



After the Bell

in Scarborough

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

Newsletter
June 2021

Caring and Sharing

Carol Nelson - President



"Far up in the deep blue sky...Great white clouds are floating by.... All the world is dressed in green.... Many happy birds are seen.....Roses bright.... Sunshine clear.... Show that lovely June is here" F.G.Sanders

Our Scarborough Branch would not be a viable Branch without the volunteers that work effortlessly every year. Each Executive position for 2021-2022 has a name beside it---thanks!

Yes, many of these people have volunteered in that role for many years. They continue to be involved in all aspects of our Branch. Yes, we do 'advertise' every year for volunteers to fill Executive positions. Some of our members just come back because they enjoy working with each other to bring exciting programs to members.

"Volunteers don't get paid because they are worthless, but they are priceless." (Sherry Anderson)

Thank you to all of our volunteers and that includes every member who steps up to the plate on many occasions during a luncheon or trip.

"Take a moment to appreciate your awesome you --- Yea!!!!

CORRECTION

Joan Watson was the Branch President in 2006-2007. The date will be changed in the 2021 Cora Bailey write-ups. The mistake will be sent to the Province and my Branch records will be changed.

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 linjar47@gmail.com

or Brigitte Kolozsvary Bryan at bbryan@look.ca

ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



COMMUNICATION

If your e-mail or phone number changes, please contact:

Connie Cole- Communications Chair 2020-2021
ed.cole@sympatico.ca

KEEPING IN TOUCH



All of our members are self-isolating during the lockdown and many live alone. With the third wave of Covid 19 still with us, it is more important than ever to maintain contact. Take a few minutes to reach out and give someone a call to see how they are doing. Your Caring and Sharing will make someone's day so much better.

GOODWILL

A sympathy card was sent to Stacey and Megan Green & their families. They are the daughters of Sharon Green, one of our members, who passed away in her 73rd year, after a brief illness. She was well known to many of our membership, as the Special Education Consultant for the Scarborough Board, and was held in esteem by those who worked with her.

Peggy

Thank you to those ladies who renewed their RWTO membership promptly for 2020-21. Due to the pandemic, there will be no luncheons this spring. However, it is time to consider renewing your membership for 2021-22. We hope that all of you will do this. Your renewal is essential in order to maintain your Manulife insurance.

Please include your completed membership form together with your cheque for \$40.00, payable to RWTO Scarborough Branch. This will help Brigitte to make sure that the records are up to date.

Please postdate your cheque July 1, 2021 or August 15, 2021. This will give Linda time to process it before payment is due at the provincial office.

For those who do not have a printer, please contact Brigitte and she will mail you a copy of the Membership Form.

If you have any questions regarding your payment, please contact:
Brigitte Kolozsvary Bryan at: 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

A hip young man goes out and buys the best car available: a brand-new Ferrari 550. It is also the most expensive car in the world, and it costs him \$500,000. He takes it out for a spin and stops for a red light.

An old man (about 75 years old) on a moped pulls up next to him. The old man looks over at the sleek, shiny new car and asks, "What kind of car ya got there, sonny?"

The young man replies, "A Ferrari 550. It cost half a million dollars!"

"That's a lot of money," says the old man. "Why does it cost so much?"

"Because this car can do up to 320 miles an hour!" states the young dude proudly. The old man asks, "Mind if I take a look inside?" "No problem," replies the owner.

So, the old guy pokes his head in the window and looks around. Then, sitting back on his moped, he says, "That's a pretty nice car, all right... but I'll stick with my moped!"

Just then the light changes, so the young guy decides to show the old man just what his car can do. He floors it, and within 30 seconds the speedometer reads 160 mph. Suddenly, he notices a dot in his rear-view mirror.

It seems to be getting closer! He slows down to see what it could be, and suddenly, WHHHOOOOSSSHHH! something whips by him, going much faster.

What on earth could be going faster than my Ferrari?! the young man asks himself. He floors the accelerator and takes the Ferrari up to 250 mph. Then, up ahead of him, he sees that it's the old man on the moped.

