

'CARING & SHARING & HAVING FUN'
RWTO/OERO NORTHUMBERLAND/SOUTH DURHAM BRANCH
CHRISTMAS 2014 NEWSLETTER - Issue Twenty-Five

CHRISTMAS MEETING - 2014

- WHEN:** Tuesday, December 9th
10:00 am - Registration/Social
10:30 am - Brief Business & Program
12:15 pm - Lunch
- WHERE:** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 131 Walton Street, Port Hope.
Use the south entrance. Parking in church lot south of Walton
off Pine St. S. or at front of the church on Walton.
- MEAL:** Chicken Breast Dinner - \$15.00
* Please let us know if you have special dietary needs.
- PROGRAM:** Guest Speaker - Marilyn Emmett, RWTO/OERO Provincial President
Soloist - Brenda Sullivan
Silent Auction during social time for gently used books (donations gratefully
received)
** Members may dress up in their festive Christmas dress or wear
Christmas colours.
- NOMINATIONS:** Will be received for the Cora Bailey Award for 2014.
- CHARITABLE DONATIONS:** 'Northumberland Giving Tree' - an unwrapped gift for a child
or a monetary donation. If a gift, please let the treasurer know its value as
the amount for our total charitable givings are to be recorded in our provincial
report.
- HOW TO RESPOND:** By December 3rd - Phone Bonnie Greer, 905 372 5886, Elaine
Doty, 905 983 5831, Joan Smith, 905 885 2528, or email Joan
joan.charlie@sympatico.ca if you will be attending.

If you know of a retired teacher who is not a member of RWT/OERO branch, or has just recently retired, please invite her to come to the meeting with you. Let the person that you contact know that you will be bringing someone with you.

FALL MEETING

The fall general meeting was held at Grafton United Church on September 29th. President Barbara Moorcroft welcomed new and returning members to the meeting. After the singing of our National Anthem, Barbara and Carolle Kennedy-Harding presented Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers with her past president's pin. Barbara expressed appreciation to Astrida for her work with our branch, especially her three years as president. Treasurer, Julia Esford, presented the 2014-2015 budget which was accepted as printed.

Fall Meeting (cont.'d)

Astrida and Carolle gave an amusing report on the 2014 Convention which was held in Ottawa. They felt that it was a well-organized convention and remarked on the excellent performance by the children's Chamber Choir, part of the entertainment. The resolution that was sent in by our branch was withdrawn as many cost saving suggestions were already planned to be implemented this year. Barbara Moorcroft and Barbara Northey will be our delegates for the 2015 Convention in Stratford. Jan Engel, our branch secretary, will prepare the article from our branch for the next Connections issue. If you are moving, please send your new address to Gloria Drake info@rwto.org or 1 877 607 6696. If you have email, you are encouraged to receive your Connections publication by email. Let Gloria know.

In her membership report, Vicki Cubitt encouraged us to bring any female retired teacher to our December 9th meeting. They can be from the elementary or secondary levels, public or private schools, colleges or universities. Any female teachers who retired as consultants, vice-principals, principals, superintendents or were directors of education are also welcomed. Folders have been prepared with pertinent information about our organization. Vicki also reported on our branch choir. If anyone is interested in singing, playing the piano or directing the choir, please contact Vicki (905 723 5114 or cobysummer@netscape.net). The choir needs 10-12 members to perform.

Karen Rynard, our new area director, was introduced. She is an excellent speaker from Durham North. She has had experience teaching students abroad, and is looking forward to connecting with all 5 branches in area 7. Karen said that RWTO exists because of volunteers. We only have one paid employee. She thanked all volunteers who stand by each other and make our branch work so well. Karen installed the officers of the branch executive. Our other speaker for the meeting was Terry Kennedy, a licenced insurance representative. She is a broker working for RWTO since 2001, not for Manulife. Her presentation was excellent about the RWTO insurance plans, stressing the open window for members and spouses to enrol in the Hospital and Home Care plan from Sept. 15th to November 15th. You still have a couple days to take advantage of this opportunity. See our fall newsletter for more details.

A delicious ham & scalloped potato harvest buffet was enjoyed by all. The president closed the meeting with a few announcements.

AREA 7 DIRECTOR'S MEETING

On September 30th Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers and Joan Smith attended the director's meeting at the home of Director, Karen Rynard. It was a very infomative meeting attended by representatives from four of the five branches of the district. Peterborough was unable to attend due to previous commitments. Bertha Breen, the provincial assistant insurance convener, gave an interesting power point presentation on the RWTO insurance plans. Karen reported that the RWTO Board of Directors has established an ad hoc committee to study the implications of extending membership to other retired women in education and to report back to the 2015 convention. As branches will be asked for their imput on the advantages and disadvantages, we will be discussing this. Each branch was asked to report what makes its branch tick? Many ideas were shared about programs, outreach and fun activities, archives, and how to get and keep members. We were reminded that RWTO will be celebrating its 60th

Anniversary in 2016.

It would be ideal if each branch could do something special to mark the occasion. Besides the Cora Bailey and Honorary Membership awards, the 'Feather-in-the-Hat' award was described. This award recognizes the hard work in outreach endeavours in your branch. All in all, it was a very good meeting.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

If you have not paid your 2014-2015 fees yet, please send them by **November 25th** to Julia Esford, 1268 Cherrydown Drive, Oshawa, ON L1H 7T2. Fees are **\$40** (if you retired before Aug. 31, 1980 - **\$15**) plus **\$5** branch fee. If you have the RWTO/OERO insurance, your fees must be up-to-date.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

- Breakfast Club:** **Third Thursday of the Month - 9:30 am** - Traditions Restaurant, 1053 Simcoe St., North, Oshawa. Everyone welcome to a social gathering - no business.
- Full Executive Meeting:** **Tuesday, December 9th** - after General Meeting.
- Spring Meeting:** **Tuesday, May 12th** - Maple Grove Grace United Church
- Annual Birthday Celebration:** **Tuesday, June 9th - 2:00pm** - Seasons Retirement Home, Bowmanville (formerly Kingsway)

HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS!