for each event. (905) 648-0458 georginahewitt1@gmail.com

Many thanks to **Trish Nanayakkara**, for taking over the organization of the Citizenship Celebration events at the Federal Building, starting in April!



Lunch Bunch

March 7, 2017, at 12:30 pm.

Il Fiasco Italian Restaurant

2 King St. West, Dundas

Phone: [289-238-9183](tel:289-238-9183)

Street parking

April 4, 2017, at 12:00 p.m. (Note time change. Restaurant closes at 2 pm to get ready for their evening diners.)

La Spaggett Pasta House

970 Upper James St., Hamilton

Phone: [905-318-8211](tel:905-318-8211)

Parking in front of the restaurant, or behind it.

Unfortunately this restaurant cannot do separate checks for tables over 10.

May 2, 2017, at 12:30 pm

Lake Road Restaurant

229 James Street North, Hamilton.

Phone: [289-389-9525](tel:289-389-9525)

We're going to try this one again.

They are still closed for lunch on Tuesdays but will open for us if our numbers warrant it. Please let me know if you are interested as soon as you know, and I'll email the number of diners to them so they can determine if they will open that day. Thank you!

Parking on the street or parking lots.

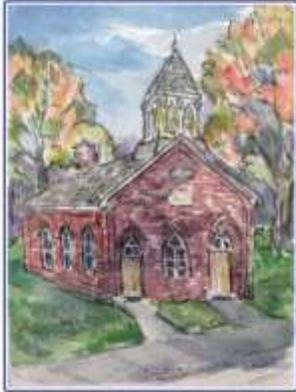
June 13, 2017, at 12:30 pm

Donn Zver's Pottery Cafe in Troy.

A popular destination for our group. I made a reservation for us in January so we would be able to eat there in June.

Parking in front or to the side of the restaurant.

Mohawk Trail School Museum



The Mohawk Trail School Museum Interest Group

will be helping Grade 3 students experience the life of a student in the 1800's. We are looking for volunteers to assist a team once or twice a month, helping with programs and crafts. Interested in putting fun into learning?

Contact Linda Sargeant, (905) 575-3831
rwto.linda@gmail.com

The Mohawk Trail School Museum is located behind the new HWDSB office building near Limeridge Mall

Volunteers previously from the Catholic and Public panels are welcome.

RWTO Movie Group

Greetings Movie Mates.
We attend Ancaster Silvercity
Cineplex (per Ancaster Film Fest) in
Meadowlands



The RWTO members attend the screening at 1:00 p.m., but try to come at 12:15 to get a good seat. Coffee and film discussion follows at Kelsey's after the movie. The film choice details are emailed to you one week prior.

Wednesday February 22 - Manchester by the Sea
Monday March 6 - Paterson
Monday April 3 - tba
Wednesday April 19 - Canada On Screen Day Monday
April 24
Monday April 24 - tba
Monday May 1- tba

If you are not already on the email reminder list, please contact Mardie at mardiepan@gmail.com

RWTO Theatre Group

Players guild of Hamilton www.playersguild.org
"Closer Than Ever"
Lyrics by Richard Maltby, Jr. - Music by David Shire
Directed by David Dayler

May 6, 2017 - 2 pm. matinee - \$30

Sometimes hilarious, sometimes touching, this song cycle is a nonstop exploration of everyday struggles in the modern world, particularly those surrounding love. Each song is a unique story told by a new character in the Maltby and Shire songbook. The audience is invited to laugh with delight or pause for self reflection.

For Tickets call (905) 529-0284 and identify yourself as an RWTO member.
For more information, contact Elizabeth at elizmooney@gmail.com



Writing Club

1. Fri. Mar. 24th
2. Fri. Apr. 21st
3. Fri. May 19th
4. Fri. June 23rd



- Fortino's, West Hamilton Community Room
- 10:00am. - Noon
- No writing skills required
- Socialize; Make new friends and contacts
- Learn some new writing skills too!
- Contact: Hope: hleon@bserv.com
- 905- 528- 2348

Community



The Lady Hamilton Club - Hamilton Tourism

In 1971, a group of outstanding ladies realized the need to promote the City of Hamilton by meeting and greeting residents and visitors at various events. With guidance from City of Hamilton's Tourism and Convention Services, the Lady Hamilton Club was established. Members of the Lady Hamilton Club continue to volunteer with Tourism Hamilton at the Tourism Information Centres, Conventions and Special Events around the City. We are proud to promote Hamilton by providing information and assistance to visitors and residents.

If you are interested in learning more about the Club, please call 905-546-2424 ext. 5771 or visit the Visitor Centre at 28 James Street North (Lister Block, ground floor) for information to obtain a membership application form.

Visit the [Lady Hamilton Club website](#) for more details.

Volunteers are needed and welcomed to join: ***The Lady Hamilton Club***.

If you love your city of Hamilton and are willing to work with tourists and newcomers to our city, this is an opportunity to volunteer with Tourism Hamilton. See the link for more details: <https://ladyhamiltonclub.com/about-lady-hamilton/>

If you have a community event or announcement that you would like to advertise in this newsletter, please email your information to rwto.patty@gmail.com
Patty Alexander
Communications