



Stratford Branch

rwtostatford@gmail.com

May, 2021



President's Message

Ode to RWTO/OERO Stratford Branch

"When the times are tough the tough get going."

I grew up in a household where adages were often quoted and lived by.

In preparing to write this I thought about our year(s) of Covid-19. It has indeed been a tough time. Yet as I look through this newsletter I see that the Stratford Branch has been a going concern.

Our multiple zoom meetings have kept many of our activity groups going and growing.

Special events like our 12 Days of Christmas Food Drive, Valentine Cookies, donations to important

organizations and sending cards/ making phone calls to members has emphasized our ongoing commitment to Caring and Sharing.

A shoutout to our executive who took the lead on these activities. You are an awesome team to work with.

Most importantly a BIG THANKS to our membership who have participated in these activities and special thanks to the many who sent positive feedback after our events.

Another adage that I often think of is: "Without HOPE the people perish"!

We must keep hope alive, reach out to one another and most of all Stay Healthy and Be Safe!

Cheryl Strickland

RWTO/OERO Branch President



Sharing and Caring in our community



*12 Days of Christmas Food drive for House of Blessing

*Porch pickup of items needed at the Emily Murphy Center

Donations to:

*The Local Community Food Centre

* House of Blessing *Shelterlink *Emily Murphy Center

* "heartfelt thank-you"
Valentine cookie gift bags were made & delivered to the workers at CedarCroft Place Retirement Residence



Celebrating

Milestone Birthdays

Flowers & Cards were sent to

Betty Mullin
for her 90th birthday on
January 7th

and

Donna MacDonald
who celebrated her 100 birthday
on April 23rd.

Best wished to these two Life Members.



Staying Connected with **zoom**

Your executive has met regularly by Zoom and our branch has held two virtual general meetings. Thanks to our president, Cheryl, for her efforts in facilitating these meetings and for assisting many of our groups to hold virtual meetings.

Knookers Hub Club Walkie Talkies

Cinema Cinners

Teacher's Pets & Chapter 2 Book Clubs

For more information or to join a group email
rwtostatford@gmail.com



A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

When my young grandson called to wish me a Happy Birthday, he asked me how old I was. I told him, 70. He was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"



Remembering

Judith Tye (1953-2019)

Fern Wickenhauser (1935-2019)

Trish Brooks (1949-2020)

Lauretta Wheatley (1940-2020)

Helen Anderson (1932-2020)

Margaret Mountain (1918-2020)

View our memorial tribute at:

<https://animoto.com/play/BC8QC1zm667w7g5RhFGUdg>



Renew

Your Membership for 2021/22
Membership fee of
\$45.00

is due on September 1st and can be paid by mailing a cheque to our treasurer, Pat Laing. using the enclosed envelope

OR
by etransfer to rwtostat@gmail.com

Be an Early Bird

For a chance to **WIN**

Memberships received by July 15th will be entered in a draw for a \$25.00 gift card.

Contact Pat Laing if you have any questions.

p.laing@aol.com 519-305-0975

Happy St Patrick's Day!

This year, 15 members donned their green & Irish bling to celebrate via **Zoom** with Irish games, soda bread and Guinness. Join us next year in person!



Insurance Matters

Exciting changes to your RWTO Manulife Hospital and Homecare Plan.

*Every insured member who has the insurance plan will be issued with a new Manulife Hospital and Homecare Identification Card.

*The Hospital and Homecare plan identification number on the front of the card is 17777C

*Every insured member also has a unique ID number.

*The manulife.ca/secureserve website is there for you to register your information, and review your contact details.

*Soon you will be informed when you can submit claims online and register for direct deposit. You may also

continue to submit claims using the current paper copy.

*The phone number on the back of your new card 1- 877- 222- 7340, is a dedicated number for RWTO members to contact a service representative who will promptly answer any questions you may have.

*The brochure is getting an update and will be available shortly on the RWTO/OERO website.

*A new printed brochure will be available in the future.

*The cost of insurance coverage has not changed.

Please contact your Stratford Branch Insurance convenor, **Amanda Nawn**, if you require a brochure, application form, or a claim form.

amandanawn@gmail.com,
call or text 647-668-8208

Calling all Knookers

The Knookers have been meeting monthly by Zoom and are looking forward to the warmer weather and opportunities for some outside, distanced "Knooking".

Presently, at the request of the hospital, some of us are making octopi/ jellyfish (for the premies). If you are interested in knitting or crocheting some of these adorable sea creatures or joining the group to share a project you are currently working on, contact:

Joan Tettman tettjoan@gmail.com



Cinema Ciners

Movies to Watch on Netflix

The Guernsey Literary Potato Peel Society

The Fundamentals of Caring

Ma Rainey's Black Bottom

Our Souls at Night



All are welcome!

Members watch the chosen movie before meeting on ZOOM to discuss the movie. ZOOM meetings are the first Wednesday of each month
Contact: Vivienne Young viv.y@rogers.com
Karen Franke karenfranke2@gmail.com



Keeping Connected Outdoors



**Book Club
Summer Reading Suggestions**

The Lightkeepers Daughters by Jean E. Pendziwol
Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore by Robin Sloan
The Alice Network by Kate Quinn
Medicine Walk
 by Richard Wagamese
Educated by Tara Westover



The Dutch House by Ann Patchett

The Glass Hotel
 by Emily St John Mandel

Rare Objects by Kathleen Tessaro

All Things Consoled: A Daughter's Memoir
 by Elizabeth Hay

Old Baggage: A Novel by Lissa Evans.



**2021
Cora Bailey Recipients**

Congratulations and thank you for your outstanding contributions to the Stratford Branch



Dianne Kearney

Stratford Branch President
2014-2016
Goodwill Convenor

Joan Tettman

Stratford Branch President
2018-2020

Knookers coordinator

Emily Murphy porch pickups



Janice Ward

Goodwill Convenor
Gamers Convenor
Coordinates outdoor walks during Covid 19



A warm



To our newest member

Sara Kinsman



We hope you will join one of our groups and look forward to meeting you in person soon.

OUR INVITATION

All retired women teachers are welcome to join our branch regardless of where or for how long they taught.

Do you know a retired woman teacher?

Why not ask her to join our group?

If you have a friend who is interested in joining let us know and she will be contacted with more information.

Contact: Joyce Speake, Membership Convenor
 jspeake204@gmail.com 519-273-6819