Amazed that the moped could pass his Ferrari, he gives it some more gas and passes the moped at 275 mph.

WHHOOOOSSS= HH!

He's feeling pretty good until he looks in his mirror and sees the old man gaining on him again. Astounded by the speed of this old guy, he floors the gas pedal and takes the Ferrari all the way up to 320 mph.

Not 10 seconds later he sees the moped bearing down on him again. The Ferrari is flat out and there's nothing he can do. Suddenly the moped plows into the back of his Ferrari, demolishing the rear. The young man jumps out; unbelievably, the old man is still alive!!! He runs up to the mangled old man and says, "Oh, my God! Is there anything I can do for you?"

The old man whispers softly, "Unhook... my... suspenders ... from... your... side-view... mirror."

Studies show cows produce more milk when the farmer talks to them. It's a case of in one ear and out the udder.

I didn't think the chiropractor would improve my posture.

But I stand corrected.

I told my carpenter I didn't want carpeted steps. He gave me a blank stair.

An invisible man married an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either. Courtesy of Joan

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

RWTO SCARBOROUGHH

Huntingwood Postal Outlet

P.O. BOX 30042

2355 Warden Avenue, Scarborough, ON M1T 0A1

(Remember to mail in your membership form and cheque post-dated to July 1 or August 15, 2021)

MANULIFE CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-800-268-3763

PO Box 670 Waterloo Station,
Waterloo, Ontario N2J 4B8

MANULIFE INSURANCE CLAIM

#17777C

1-877-222-7340 is a dedicated number for RWTO.

TERRY KENNEDY (INSURANCE REP FOR THE
BRANCH)

1-519-583-0098

EMAIL tkennedy34@bell.net

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - Brigitte Kolozvary Bryan

Email: bbryan@look.ca

Carol Nelson 416-724-7107 email:

nelson.carol@gmail.com

Linda Jarvis 416-293-8689 email:

linjar47@gmail.com

When I see lovers' names
carved on trees, I think it's
strange how many people
bring knives on a date.



FUN FACTS ABOUT HYDRANGEAS

When it comes to big and beautiful blooms you can't go past the hydrangea. Just as gorgeous as a single bloom as they are en masse, there are plenty of reasons why so many blushing brides and birthday belles pick the humble hydrangea to adorn their tables. To celebrate these beauties, we've compiled our favourite facts.



1. There are around 75 species of hydrangea currently known to gardening enthusiasts.
2. They grow all over the world, from Muskoka to Malibu, to Timbuktu.
3. The petals and stalks are actually quite toxic (so don't nibble on them!).
4. They can grow exceptionally tall, up to 29 metres.
5. In Asian countries, pink hydrangeas are given as a sign of love.
6. Hydrangeas originated in Japan.
7. They love to be kept hydrated in healthy soil.
8. The colour of your hydrangea is determined by the aluminum content of the soil.
9. Hydrangeas are a Spring bloom that will continue growing through till mid-Autumn.
10. You can actually alter their colour.
11. Hydrangeas actually produce their main flower clusters from the tips of shoots formed from the previous season.
12. The showy parts of the flowers are sepals, not petals.
13. The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology lists this species as an allergy-safe pollen producing plant.
14. Some species of hydrangeas have leaves that are used to make a sweet tea.
15. Hydrangeas are mostly hardy plants and prefer semi-shaded areas.
16. There are complete clubs devoted to those who love hydrangeas.
17. Superstar Madonna really dislikes them!



My husband and I went through the McDonald's driveway window and I gave the cashier a \$5 bill. Our total was \$4.25, so I also handed her 25c. She said, 'you gave me too much money.'

I said, 'Yes I know, but this way

you can just give me a dollar back.'

She sighed and went to get the manager who asked me to repeat my request.

I did so, and he handed me back the 25c, and said 'We're sorry but we don't do that kind of thing.'

The cashier then proceeded to give me back 75 cents in change.

