



# After the Bell

in Scarborough

Retired Women Teachers of Ontario  
Organisation des enseignantes retraitées de L'Ontario

Newsletter  
September 2020

*Caring and Sharing*

*Carol Nelson - President*



"We know that in September we will wander through the warm winds of summer wreckage. We will welcome the summer's ghost." (H. Rollings)

It is the beginning of a new year and it will bring many new things. We are still in the midst of the pandemic. Luncheons are cancelled, and we have no idea when we will meet again—maybe November? Maybe January? Maybe—who knows. However, the Branch Executive continues to work together to bring news to all of you. Thanks to all of you who have contributed anecdotes to this newsletter. Keep them coming to Cathie.

Membership forms are still coming in—thank goodness we still have at least one way to communicate. It is important that anyone who has the RWTO insurance needs to make sure that the membership fee is paid.

It is going to be difficult to find new members this year. Our usual plans include sharing our information of RWTO. Of course, the personal touch is probably the best way to tell others about our group. So, if you know anyone who may have retired, please let us know. A package of information will be sent to them and they will be sent Dispatches and Newsletters.

We are going to continue to keep in touch with everyone. Anyone who has news can contact any of us and we will share it with members. Don't forget to let Peggy know of any member in need a card for cheering up. Keep safe. Be well. Keep in touch. Hope to see you soon. Carol



Allergy Alerts to Shelley Goodman  
The Estate Banquet Centre  
430 Nugget Avenue  
(at Markham Road)  
Scarborough

**NEW MAILING ADDRESS**  
RWTO Scarborough,  
Huntingwood Postal Outlet  
P.O. Box 30042  
2355 Warden Ave.  
Scarborough, Ontario  
M1T 0A1

Please try to pay in advance for the next luncheon at the previous luncheon. If you are unable to attend, your cheque will be held for a future luncheon. This helps us with an accurate number of attendees and the Estate will be better able to accommodate your special needs.



There will NOT be a September Luncheon.

Please do not send any Luncheon cheques until such time as a Luncheon is planned.

Grace  
For food in a world  
Where many walk in hunger  
For faith in a world  
Where many walk in fear  
For fellowship  
Where many walk alone  
We give Thee thanks,  
O God  
Amen



Image by Cyber-Eric-Vector.  
Images from Pixabay



# RWTO ON THE GO

**NEW!** All buses will depart **PROMPTLY**. Park and pickup will be in the south lot of Kennedy Commons in front of the Foody grocery store, at the north end of the lot, right beside Antrim Road.

Paid reservations are **NON-REFUNDABLE**. Please let the coordinators know if you are unable to attend or are going to be late.

NOTE: Cheques for the excursions are to be made payable to Mary Morton Tours and forwarded to the coordinator of each excursion by the Payment Due Date.

Mary Morton Tours Presents **TICO #448872**

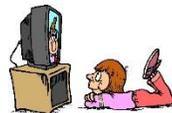
**Future trips will be planned when it is safe to do so.**

## THE ESTATE BANQUET CENTRE

is looking forward to having us return for our luncheon. However, until the Board of Health gives its permission, Jeet can only have a certain number of people in the banquet hall. We will keep you informed as to when it is available.

## WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING AT THE BRANCH LEVEL

- ❖ Brigitte Kolozsvary Bryan is now the chair of the Membership Committee. Christine Elliot has been collecting the mail at the post office. Please remember to send in your membership form if you have not sent it in. Linda collects them and sends the payment to the Province. Be sure to include the postal code when sending your cheque.
- ❖ Peggy Irwin is now looking after Goodwill. Please contact her if you know of someone who needs a card.
- ❖ Marg Lyons, Betty Caspersen and Janette McClure will be honoured for their dedication and many years of service to the Branch at the first meeting, whenever we meet.
- ❖ It was a sad day when we learned about Elaine Apted's death. Elaine had been an Executive member for many years. At first, she looked after the table centres and then worked with Connie to communicate information to the Branch members. She will be missed by all of us who knew and worked with her.
- ❖ Sad news: Linda Eggleston's husband passed away in August. Linda was a long-time member of the Branch and we would meet her at Stratford. Eleanor



