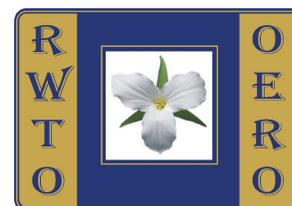




RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch SUMMER NEWSLETTER

June, 2016



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Kathy McLean



What an exciting year for the Ottawa-Carleton Branch of RWTO/OERO! Your Executive successfully achieved many of our goals including creating a Branch Handbook, honouring our members who are 80 years and older at the same time as celebrating RWTO/OERO's 60th Diamond Anniversary, increasing socializing among members at

luncheons through "mix and mingle" activities, establishing an Early Bird reward for timely membership renewals, developing a Branch bookmark to use for recruitment of new members, and encouraging all members to become more

involved by submitting their ideas in the Branch survey. We are particularly encouraged and pleased with the great attendance at our four major events! Next year we hope to continue this trend with more luncheons, more speakers and more entertainment at our events. Hope to see you there!

Several of your Executive members have just returned from a very successful Annual Convention in Windsor. It was great to compare and share ideas with other members from across the province. There is more information about the Convention later in this newsletter. To quote Dianne Rice, our Provincial Past President: learn from the past; look to the future; act in the present. Let's continue our great caring and sharing!

Kathy

If you have any questions about RWTO/OERO, this Branch or your insurance, contact the appropriate person from the list below:

OTTAWA-CARLETON CONTACTS

- President**, Kathy McLean: 613-829-6234 kathymclean2011@hotmail.com
- Insurance Convenor**, Margaret Dempsey: 613-820-7864 medempsey@sympatico.ca
- Goodwill Convenor**, Marilyn Adair: 613-274-3331 marilyn.adair@gmail.com
- Membership Convenor**, Barbara Edwards: 613-731-3331 angelbunny@live.ca
- Movie Club**, Donna Edwards: **613-233-4775** donna.edwards@opera.ncf.ca.
- Book Club**, Joy Phillips-Johansen: 613-728-3897 Joyphillips@rogers.com

PROVINCIAL CONTACTS

- Area Director**, Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell: 613-829-7167 suzanne.lanouettecarswell@gmail.com
- RWTO Provincial Office, Exec. Sec.-Treas.:** Gloria Drake: 1-877-607-6696 info@rwto.org
- RWTO/OERO Website:** www.rwto.org **Manulife Insurance:** 1-800-268-3763
- Insurance Convenor**, Bertha Breen: 519-274-2464 bertbree@gmail.com
- Insurance Broker**, Terry Kennedy: 519-583-2876 tkennedy34@be

WELCOME YOUR 2016 - 2017 EXECUTIVE!!

President: Kathy McLean
Past President: Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell
Vice-President: Ruth Knapp
Treasurer: Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison
Recording Secretary: Sharon Chop
Directory Convenor: Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison
Membership Convenor: Barbara Edwards
Social Convenor: Vacant
Insurance Convenor: Margaret Dempsey
Goodwill Convenor: Marilyn Adair
Telephone Convenor: Ann Davelaar
Archivist: Donna Edwards
Communications Convenor: Martha Summers
Members-at-Large: Janet Thomas, Anne Bodnar



In addition to the above, the following members have volunteered to take on leadership roles:

Telephone Committee: Barbara Edwards, Adele Gervais, Margaret Granville, Noreen Murphy, Beth Sharp, Jenifer Slack, Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison, Laura Gonis, Nicole Martin and Brenda Prosenyak-Weber