Do not confuse the people at MacD's.

We had to have the garage door repaired.

The repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener.

I thought for a minute, and said that we had the largest one made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower.

He shook his head and said, 'You need a 1/4 horsepower.'

I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said, 'NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two.'

We haven't used that repairman since...

My daughter went to a Mexican fast food and ordered a taco. She asked the person behind the counter for 'minimal lettuce.' He said he was sorry, but they only had iceberg lettuce.

The pedestrian light on the corner beeps when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with an 'intellectually challenged' co-worker of mine. She asked if I knew what the beeper was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red.

Appalled, she responded, 'what on earth are blind people doing driving?!"

She is a government employee....

When my wife and I arrived at a car dealership to pick up our car after a service, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked.

'Hey,' I announced to the technician, 'It's open!'

His reply, 'I know. I already did that side.'

STAY ALERT!



NEWS FROM THE PROVINCE

There are now 49 Branches. Beaver Valley Branch has disbanded. There are 11 Branches with fewer than 50 members. 475 members did not renew their memberships this year. Judy Anderson continues as the Area 5 Director. The Board of Directors has allocated \$20,000 towards advertising. There is a decline in membership, partly as a result of the Branches not being able to contact potential members due to the pandemic. There are five members over 100 years of age.

Manulife has given a rebate of \$73,485 to RWTO/OERO. This amount is from the profit sharing between RWTO and Manulife.

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE BOARD

RESOLUTION #1: There was a long discussion about a possible increase in the annual amount to be rebated by RWTO/OERO to the branches from 25% to 40%. After much debate about the pros and cons of such an increase, the initial motion was defeated. Therefore, the Board of Directors and appointed Branch members will study how the decrease/increase will affect the Board and the Branches. This will come back to the AGM in 2022.

Information: Scarborough members pay an annual fee of \$40.00. However, there are Branches whose members voluntarily pay a larger fee. The monies coming back from the province and any other fundraising activities are used to run the Branch activities.

RESOLUTION #2: Discussion amongst the delegates resulted in a decision that branch meetings should be accessible for all members.

RESOLUTION #3: After much discussion about the accessibility of Provincial meetings and events, the issue was referred to the Board of Directors for further discussion and they will report on this matter at the AGM 2022. This would include the importance of making sure there are optional activities available for the participation of all members.

RESOLUTION #4: This resolution was amended to read that the Provincial President would visit branches at the request of either party, either physically or virtually. It was then approved as amended. There may need to be further discussion in the future about travel, accommodation, and meal expenses, as well as the time factor of these visits.

RESOLUTION #5: There was discussion of the role of past presidents who could be considered an Honorary Delegate. These people have a wealth of experience that can be shared with delegates. It was decided that past provincial presidents attending the convention will be considered to be Honorary Delegates unless they are voting delegates.

***Some of the above resolutions brought out a lot of discussion from the delegates. Sometimes it is necessary to clarify a point by adding a word or phrase, or even by changing the meaning. It was suggested that before the resolutions are forwarded to the Board, there be discussion amongst the delegates and Branch members.

Just to let you know the Scarborough delegates did meet virtually to discuss the pros and cons of each resolution. Our thoughts were similar to those that came up in discussions.

The rest of the resolutions from the Board of Directors were 'housekeeping' items: secret ballots will be held during elections if there is more than one candidate for any given position, an Annual Meeting will be held, a 50% quorum is needed by the registered delegates in elections and the number of voting delegates will continue to be dependent upon the number of Branch members.

A special thanks to Sheila Meyer and Peggy Irwin who each spent three days during the convention, being a delegate for the AGM. Their support was greatly appreciated.

Carol

DELEGATE REPORTS

PEGGY IRWIN

The RWTO first ever "virtual" AGM & Convention June 1st, 2nd & 3rd was a tremendous success. In addition to the required sessions - AGM meetings on the three mornings and Closing Events - I filled up my schedule, registering for as many of the optional webinars and entertainment events as possible. These ranged from the practical (an update about the Hospital and Home Care plan, explained by our broker, Terry Kennedy), to the fun and frivolous.

