

CARING & SHARING

Retired Women Teachers of Ontario—Windsor-Essex Branch



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President's Message

It's 2021 and Spring is here!

We have celebrated Valentine's Day, International Women's Day, a Day of Observance recognizing one year living with the COVID-19 pandemic, World Health Day, the 100th birthday of Kay Bickerton, and Easter. We have celebrated our own birthdays, birthdays of family and friends. We have welcomed new births and have mourned the loss of loved ones. Reasons to celebrate continue and new ways to celebrate have been created. We have become active technology users. We have learned to be wise and discriminating users setting limits and recognizing the value of 'turning off and tuning in.'

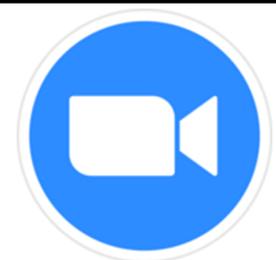


“Let's continue building the new together.”

In Caring & Sharing
Linda White -- President

ZOOM With Us

Downloading the **Zoom App** (zoom.us) will open up many possibilities for RWTO connection such as the **Spring Luncheon** and other workshops. Instructions are straightforward but seeking the assistance of friends or family may be helpful. Branch meetings on Zoom are set up to reflect security best practices (including meeting passwords and waiting rooms). Many short articles or YouTube videos can be found on the internet by searching: “Zoom For Beginners”. Looking forward to “seeing” you.



SPRING: a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be.

2021 Elections

Your 2020 Executive has agreed to remain in their present positions except for Lowanna Closs who will remain on the Social committee under the new Chairperson, Anna Campigotto.

The position of 2nd Vice President, Newsletter Convenor and Issues and Concerns Convenor remain open and nominations may be directed to rwto.oero.we@gmail.com.

Please consider joining a most energetic, dedicated and congenial Executive. There is a tremendous amount of experience available to help you ease into a position.

We are all volunteers and do our best “Caring & Sharing”

Your continued support and participation is appreciated and certainly necessary to maintain our Windsor-Essex Branch.

Insurance

With Spring comes new changes and Manulife is bringing something new to insured members and spouses with the Home and Hospital Plan. Benefit Identification cards will be issued and they will be mailed in April. This will make it easier to have your information at hand and accessible.

A reminder to members to be sure you have received your tax receipt from Manulife and have included it in your tax submission. The receipts are available online. A hard copy has been mailed to you as well. If you have changed your address in the past year, make certain that you have advised Manulife to ensure you receive it.

Marilyn Harvey - - Insurance Convenor

In Memoriam

“The best teachers, teach from the heart, not from the book.”

~Author Unknown



Elaine Breault

1935 – December 25, 2020

Our Branch membership would like to express condolences to the family of **Elaine Breault**.

A donation of a children’s book to a local public library will be made in her memory.

Social Committee Update

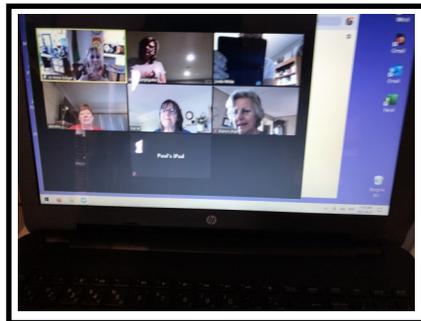
“ Spring Has Sprung -- Stay Forever Young “

Our COVID-19 Card Campaign remains ongoing for our 80+ members.

Winners of the Treasure Chest Draw to date are :

Christmas
Valentine’s Day
Easter

Judy Kreibich
Jo Skuza
Ruth Hicks



The draw for our 80+ Tea members is scheduled for June 14th, 2021. Unfortunately, we will not be able to meet in person at Seasons for our Annual Tea and luncheon this year. Your Social Committee has planned something unique in lieu of this event that we hope will make you smile !

Once the province receives the ALL CLEAR , we will look forward to motivating all of our members with interesting in person activities, and day and overnight trips once again.

In loving sisterhood,
Lowanna Closs & Social Committee

Spring Luncheon

It's time to reinstate our Luncheons but like so many other things, we have to do it a little differently. **A Virtual Spring Luncheon is being planned**

for Wednesday, May 5th, 2021 at 11:30 am.

We will include some time to socialize, entertainment, brief business meeting, time to eat, special awards and our Cash Draw (see below).

A Zoom reminder will be sent the weekend prior and the invitation will be sent out ½ hour to 1 hour prior to the Luncheon (10:30- 11:00 am).

Prepare your lunch, get comfy in your favourite chair and bring your smile. Be ready to share some camaraderie with your fellow sisters.

Let's " Eat, Drink & Be Merry in May "

Spring Cash Draw

All members who participate in any of our Branch Zoom activities qualify for this special draw. Your name is put in the draw for every Zoom you join in.

**The draw will take place at our
Virtual Spring Luncheon – Wednesday, May 5, 2021
at 11:30 am**

There will be 3 Cash winners :

- 1st place - \$50.**
- 2nd place- \$25.**
- 3rd place - \$25.**



Treasurer's Update

Big news! We continue to stay connected with technology. You will soon be able to pay your membership dues through e-transfers, starting this year from May 1-June 30, 2021. Just send a message to let me know you wish to do this and I will send you the information.

Please use this email address - RWTO.Treasurer6@gmail.com

You will still be able to pay by cheque. Details will follow.