Book Club Co-ordinator: Joy Phillips-Johansen

Provincial Area Director: Sue Lanouette-Carswell



We greatly appreciate the willingness of our members to step up and accept or continue with positions on the Executive and the Telephone Committee for 2016 - 2017. We have only one vacant position this year on the Executive, that of Social Convenor. This is a newly created position for the Branch, in which the Social Convenor would co-ordinate the hospitality aspects of our monthly activities, after the Executive has determined the program components. For each event, she would have a sub-committee to work with her for details such as contact with venues, meals, set-up, decorations, registration, etc. With this position vacant, this work has to be added to the regular responsibilities of other Executive members, creating quite a heavy work load in many cases. We hope that we will be able to fill this position, and appoint sub-committees which will carry out these tasks. If you are interested in helping out with this job, please contact President Kathy. To get started, there are several members of the Executive who have experience in this type of planning who would be willing to serve as "mentors" or assist with the job. As an example, last year's 60th Anniversary Celebration was handled this way with a co-ordinator and 3 committee members who worked as a team, communicating by e-mail and phone, and meeting in person to get started, and again to confirm details just before the event. And... it was fun doing it!!!!

A special thank you goes out to the members who have retired from their work on the Executive - Erin Linnen, Sheila McKay, Gayle Singer, Patti Brennan, and Laura Gonis, and those who are leaving the Telephone Committee - Caroline Isaac, Ann Lazear and Val Leach-Ray. Your time and effort have been greatly appreciated by all.

60th ANNUAL RWTO/OERO CONVENTION

From June 7 - 9, 149 RWTO/OERO voting delegates and visitors enjoyed the hospitality of the Windsor-Essex Branch at Caesars Windsor's excellent convention venue on the waterfront of the Detroit River. Networking Sessions on Tuesday, including Insurance, using Excel effectively for Branch Treasurers, and ideas for public relations, allowed for sharing of ideas to bring back to Branches. The Annual General Meeting, held Wednesday and Thursday mornings, set a record - all resolutions, as printed in the March issue of **Connections**, were dealt with on Wednesday morning! Here is a summary:

- The position of Provincial Communications was divided into two - one to handle the newsletter and the other the web site. Times are changing, and technology is increasingly the method of communication.
- Other resolutions from the Board of Directors, mainly housekeeping type, were carried.
- A resolution from the 7 Branches in Area 4, which

extend from Hamilton through the Niagara region, to divide the Area into 2 Areas, was withdrawn, determined not to be a constitutional issue. The Board, at its last meeting, had approved the addition of a new Area 13 to accommodate this.

- A Branch resolution from Oakville regarding prorating membership fees monthly was defeated, because it was deemed to create too much confusion with all aspects of administration.

Reports from various Convenors and the Executive Secretary-Treasurer brought us up-to-date on the business and financial status of the organization. The Barbara Bain Membership Awards, Feather-in-your-Hat Awards, and Honorary Memberships were presented at the 60th Anniversary Celebration banquet Wednesday evening. The Executive for 2016-2017 was installed at the Thursday luncheon. The new President, Peggy Stock, was warmly received by all. We hope to see her here in Ottawa this fall.

IMPRESSIONS FROM A FIRST-TIME BRANCH DELEGATE by Margaret Dempsey

Thank you to the Ottawa- Carleton Branch for the wonderful opportunity to attend, as Branch Delegate, the Diamond Anniversary RWTO/OERO Convention in Windsor from June 7-9, 2016. This was my first Convention and I sincerely hope that it is the first of many more. I learned a great deal about RWTO/ OERO and found the motto of "Caring and Sharing" alive and well in our organization.

Dianne Rice, President, 2015-2016, reminded us that in the Diamond Jubilee Celebration year we need to remember our proud history. She said "we owe a great deal to the women who realized that pensions needed to be improved and who worked tirelessly over the years to make that happen. We have all benefitted from their dedicated efforts. It is now our responsibility to keep this organization strong for future generations of retired women teachers."

Particularly moving for me were the "2016 In Memoriam Tribute" for 97 deceased Ontario Retired Women Teachers and the Cora Bailey Binders describing the recipients of the Cora Bailey Award Recipients over the previous five years.

The RWTO Insurance Workshop, led by RWTO's Insurance Broker, Terry Kennedy, was very informative for me as your new Insurance Convenor. We are indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated and informed broker working on our behalf with Manulife Insurance Company.