## SOME THINGS I HAVE LEARNED FROM WATCHING TV

- Manitoulin Island is the largest island in the world. There are more than 100 inland lakes along its shores.
  - there used to be a grain elevator every seven miles in the Prairies because that was the distance a farmer and his horse could easily travel in one day.
  - the Mississippi River runs through ten American states.
  - Carcross Desert (in Alaska) is the smallest desert in the world.
  - a group of eagles is called a convocation.
  - female lobsters are called hens.
  - about 12% of Canadians are left-handed. Left-handers are likely to be more creative than right-handers. Right-handers are more visual thinkers.
  - coral reefs are home to about 25% of all ocean organisms even though they cover less than 1% of the ocean floor.
- Carol



## MEMBERSHIP

The RWTO 2020-2021 membership year begins **September 1, 2020 and ends August 31, 2021**. If you plan to renew and we hope that you do, please consider mailing your cheque now. The membership form is attached. The membership fee for 2020-2021 remains at **\$40** and is payable to **RWTO Scarborough Branch**.

Please send a **separate** cheque for your membership fee and note Membership on the envelope.

**If you have any questions regarding your payment, please contact Brigitte Kolozsvary Bryan at: [bbryan@look.ca](mailto:bbryan@look.ca)**

This is the mailing address for RWTO Scarborough.  
**RWTO Scarborough Branch**  
**Huntingwood Postal Outlet**  
**P.O. Box 30042**  
**2355 Warden Ave.**  
**Scarborough, ON**  
**M1T 0A1**

Many thanks to those ladies who have submitted their RWTO membership renewal. If you have not sent in your renewal, kindly do so asap. Please include the membership renewal form with your cheque of \$40.00. This saves time in backtracking.

**If you are unable to print out** a membership form please email Brigitte Bryan [bbryan@look.ca](mailto:bbryan@look.ca)

If you are not sure whether or not you have paid your \$40.00 or how many times you paid accidentally, please contact our treasurer, Linda Jarvis [linjar@rogers.com](mailto:linjar@rogers.com) Your membership renewal is especially important if you have insurance and wish to avoid it being cancelled.

Bridgette



**We will be celebrating our 80+ and 90+ ladies at a future luncheon.**  
**Pam Parsons**



## OUTREACH

Due to the Covid-19 situation, we were not able to shop for, organize and

deliver backpacks and school supplies for Julliette's Place this summer, a task that usually takes two to three days. We felt it would be unwise for us to do this at the moment.

Instead, our treasurer, Linda Jarvis, has issued a cheque to Julliette's Place in the amount of \$750 which is the amount that our branch normally gives us to purchase school related items for the children. The shelter will use this donation to buy the necessary items for the children who are currently in their care as well as for others who come to the shelter throughout the year.

Although we are disappointed at not being able to continue with this very worthwhile activity at this time, we are happy that the shelter will still benefit from our branch's generous donation.

Trudy Sutton and Sheila Meyer

## Area Director's Message

Welcome back to a year like no other for the members of Scarborough Branch. RWTO/OERO Executives across the Province are meeting in person and online to plan the safest way to offer programs to women like you and me. Many of us are not ready to attend an activity outside of our bubble. We are keeping in touch with phone calls, email and cards. The RWTO/OERO Provincial Board meets this month on Zoom to discuss motions and approve last year's minutes. Personally, I have stayed connected to my ukulele friends with a jam on Zoom every Tuesday evening. Gary and I visit our grandchildren online but miss those hugs. I hope you have found ways to stay fit, eat well and enjoy friendship.