Karen Clark-Lauzon -- Treasurer

6 Ingredient Beer Bread Recipe

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 Tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon table salt
2-4 tablespoons granulated sugar
Can of light beer
2 tablespoons melted butter



1. Preheat oven to 375°F.
2. Place parchment paper in aluminum loaf pan.
3. In large bowl whisk together the 4 dry ingredients.
4. Pour in the beer and stir just to combine.
5. Spoon batter into lined loaf pan.
6. Drizzle with the melted butter.
7. Bake for 45-55 minutes.
8. Cool bread for 5 minutes, place onto a wire rack.
9. Slice the bread slightly warm & serve.

Riddle Time

First member to provide all three correct answers wins a \$10.00 Gift Card

Phone number : 519 969-7345

E-mail : rwto.oero.we@gmail.com

Riddle #1 – Penny has 5 children. The first is named January. 2nd child is February. Her third is called March. The fourth is April . What is the name of the 5th.

Riddle#2 – What appears once in every minute, twice in every moment, but not once in a thousand years?

Riddle #3 – There are 5 sisters in the room. Ann is reading a book. Margaret is cooking. Kate is playing chess. Mary is doing laundry. What is the fifth sister doing?

Centennial Celebration



Primary classes often mark the 100th day of school with great celebration. Our Branch had the distinct opportunity to mark the

100th birthday of Catherine (Kay) Bickerton

on Sunday March 7, 2021.

Kay's 40 year teaching career began at S.S. #7 Maidstone then continued with the Windsor Board of Education teaching at Marlborough School, King George School (Note: George V was monarch when Kay was born) and King Edward School. She worked

with older elementary students ending her career as the library teacher.

Accolades arrived by email from near and far when former students recognized Kay's tribute in the Windsor Star. Some mentioned how she introduced them to literature, which had a lifetime impact on them through her influence.

Many of our Branch RWTO members sent birthday cards (and can continue to do so). On the day of her birthday, members met in over 20 cars, many with decorative signs and balloons to parade around the front entrance of Chartwell Oak Park LaSalle, honking horns and cheering for Kay. Wrapped in a warm blanket, Kay came outside in the sunshine, shining brightly as she greeted those applauding for her.

Kay was showered with surprise gifts from Provincial RWTO, our local Windsor-Essex RWTO Branch and the Social Committee treasure chest. Carol Petryshyn and Margaret Campeau planned a safe car rally and applied for certificates from dignitaries and officials in recognition of Kay's milestone birthday.

Upon returning to her room, which resembled a florist shop, Kay was surrounded by many other emblems of love and the warm glow of knowing that despite the world situation she is celebrated for 100 years of being awesome.



Goodwill Report

Our Branch is frequently reaching out to our more senior members despite the ban on personal visits to care facilities at this time. A dedicated group of members called the *Forget Me Nots* volunteer to take on this rewarding endeavour in order to maintain a connection with our long time members. Cards, calls and gifts have been sent to cheer up the winter days.

Val Luscott -- Goodwill Convenor

Membership Matters

A big thank you goes out to all the members who renewed their membership for 2020 -2021. We presently have 253 Members, 18 Life Members and 8 Associate members.

If this pandemic has taught us anything, it is how important it is to keep in touch. On that note --- **please let us know if there are any changes in your information** --- a change of address, phone number, email, etc.

Arlene Veitch -- Membership Convenor

Monthly Book Chat

As the 2021 began, Windsor-Essex RWTO members have been invited to a monthly **Book Chat**. These one hour Zoom meetings occur on the **second Wednesday of each month at 10:30a.m.** Not to be confused with a Book Club (where members meet and discuss the same book), our **Book Chats** are an informal gathering to speak in a general way about any book that members are currently reading or have recently read. Many new genres and authors have been presented with members getting new ideas about possibilities for their personal reading material, all shared in the caring way of our members. After the **Book Chat**, those in attendance receive a summary of the day's presentations. Please sample a monthly **Book Chat** to share something you are reading or simply to listen in and pick up reading ideas.

Patricia Wales -- First Vice President



RWTO/OERO 65th Convention 2021 Program of Events

EVENTS for DELEGATES (*Italics*)

OPEN EVENTS for ALL MEMBERS (Bold Print)



Tuesday June 1, 2021

Morning - **RWTO/OERO Virtual Song**
Keynote Address—Nancy Papiez
Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Afternoon *Workshops*

Workshops will be available to all members on the Website after the Convention

Cooking Demonstration

The Hospital and Home are Claim Form Workshop

Treasurer's Workshop

Using Colour Coding to Enhance Genealogy Research

Wander Food and Wine

Let's Do PR

(Detailed information can be found in the March 2021 *Connections*)

Evening **Live entertainment by comedian Joe Pillitteri**

Wednesday June 2, 2021

Morning *Annual General Meeting (AGM)*

Virtual Tours—Explore a destination, Plan a future adventure

Women, Wine & Fashion—Virtual Fashion show

by Anne's on the Avenue

Evening **Glamour Evening with The Liverpool 4—Canada's Beatles Tribute**

Thursday June 3, 2021

Morning *Annual General Meeting (AGM)*

1:00 pm

In Memoriam

Over 90 Recognition

Awards Ceremony—Barbara Bain /Feather In Your Hat

Honorary Membership

Closing Ceremonies

Call to Convention 2022