Congratulations to Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell, inducted again as our Area 9 Director. Thank you to my travelling companions, Kathy McLean, Martha Summers, and Sue for their warm welcome to a newcomer and great hospitality. We had fun! We had fun and laughs whether we attended meetings, ate delicious luncheons/banquets, enjoyed tours and entertainment, or walked in order to try and stay in shape. We supported each other in Caesars Casino as we won and then lost the ten-dollar voucher which we all received courtesy of the Casino. "Photo ops" with "Elvis" after his performance, which included his 9-year-old son, were popular.



It was a tremendous experience for me to again participate in a group of women who are committed to caring for each other and to sharing with others our talents and gifts which we have been given. Here's to the next 60 years of RWTO!

(Ed. Note: Margaret, you forgot to mention how much time you spent at the window watching all the transport trucks which stretched across the Ambassador Bridge in both directions day and night!!)



THE YEAR IN REVIEW...



2015-16 was a busy year for the Ottawa-Carleton Branch. A number of new initiatives kept the Executive busy, and the great turnout to events and activities showed that members were interested in our organization! Here are some of the happenings...

Goodwill Report - Marilyn Adair

From June 2015 to May 2016, caring and sharing included the following:

- a) birthday and Christmas cards were sent to all our (known) 80+ members;
- b) all 80+ members were also sent an individual invitation to attend the 60th anniversary Puttin' on the Glitz celebration on 13 Apr 2016 as guests of the Branch;
- c) 14 "Thinking of You" cards were sent;
- d) 6 "Get-Well" cards went out to members having health issues;
- e) 13 "Sympathy" cards were sent, including three to families of deceased members (Isobel Wooldridge who died 23 Jun 2015, Delia Gallant who died 10 Sep 2015 and Lauretta Clavelle who died 3 Oct 2015);
- f) 1 "Congratulations" card was sent;
- g) 1 "Thank You" card went out



Please be sure to contact Marilyn if you know of anyone in need of extra caring and sharing..

Telephone Committee Report - Ann Davelaar

As the 2015-2016 year is ending, the callers on the Telephone Committee should enjoy a sense of satisfaction for a job well done. We know they worked hard, because the attendance at the September and Christmas Luncheons and the Spring Annual General Meeting reflected that.

As you can see, this is an important component of the work performed annually by the Executive and its assistants. But vacancies are inevitable, and this year we say thank you to Caroline Isaac, Ann Lazear and Valerie Leach-Ray for their contributions to the Telephone Committee. The other "telephone ladies" are much appreciated for their ongoing service and enthusiasm. We welcome new members Laura Gonis, Brenda Prosenyak-Weber and Nicole Martin to the group. Let's keep up the *Caring and Sharing!*



Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison deserves special mention for her long time involvement in organizing the annual Directory and the Caller Lists, as well as taking on a Caller List to work on herself each year. Her thoughtful guidance has kept the Telephone Committee on an even keel.

Membership By the Numbers...

127	Total Branch Membership
120	Number of Regular Members
42	Number of Members 80+ years of age
7	Number of Life Members
1	Number of Social Members
7	Number of Lapsed Members
5	Number of New Members

Members are encouraged to extend an invitation to friends, relatives, neighbours who are, or may know of, retiring or retired teachers in Ottawa-Carleton to join us at our first luncheon for the next year on September 21. For those who join at that time, their lunch will be free! If you would like additional **promotional bookmarks** which were distributed this spring, please contact our new Membership Convenor, Barbara Edwards, at 613-731-3331 or e-mail at angelbunny@live.ca.

Don't forget about our **Early Bird Renewal** promotion... If you renew by **September 1**, your name will go into the draw to have your membership fee reimbursed!!! The **Membership Renewal Form** is attached at the end of this newsletter.



Book Club Report - Adele Muldoon

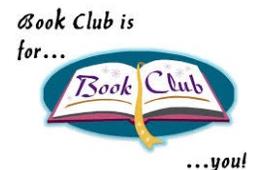
Our Book Club Special Interest Group has enjoyed meeting monthly throughout the year to share our thoughts about some excellent books, and enjoy the social aspects of our gatherings. Books discussed this

year included:

1. ***The Nightingale*** by Kristin Hannah
2. ***The Little Old Lady Who Broke All the Rules***
Catherina Ingleman-Sandberg
3. ***The Light Between Oceans*** by M.L. Stedman
4. ***Crossing to Safety*** by Wallace Stegner
5. ***All the Light We Cannot See*** by Anthony Doerr
6. ***When the Moon is Low*** by Nadia Hashimi
7. ***Orphan Train*** by Christine Baker Kline
8. ***The Golden Son*** by Shilpi Somaya Gowda
9. ***The Truth According to Us*** by Annie Burrows

At our final meeting we will be selecting from titles such as when ***The Night Stages*** by Jane Urquhart, ***Red Notice*** by Bill Browder, ***The Illegal*** by Laurence Hill, ***Hero's Walk*** by Anita Rau Badami, and ***The Inconvenient Indian*** by Thomas King for our fall and winter reading.

I have enjoyed co-ordinating the Book Club and intend to remain a member but I am most pleased to announce that **Joy Phillips-Johansen** has agreed to take over the responsibility as co-ordinator in September, 2016. For more details or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Joy at 613-728-3897 or joyphillips@rogers.com.



A Special Note:

Our database of information about our members has not had a column for birth date in past years. We would like to be able to not only acknowledge those who reach their 80th birthday, but have a "Birthday Club" which could celebrate all birthdays as we meet throughout the year. If you are willing to share this information, please provide it to the caller who contacts you about the September luncheon.



And what were all the other members doing throughout the year? Here is a sample...



<<< Receiving cheques to present to charities and service programs through our Community Outreach project



Welcoming Provincial President, Dianne Rice to Ottawa >>>

Visiting the National >>>
Gallery



<<< Enjoying and singing along with **The Ladies of the Day**



<<< Taking a tour of CHEO and presenting our caring and sharing cheque

And, finally, **Puttin' on th Glitz** at our 60th Anniversary Celebration!!!!



- enjoying a great meal, looking at pictures of ourselves 60 years ago, singing along with our special entertainer, Lauren Hall, and just plain having fun!!!!



And a very special moment, was when 21 of our 42 members who have reached that milestone of 80 years of age sat down together to have their picture taken!!!!

First row, left to right: Frances Murphy Pike, Elizabeth Hansen, Vicky Ash, Isobel Bryan, Ann Lazear, Val Leach-Ray, Betty Farrell, Lyndell Hughes

Second row, left to right: Ruth Campbell, Shirley McBride, Pat Mulvihill, Margaret Singleton, Mary Sproule, Ruth Knapp, Margaret Hall, Cathy Reid, Anne Christians, Pat Swerdfeger, Helen Brown, Meryl Forrest

Absent from picture: Joyce Bradley

THE RWTO/OERO CORA BAILEY AWARD

Who was Cora Bailey, and why is there an award named for her?

Cora Bailey had an enviable record of 42 teaching years, became a school principal when few women held such a position, and served in many organizations such as FWTAO, OTF, and STO. Upon retiring from teaching, she became a revered member of the Peterborough Branch for many years and was a driving force behind the formation and early growth of the organization. In 1971, she was appointed the first Executive Secretary of OASWT, as we were known back then, and organized its first Provincial Office. During this time, she wrote the first history of OASWT, covering the years 1956 - 1976. She retired from the position in 1982, and was awarded Honorary Membership in OASWT. In 2003, RWTO was proud to name a provincial certificate of recognition for service at the Branch level of RWTO in honour of Miss Cora Bailey.

At the Annual General Meeting in May, 2016, the Ottawa-Carleton Branch was proud to present this award to three of our own members who have also served RWTO diligently after many years of teaching. Congratulations!!