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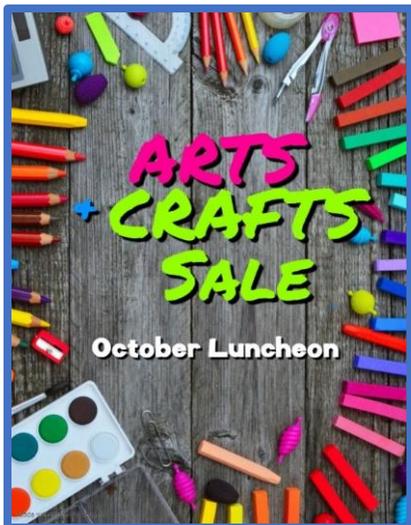
- > Judy Anderson
- > Area 5 Director
- > RWTO/OERO

# Welcome

**to our newest members**

Anna Bloom  
Gloria Hutchinson  
Rita McGill  
Mary Wahrer  
Margaret White

Lynne Houser  
Janet King  
Louise Sloan  
Susan Powell  
Claire Boyes



The Art & Craft Sale will NOT be taking place this year. We look forward to celebrating our talented members next year.

Program Committee



## PENDING LUNCHEONS

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 -Cancelled

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

The Executive is happy to hear that The Estate Banquet Hall will continue to be our luncheon venue when it is safe to do so, with direction from the Public Health. You will receive information regarding this, from the Executive.

The cost for the luncheons will be \$41. With the loss of business during the pandemic and rising costs, this is to be expected. The Estate management is always very dependable and accommodates the needs of our members each luncheon.

RWTO Scarborough Executive

## COMMUNICATIONS



**Update your contact info!**

We try to keep our members informed on a regular basis. The Newsletter, monthly Luncheon Dispatches and special notices, such as bereavement notices, are sent out by e-mail to those members who have provided an email address on their membership form.

Those who don't have e-mail are telephoned with the information from

the Dispatches and special notices, thanks to our team of phoners. The Dispatch goes out on the 28th of the month previous to the luncheon. The Newsletter goes out the Friday preceding the scheduled luncheon date. Please keep us informed of e-mail and telephone number changes. Please contact: Connie Cole- [ed.cole@sympatico.ca](mailto:ed.cole@sympatico.ca)

Thank you, Communications Team- Connie Cole, Cathie MacGillivray.

## HELPING US KEEP IN TOUCH

Many of our members are self-isolating and live alone. Take a few minutes to reach out and give them a call to see how they are doing. A huge "SHOUT OUT" to Charlotte for her many phone calls and jokes for us, at a time we need it most. Your Caring and Sharing has made our days so much better.

## PROVINCIAL NEWS

- There was no annual meeting in June. However, there was a virtual meeting. Linda Jarvis, Trudy Sutton, Sheila Meyer and Carol Nelson participated in this.
- Nancy Papiez, from Hamilton, is the new Provincial President. Nancy's message is included in this newsletter.
- Judy Drummond was elected as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President at the Provincial level.
- The RWTO York North Branch has closed. We are welcoming several of their members to the Scarborough Branch.

## A REMINDER

You will receive a regular RWTO Scarborough Newsletter each month. There will not be a Dispatch until such time as a Luncheon is planned.

# In the Spotlight

## Joan Watson



Bio: Joan Teresa Watson of the Toronto Argo Dancers – The Argoettes

I auditioned for The Shellettes- the Toronto Argonaut majorettes-dancers in the Shell building in downtown Toronto in 1959. I was 16 years old. My Aunt Thelma took me to the audition. I forget why. She waited 3 hours for me. They asked me to demonstrate my abilities in tap dancing, baton twirling, ballet, modern jazz and acrobatics. It was done on a large piece of plywood put down over carpet. The original Argo dancer, Audrey Wells (nee: May?) started performing in the 1930's. She formed the Argo corps of dancers in 1957. They appeared at Varsity Stadium. In 1959 the Argos moved to the new Canadian National Exhibition Stadium. This is where I began. I was # 13. What turned into a best friend to this day was # 12. I was a bridesmaid at Diana's wedding circa 1961. At pre-game time The Shellettes marched up and down the field with the band. For half-time we were central to a huge group of performers following a different theme each game day: western;

circus; military; Christmas; etc. Over time we had 3 different uniforms and 4 different names. Malabar costumers loved us.

