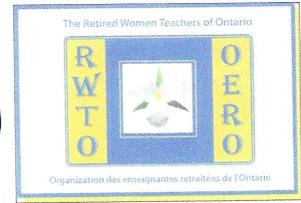


# The Scoop

RWTO Newsletter  
Chatham Kent Branch Spring 2014  
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**Caring and Sharing**



At the museum Jane admires the gun collection and threatens to set off the alarm.

## A Blast From the Past Spring Outing

Eighteen of our ladies enjoyed a tour of the Wallaceburg and District Museum for our spring outing on May 14. Our tour guide was very informative, giving us some insights into life in Wallaceburg in a bygone era. Following the tour all enjoyed lunch and visiting at The Black Goose.

At The Black Goose Restaurant are: Vicky Barry, Marg Mills, Sharon Nicholson and Nancy Stewart



Gayle McLandress stands beside taps produced at Waltek.

## Our President for 2014-2015: Edna Madill



Edna has been an active and contributing member of our group for five years. We are fortunate that she moved here from Lindsay, Ontario, where she spent most of her life and teaching career.

When Edna is asked why she moved to Chatham, she responds that it was for friends and the usually much milder winters. This past winter was a big surprise for Edna as it was for most of us.

Edna has one brother and his wife and several nieces and nephews and their children.

She considers herself lucky to have many good friends who are also like family.

This lovely lady is looking forward to serving our branch as president this year and we are very lucky to have her!



Sharon Nicholson and Marg Mazurek pose with a display of tomato soup from Heinz.

## Insurance Matters!

The following is a summary of the enhancements that were made to the RWTO Hospital and Home Care Plan effective April 1, 2014.

### Medical Expenses - Assistive Devices Benefits:

We added commodes and bedrails (under the assistive devices when recommended by a physician). This will be included as part of the Assistive Devices Benefits maximum of \$100, per injury or sickness. This enhancement was offered with a 0% rate increase. Below is how it will appear in the policy:

***Purchase or rental of grab bars, bath seats, raised toilet seats, commodes, bed rails, reachers and other assistive devices, when recommended by a Physician, subject to a maximum of \$100.00 per Injury or Sickness;***

It is great to note that the Hospital and Home Care rates will not be increasing. There has been no change in premium rates for over 15 years!



## April 26th Spring Meeting

Our Spring meeting was held at Charing Cross United Church with a record number of attendees. We had 107 women at this event. It is great to see so many smiles in the spring of the year.

Our program was full with the awarding of the Cora Bailey award to Nancy Stewart and Sharon Nicholson. the recognition of members who were 80 years young this year, and the presentation of Christine Crawford.

### Anne Mann Celebrates a Birthday

Congratulations to Anne is offered by Sue Cummings.

Cathy Cofell and mom, Ida Holmes attended the Spring Meeting.!



### Meet our Sister Members from St. Thomas-Elgin

We are still sharing meetings after 33 years. Welcome friends!

## Nancy Stewart Receives the Cora Bailey Award

Nancy retired in 1999. She immediately joined the Chatham Kent Branch of the Retired Women Teachers of Ontario. In the year 2000, she became second vice-president.. She also served as first vice-president and assistant insurance convener . Nancy was president for three years and insurance convener for three years. She retired from the executive in 2007,

Nancy has attended many conventions and assisted Pat Depencier in her role as Provincial Programme Convener.

Thank you for all your contributions, Nancy!

Congratulations!



Nancy is seen here with Barb Rose



## Membership

It is that time of year again when we think of getting things going for next year and membership with our group is no exception. Please be aware that

2014 - 2015 membership fees are due by September 30th, 2014. Members are asked to make any necessary revisions like addresses, emails or phone numbers on the form and return the form and fees to JoAnne Chrysler in an envelope. Your membership card will be available at the next meeting.

The forms will be available to our members at the June meeting.

Membership Convenor  
JoAnne Chrysler

## Ottawa 2014 Annual Convention

Our representatives this year were Jane Cartier, Edna Madill, and Sylvia Barnard. Many other members attended as well to enjoy the camaraderie of their fellow retired colleagues in a beautiful and relaxed setting. A detailed report will be included in the Fall Newsletter.