Highlights that stand out for me include the Rocky Mountaineer, as mentioned elsewhere, by Sheila, and the fashion show. You can check out the lovely clothes, some of them from Canadian designer Frank Lyman, by going to info@annesontheavenue.com where you can place an order. (An RWTO coupon for a discount was mentioned, and may still be available, fingers crossed). The store, Anne's on the Avenue, is in

Tecumseh, in southwest Ontario, and I'll definitely be making a visit when inter-city travel and in-store visits are allowed again, to select something "fresh and new" for Post-Pandemic Times. We all can't wait!!

The entertainment on Wednesday evening, "The Liverpool 4", was a standout! The Canadian musician/ Beatles impersonators are so talented, if you could hear them without seeing them, you might think you were listening to The Beatles. It was wonderful! I was up dancing around like it was back in the late 60's/early 70's. RWTO should book them for an actual Convention!

Also enjoyable was the webinar Wander Food & Wine. Expecting a travelogue to a famous wine area somewhere in the world, (wouldn't you?), I was pleasantly surprised. Wander Food and Wine is an establishment in Sudbury, Ontario, so we can go there, too, post restrictions! Sommelier and wine bar owner Stephanie Piche discussed the merits and features of five Ontario wines produced in, for example, Niagara region, the Georgian Hills, near Collingwood, near Carp in the Ottawa area, and Prince Edward County. It was tantalizing, and would have been even better with the wine tasting kit that Stephanie made available, (to be ordered in advance), for people, who would then signed in to the webinar, which was originally presented a couple of months ago. A creative 'pivot' to manage in these Pandemic times.

Speaking of pivoting, I was truly impressed by the hardworking RWTO women who organized the AGM and Convention and pulled it off in such elegant fashion. Much patience was shown, even when there were glitches. The Closing Events were very moving as the torch was passed to the incoming president, and the RWTO members who passed away in the past year were honoured in the "In Memorium" segment. These included our own dear Elaine Apted, Donna Hubel and Marg Lyons. Overall, the entire event, from the Opening, early Tuesday morning, to the Call to Convention (London, June 2022), exemplified our beloved motto, Sharing and Caring. I was privileged to attend as one of the three delegates.

SHEILA MEYER

This year's virtual convention was very interesting, and it included many of the usual activities that take place at an in-person convention, at least those that could possibly be done on Zoom. Apart from the AGM business meetings which took place on each of the three mornings (see Carol Nelson's report), there was an opening presentation, a number of virtual workshops and tours to choose from, several draws for prizes and finally, closing ceremonies.

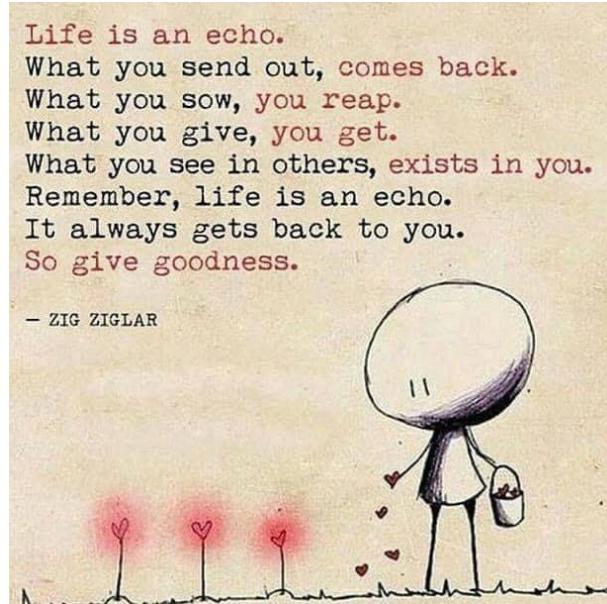
The Convention opened at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 1st with a rousing choral presentation of the song "Who Loves You" by

Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. This consisted of a "choir" of about forty RWTO members whose separate recordings were then electronically coordinated and put together. It was amazing to see all those faces on the screen singing "together" virtually!