Besides the Argo games we performed at the Quebec Winter Carnival twice, The O 'Keefe Centre, High Park, The C N E Bandshell, The Grey Cup Parade, etc. Some of us had other gigs around the City: The C N E Grandstand Show; The Power Show; The Fur Show; Club Top Hat, back-up dancer for the George Burns TV appearance; etc.

Because of this group I met some noteworthy entertainers of the day: Bob Hope; Robert Goulet (Amazing blue eyes); The Smothers Brothers; Bobby Vinton (He kissed my cheek.); Sid Caesar; George Burns; Stanley Holloway; Bobby Curtola; Billy Van; etc.

Although the Argo dance group disbanded circa 1965, we are still together: small cliques; a yearly reunion. Being in the majorettes saved my life. Kept me on the straight and narrow. Over the years I graduated high school, became an elementary school teacher in Scarborough, Montreal, formed many of my own dance groups, got my degree at night and summer school, traveled to England (several times to visit my Pen Pal family), and to Scotland, France, Sardinia, Greece, Italy, Germany, Austria, St. Pierre, Miquelon, BC, MB, NB, NS, PEI, Florida, south to Oklahoma, Tunisia (twice), Bulgaria, was President of the Retired Women Teachers (Scarborough), received a diagnosis for MS, got married. Love my life.



A man died and went to Heaven. As he stood in front of the Pearly Gates, he saw a huge wall of clocks behind him. He asked, "What are all those clocks for?" St. Peter answered, "Those are Lie - Clocks. Everyone who has ever been on earth has a Lie-Clock.

Every time you lie, the hands on your clock move." "Oh", said the man. "Whose clock is that?" "That's Mother Teresa's", replied St. Peter. "The hands have never moved, indicating that she never told a lie." "Incredible", said the man. "And whose clock is that one?" St. Peter responded, "That's Abraham Lincoln's clock. The hands have moved twice, telling us that Abraham told only two lies in his entire life."

"Where's Donald Trump's clock?" asked the man. St. Peter replied, "We're using it as a ceiling fan."

## INSURANCE REPORT

- ✚ Please remember that you must be a member of RWTO if you wish to continue with the insurance plan. Cathie has created a 'business card' where you can put the plan number and your name. This information will be readily available to family members.
- ✚ First-year retirees can join the Home and Hospital plan immediately upon retiring. If you know someone who has recently retired, please let me know (Carol) and I will mail the brochure and membership form to her.
- ✚ If you have used the insurance, please make sure that you submit your receipts (copies are okay). Send every receipt—the person who is looking after your claim may be able to find things that you have missed. Fill in as much information as you can.

### Insurance Claims Address

MANULIFE  
PO BOX 670,  
Stn. Waterloo,  
Waterloo, ON  
N2J 4B8  
TERRY KENNEDY 519-583-0098  
or email: [tkennedy34@bell.net](mailto:tkennedy34@bell.net)

## MESSAGE FROM PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT—NANCY PAPIEZ

Greetings fellow members RWTO/OERO. I am very pleased to serve as the Provincial President this year. It is certainly an honour and privilege to be entrusted to this position.

I would like to thank my Branch, my friends in Hamilton-Wentworth, who have encouraged and supported me in various positions at the Branch and Provincial levels. I hold you near and dear to my heart.

I would like to thank the Provincial Board of Directors, those who have served in the past and those who are currently on the Board. You have been wonderful role models. You've really inspired me.

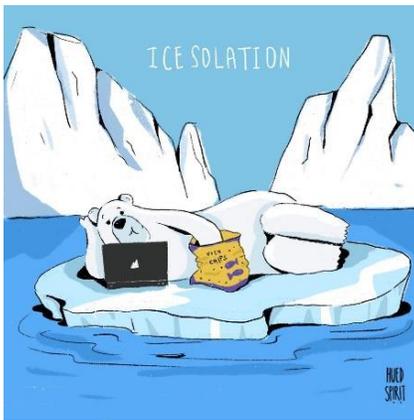
This year is going to be different. It is going to be a challenge. Due to Covid 19 we are subject to social distancing. Our meetings and social gatherings have been curtailed.