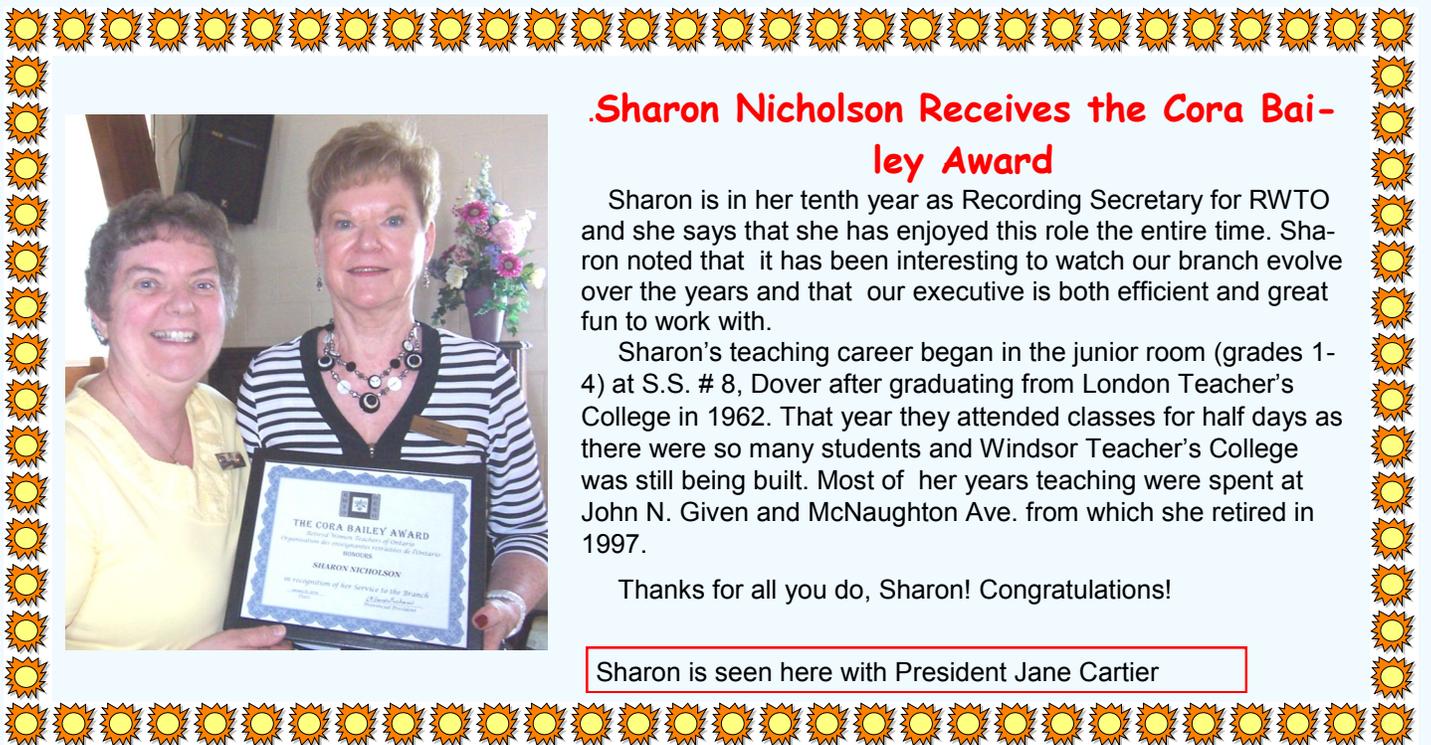
## BARN QUILTS: WOMEN AND THE WAR OF 1812

Those of us who have travelled along Highway #2 between Thamesville and Delaware have no doubt noticed and been impressed by the creative and colourful works of art known as "Barn Quilts" gracing the facades of not only barns, but business establishments.

Christine Crawford, our guest speaker at the Spring Meeting in Charing Cross, has been an integral part of barn quilt history.

Christine taught a total of seventeen years at both Dresden Area Central and McKeough Public School in Chatham, as well as doing a maternity leave in Bothwell. Besides enjoying reading, gardening, and of course, quilting, Christine is a very active lady: Currently she is secretary of the Thamesville Horticultural Society, and member of the Thamesville Improvement Association, Book Club, and Historical Society. She is also currently a Friend of the Tecumseh Monument and involved with a new Barn Quilt Trail being developed by the Chatham Quilt Guild.

We were pleased to have this knowledgeable and talented lady here to enlighten us on the topic of "Barn Quilts: Women and the War of 1812".



## Sharon Nicholson Receives the Cora Bailey Award



Sharon is in her tenth year as Recording Secretary for RWTO and she says that she has enjoyed this role the entire time. Sharon noted that it has been interesting to watch our branch evolve over the years and that our executive is both efficient and great fun to work with.

Sharon's teaching career began in the junior room (grades 1-4) at S.S. # 8, Dover after graduating from London Teacher's College in 1962. That year they attended classes for half days as there were so many students and Windsor Teacher's College was still being built. Most of her years teaching were spent at John N. Given and McNaughton Ave. from which she retired in 1997.

Thanks for all you do, Sharon! Congratulations!

Sharon is seen here with President Jane Cartier

## *From Our President Jane Cartier*



As my term as President comes to an end, I wish to thank all of you for the support you have given me over the past two years. Whether it has been saying grace, selling tickets, playing the piano, introducing or thanking speakers or honourees, selling books, visiting shut-ins, acting as “call girls”, working emails or any other role that has been taken on, all have made my job so much easier. Two consecutive Aprils with record setting attendance, the opportunity to work with the presidents of Area 3 and to interact with other retired teachers from across the province at convention, representing our branch at Remembrance Day ceremonies, and working with an absolutely fabulous executive have made the last two years fly by. So much of the work done by our executive is “behind the scenes”, but each and every member has a part to play. I firmly believe that we are so successful as a branch because everyone works well together. It is always difficult to center anyone out without making others feel overlooked, but a great deal of thanks is due to Lila as she ends her career as our treasurer. Thank you, Lila, for your years of dedication to us as you have shared your wealth of knowledge with all of us.

As I move forward into the next stage of life, I value the camaraderie that is so much a part of RWTO. It is a blessing that I am able to look forward to the imminent retirement of my husband and the continued interaction with my grandson, who is already over a year old. For those of you who are fortunate enough to have grandchildren, you will understand what this means. I wish all of you success in your future activities, anticipate working with you in the various RWTO endeavors in which we are engaged and offer my best wishes to our incoming President, Edna Madill.

## *The Editor's Line of Sight*

For better or for worse, this is the swan song of this editor's attempt to publish our newsletter. I have moved on to a new community, close to family and away from the memories of a life that no longer exists for me in Kent County. I am as surprised as many of my friends that I am removing myself from this community that has meant so much to me for so long.

I have purchased a home in Westport—north of Kingston—and a block from my daughter and her three girls. During the year, I have, once again taken up cooking, baking, walking, ice skating and hiking. I have also taken back laughing, sharing, sewing, hugging and kissing the people I love.

It is with a great sadness, that I say goodbye to the women of this particular group. You are strong, loving, kind and courageous and I have the utmost respect for what you have done in your lives and what you will do.

Come and visit me in Westport. The welcome mat will be a permanent fixture in my new life.

**Donna**