On Wednesday afternoon, there were several webinars to choose from, including a travelogue about the Rocky Mountaineer train trip in British Columbia. This trip has been on my "bucket list" for many years so naturally I chose that one to watch. They gave the history of the train and the railroad in general, spoke to the passengers from all over the world who were clearly enjoying their trip and showed the beautiful scenery of the Rockies.

The Thursday afternoon closing events began with a very moving In Memoriam presentation showing the names of RWTO members who have passed away in the last year. Sadly, there were 119 names, among them the names of dear friends from our Scarborough Branch. Following this, two minutes of silence were held in memory of the indigenous children whose remains were recently discovered in Kamloops. During the rest of the afternoon, the over 90s were recognized, the Barbara Bain Awards were announced (with Barbara Bain herself joining virtually), the Feather in the Hat Awards were presented and the instillation of next year's Board members took place. After speeches by the outgoing and incoming presidents, the "Call to Convention" was presented in a most amusing video by next year's Convention committee from London-Middlesex. This Convention is to take place in London on June 7-9, 2022. Lastly, the 2021 virtual Convention ended with a repeat of the opening song.

I would like to express a big thank you to the Board of Directors and all the others who helped to put this virtual Convention together. Their many hours of hard work in making this very challenging project a success, is greatly appreciated.



A mother passing by her son's bedroom was astonished to see the bed was nicely made and everything was picked up. Then, she saw an envelope, propped up prominently on the pillow.

It was addressed, 'Mum' With the worst premonition, she opened the envelope and read the letter, with trembling hands.

'Dear, Mum.

It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm writing you. I had to elope with my new girlfriend, because I wanted to avoid a scene with Dad and you.

I've been finding real passion with Stacy, and she is so nice, but I knew you would not approve of her, because of all her piercing's, tattoos, her tight Motorcycle clothes, and because she is so much older than I am.

But it's not only the passion, Mum. She's pregnant. Stacy said that we will be very happy. She owns a trailer in the forest and has a stack of firewood for the whole winter.

We share a dream of having many more children.

Stacy has opened my eyes to the fact that marijuana doesn't really hurt anyone. We'll be growing it for ourselves and trading it with the other people in the commune, for all the cocaine and ecstasy we want.

In the meantime, we'll pray that science will find a cure for AIDS, so Stacy can get better. She sure deserves it!!

Don't worry Mum, I'm 15, and I know how to take care of myself.

Someday, I'm sure we'll be back to visit, so you can get to know your many grandchildren.

Love, your son, Nicholas.

"P.S. Mum, none of the above is true. I'm over at Jason's house.

I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than the school report that's on my desk"

I love you!

Call when it is safe for me to come home.

LONG SHELF LIFE FOODS TO KEEP IN YOUR PANTRY

0-1 YEARS

Dried Fruits

1-3 YEARS
Bouillon
Dark Chocolate
Dried Pasta
Jerky
Oats
Oils
Ramen Noodles
Tea
Tomato Sauce
Jams and Jellies (unopened)

3-5 YEARS

Canned Tuna
Pickles (unopened)
Spices

5-10 YEARS
Canned Fruit
Grains
Molasses

10+ years

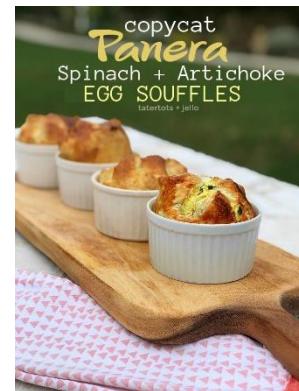
Instant Coffee
Powdered Milk
Rice

FOREVER

Corn Starch
Dried Beans, Lentils & Legumes
Liquor
Maple Syrup (unopened)
Popcorn
Powdered Jell-O
Raw Honey
Salt
Soy Sauce (unopened)
Sugar
Vanilla Extract
Vinegar



SPINACH + ARTICHOKE SOUFFLE



<https://tatertotsandjello.com/copycat-panera-spinach-and-artichoke-egg-souffles-so-good/>

APRICOT-GLAZED CHICKEN WITH SPRING VEGETABLES



<https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchen/apricot-glazed-chicken-with-spring-vegetables-3642264>

I REMEMBER WHEN...