More than ever we need to MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP, so canvas. Make those phone calls. More than ever, we need to STAY CONNECTED, so reach out and support.

More than ever, we need to support new ways of co in virtual meetings and fun get-togethers. There is help for technology. Provincial is providing on-line interactive workshops that will be available to all Branches throughout the year.

*Maintaining Membership, Staying Connected and Embracing Technology are vital to keeping our organization strong and thriving not only during this pandemic but into the future.*

As Provincial President, I will work hard to support and stay connected with Membership. I will work hard to lead the Provincial Board of Directors on a path to accomplishing new goals. I will do my best to ensure this wonderful organization of ours, of Retired Women Teachers, remains alive and vibrant. Be well and stay safe.  
Nancy



## WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

**Linda Jarvis** - I have been doing a ton of baking (much more than usual) for my seniors and they are loving it. I have also made several afghans which I am giving to "special" people. On Mondays I help my nephew by babysitting and I am playing teacher for a very co-operative six year old girl and a four year old boy who says he isn't going to school so you know how that is going.

**Linda Brent** - I have been busy with Community Theatre and trying to put plans in place for when we are able to once again rehearse, get back into creating theatre magic for our many patrons, AND making sure we do it in a safe and timely manner.

**Cathie MacGillivray** – I have cleaned out every closet, double hung two, baked (and eaten) much more than usual, met many new neighbours and completed eleven – 1000-piece puzzles. I have also had the time to learn new computer and technical skills.

**Lilli Chu** – I have been learning lots of new tech, taking yoga classes online, borrowing books from the library using an app, and learning how to chat face-to-face with my kids on the computer. Online shopping has been fun and home delivery is so convenient. I have been gardening (I've never weeded so much before!), sewing masks, trying new recipes and of course lots of TV and Netflix movies.  
It's great to share meals with my kids now and start seeing more family and friends.

**Allison Chase** - I volunteer on several Boards and have been participating in Zoom meetings. I have been missing the refreshments that would normally be at the in-person meetings, so I've been trying to convince those in charge that Uber Eats is an option. So far, the only response has been laughter.

**Jeannie Tom** - I joined Facebook to have access to educational webinars, reconnect with friends and acquaintances from 'downhome', and enjoy 'downhome' musical entertainment. It became a blessing in disguise for connectivity with the world during this pandemic!

Within the last two weeks, I had the distinct pleasure of being a volunteer virtual patient at Sinai Health. I worked with two groups of second year medical students and their rheumatology tutors. They interviewed me in order to develop their clinical skills and gather medical history. They commented, having learned much from my sharing of my complex journey. They were impressed with my medical knowledge and disease management options, using relevant medical terminology.

I usually do this annual community volunteerism, in-person. A win-win scenario working with the next generation of doctors!

**Bridgette Kolozsvary Bryan** - A couple of times per week I phone someone. The person may be a friend or simply someone who lives alone.

**Connie Cole** – "Canadian designer Shania Sunga has designed a 13 block Canadian themed quilt to help us celebrate Canada's 150th birthday on July 1, 2017. I finally finished the quilt 3 years after the 150th but it was worth every moment of hand applique, machine assembly and hand quilting."



**Sharon Green** - Well, some deep cleaning has happened, I thought it was my spring cleaning but perhaps it was my fall! I have also been gardening and quilting but miss my book supply and visiting with friends.

**Louise Gough** - During the pandemic I have been very busy sewing Scrub sets for the Scarborough Health Network. I have also made hundreds of masks for family and friends.  
'Saving the world with my sewing machine!'