Marilyn Adair's teaching career with the ORCSSB was interrupted by the arrival of six children. Over the years she still found time to serve in a variety of community organizations, so it was no surprise that she became active in RWTO/OERO, mixed in with travelling with her husband and pursuing an interest in genealogy. Marilyn was active in representing us with the affiliates in 1996-7, attending various events to promote membership. She then moved through the positions of 2nd Vice-President through Past President, starting in 1997, and returned to the Executive last year as Goodwill Convenor.

Another honour of which she is very proud is having received the Community Builder Award from the United Way. Her name is inscribed on the Wall of Inspiration at City Hall.

Adele Muldoon has been active in the Branch for many years. She was active in the planning of the Provincial Convention of 2000, represented the Branch on the Ottawa Council of Women, served in Branch Vice-Presidents' positions and then President in 2005-2006, was Provincial Director for the Ottawa-Lanark area in 2011-2012, and has been Chair of the Book Club for several years.



Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison was Branch President from 2003-6, has served as Treasurer since 2001 and Directory Convenor since 2005, represented the area as Provincial Director from 2007- 2011, and took on the role of Convention Co-ordinator for the Provincial Convention in 2014. She received Honorary Membership in 2014 for her contributions at the Provincial level.

In Memoriam...



Delia Gallant

(Laurette's photo unavailable)

We regret the passing of several of our members over the past year. We lost Delia Gallant in September, 2015, Laurette Clavelle in October, 2015, and Inez Sunderland in May, 2016.

Those we love don't go away,

They walk beside us every day,

Unseen, unheard, but always near,

Still loved, still missed and very dear.



Inez Sunderland

SUMMER EVENTS... MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Registration for these activities should be done by telephone or e-mail to the person indicated.



WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2016

COTTAGE POTLUCK

At Val Leach-Ray's Cottage at
11:00 a.m.

Enjoy a day at the water with RWTO friends. Bring a potluck dish, your lawn chair, swimsuit and towel. To register, contact Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison at 613-724-3793 before June 30. Car pooling will be arranged for those interested. You will receive driving directions from Suzanne when you register.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2016

A DAY AT MISSISSIPPI LAKE

at the cottage of Anne Graham

11:00 a.m.



Join friends from the Lanark Branch for a day of fun by the water. Bring a potluck item, a comfy lawn chair, your swimsuit and towel. To register, contact Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell at suzanne.lanouettecarswell@gmail.com or by phone at 613-829-7167 before August 4. Car pooling can be arranged for those interested. Directions will be provided when you register.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2016

POTLUCK PICNIC with our PAST-PRESIDENT

at Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell's Summer Home

at 11:45 a.m.



Have another great day by the water on the shore of the Mississippi River. Bring your favourite potluck item, chair and swimming gear. To register, contact Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell at 613-829-7167 or at suzanne.lanouettecarswell@gmail.com before August 16. Please indicate if you wish to car pool or need directions.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

FALL LUNCHEON

ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR WITH NO SCHOOL!!!!

Kitchissippi United Church 11:00 a.m.

Details for this annual luncheon at which we celebrate our own retirements and welcome those who are newly retired will be provided by newsletter at the end of the summer.

Please be sure to contact our new Membership Convenor, Barbara Edwards, at 613-731-3331 or angelbunny@live.ca if you have any change in contact information - address, phone or e mail, to ensure our records are up-to-date.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2016 - 2017

REWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch

Please renew my membership for year 2016-17.

I have attached my cheque for \$48.00 payable to RWTO/OERO.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

May we include your contact information in the Ottawa-Carleton Branch Directory?

____ Yes ____ No (It will be used only within RWTO/OERO.)

The following two items are optional, but would be helpful to the Executive in planning programs for the Branch.

Date of Birth: _____

Do you have RWTO/OERO Hospital and Home Care Insurance? ____ Yes ____ No

Signature _____

Send cheque and form to Barbara Edwards, 2266 Kipling Street, Ottawa, ON K1H 6T5 before September 1 to be eligible for the Early Bird Draw at the September Luncheon.