I remember when... but I don't remember the years specifically... we used to have a New Retirees' Tea in a lovely garden on the Scarborough Bluffs in Linda Harris' backyard in the Guild. We used china cups, members made beautiful, tasty tea sandwiches and desserts, brought card tables, chairs, tablecloths and everything we needed for a lovely afternoon to celebrate these new Scarborough Retirees and also invite them to join our RWTO Scarborough Branch.

We had a committee of about 15 members or more who volunteered every year to provide all the necessary supplies and help set up and serve at the Tea. We were never short of helpers. Up and down the stairs, over the lumps and bumps of the yard, always smiling and welcoming... these volunteers made the New Retirees feel very special as they ended an important and rewarding career and were setting out on the next adventure of their lives.

The organizers always were aware of the weather possibilities. We always set up contingency plans but most often we were very fortunate and had a lovely day. One year – Linda Luscombe and I were on the phone to each other very early on Tea Day and realized that this time we could not possibly hold the Tea outside and reluctantly made the decision to set up our emergency plans. The "phone tree" was set in motion to notify everyone including guests of the change of locale and we confirmed with the Rec Centre at Kingston Road and Markham that we were coming.

What I will always remember, during the stress of this day, was how our committee members entered the hall, looked around, saw what needed to be done – and set to work without any direction!

Linda and I stood back in amazement, but not surprise. Women, women teachers, retired women teachers step up and fill the gaps as they see them. Linda and I were so very grateful to these RW members. They saved the day – for the organizers – but more importantly for the New Retirees who were being celebrated that day.

I am proud to be an RWTO Scarborough member.
Connie

I wear my mask in public for three reasons.

- 1.** Humility: I don't know if I have COVID as it is clear that people can spread the disease before they have the symptoms.
- 2.** Kindness: I don't know if the person I am near has a child battling cancer, or cares for their elderly mom. While I might be fine, they might not.
- 3.** Community: I want my community to thrive, businesses to stay open, employees to stay healthy. Keep a lid on COVID helps us all.

When you've been flashing lights for 5 minutes to tell him that his cow is going to fall and you finally realize that the door is closed

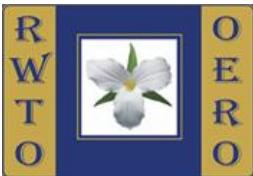


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From the Editor

Cathie MacGillivray
cathiemacgillivray@hotmail.com



RWTO/OERO Scarborough Branch

Membership Form 2021 – 2022

Surname: _____ Given Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Email Address: _____

New member or Returning member (Any change in information ? Yes No)

*Note: "I agree to, and understand, that I may appear in some photos posted on the RWTO/OERO website at www.rwto.org, in the Scarborough Branch or Provincial Newsletters."

Date of birth: _____ Retirement Date: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone Number: _____

Do you have the RWTO/OERO Hospital and Home Care Plan Yes No or the Personal Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan? Yes No

Membership fee for 2021 – 2022 is \$40.

*Please make your cheque payable to: **RWTO Scarborough Branch.**

*Please postdate your cheque to **July 1, 2021**, or **August 15, 2021**, and submit with the membership form.

*The Membership year is from September 1 to August 31. *

Please mail your payment before August 15 to:

**RWTO Scarborough,
Huntingwood Postal Outlet,
P.O.Box 30042
2355 Warden Avenue,
Scarborough, ON
M1T0A1**

If you have RWTO insurance and wish to maintain it or wish to participate in the plan, you must pay your RWTO membership fee each year. New retirees are not required to complete a medical questionnaire if they apply within one year of the date of their retirement.