**Shirley MacDonald** - Greetings to all RWTO Scarborough members. Thanks to my trusty phone and computer, I have been keeping in touch with family and friends during this time of "uncertainty". My network of e-mail friends has surprised me each day with informative e-mails and jokes. Then I forward them to others to brighten their day. Let's hope this pandemic will soon be over with a vaccine!

**Helen Sharpe** – I have been learning to manage hearing aids, acquired in the first week of March when I was the only client in the clinic, having driven there on strangely empty roads. I'm hoping to be able soon to discover their usefulness in a social group of more than three people. Adapting to online banking is something I had previously refused to consider. I appreciate more than ever the blessings of telephone and email technologies and reveling in the huge increase in time in the garden. Reading, reading, reading . . .

**Sheila Myer** –



My husband, Gary, who is an avid musician, has been wanting me to take up a musical instrument for many years so I finally did! Since March, he has been teaching me to play the bass. It's not a big upright bass but rather a mini acoustic bass guitar, similar but easier to handle. We play mostly bluegrass

and country music with a couple of Gordon Lightfoot tunes as well. Believe it or not, I now have a repertoire of forty-five songs which I can play with his help. He says I'm his best student....not exactly a big compliment when you're his only student but I'll take what I can get! We are both enjoying our daily sessions, with Gary on his guitar and me on the bass, since jams with friends and music festivals are some of the things that we have really missed during the pandemic.

**Carol Everitt** -Happiness is having a friend who trained as a hairdresser in her youth. Even better she lived in Liverpool and had tales to tell about seeing the Beatles at the Cavern and having Gerry Marsden (Gerry and the Pacemakers) as a neighbour. What a beautiful environment! I may never go back to the salon!

Every morning, when I walk my dog, Carly, I take along a bag of bird seed and a bag of peanuts. My little friends come to greet me daily, the squirrels, birds, chipmunks. Their presence brightens my day and renews my spirit, giving me a positive start each morning, helping me to face each day with a smile

**Pam Parsons** - "I have been eating very healthy since I'm cooking for myself all the time, as opposed to eating out at least two times a week. I have been walking almost every day, lifting weights and doing yoga and have lost weight. I have been going through all the "paper" in my house and getting rid of it as well as going through my clothes and all the other "stuff" that has been accumulating over the years. I am decluttering and it feels good. I have spent part of June, July and August mainly at the cottage and have done lots of swimming (doing lengths), my main exercise for the summer."



She was in the bathroom, putting on her makeup, under the watchful eye of her young granddaughter, as she had done many times before. After she applied her lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forget to kiss the toilet paper goodbye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper goodbye.

## GOODWILL

A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Barbara Welch. In July, a donation was made to The Odette Cancer Centre in memory of Elaine Apted, who passed away in June. In August, a bereavement card went out to Eleanor Dobbs, a "Thinking of You" card was sent to Patsy Jordan and her family, and a "Get Well" card was sent to Barbara Will. I am happy to be doing this life-affirming task on behalf of RWTO Scarborough. It is very fulfilling.

Peggy Irwin

## INFO FOR NEW MEMBERS

### ALLERGIES AND DIET RESTRICTIONS

If you have food allergies or dietary restrictions, it is important that we know about these so that accommodations can be made for you. We need to have the information BEFORE the luncheon. Please call Shelley Goodman at 416-491-1683 or e-mail her at [shelley.goodman@sympatico.ca](mailto:shelley.goodman@sympatico.ca) to let her know about these allergies or restrictions. She will confirm the change with you once you have advised her. If fruit for dessert is the only change you require, then you will not have to inform her every month. This will be done automatically. Please keep Shelley informed if there are changes during the year. We want to ensure that you enjoy each lunch! Shelley Goodman

### LOOKING FOR NEW RETIREES

Please send names and contact information for any friends and colleagues you know who have retired this summer! We would like to send them information and invitations!

Contact- Linda Jarvis at [linjar@rogers.com](mailto:linjar@rogers.com)

or Bridgette Kolozsvary Bryan at [bbryon@look.ca](mailto:bbryon@look.ca)