

CARING & SHARING

Retired Women Teachers of Ontario—Windsor-Essex Branch



President's Message

Winter is fast approaching with only two months left in 2021 and then we turn the calendar to 2022. The year has challenged us but we end 2021 on a positive note continuing our Caring & Sharing with our charities, providing opportunities to connect via Zoom and more importantly maintaining our membership at approximately 250. We have had virtual luncheons, donated monies to our charities, and presented prizes to members. Emails, letters, cards and phone calls have kept us connected. The pandemic seems to be more under control. We are a strong, resilient group of women who clearly understand and appreciate the importance of RWTO. Thank you for the encouraging words and your constant support to the Executive and each other.

It's the most wonderful time of year, the season of back-to-back holidays! From Thanksgiving to Halloween through Hanukkah, Kwanza, Christmas, New Year's Day and every day in between, there are countless reasons to celebrate. This holiday season take some extra time to think of all the people who light up your life and then find ways to light up theirs. In the spirit of giving let us be mindful of those less fortunate and those among us facing health issues.

I encourage you to join us at the Ciociaro Club on **Wednesday, December 1st** for a return to our annual Christmas Luncheon. Safety precautions will be followed and you will need to bring **proof of vaccination**. Wear your Holiday attire and a seasonal mask and help us celebrate together.

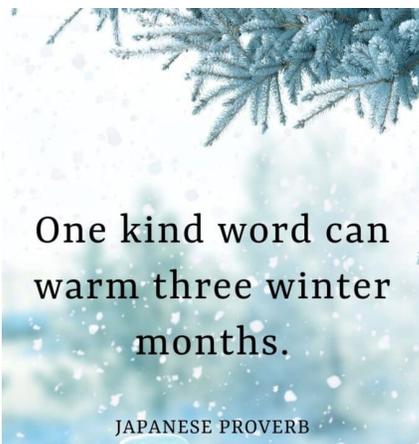
May your homes be filled with joy, happiness and the people you love throughout the season and into 2022.

In Caring and Sharing
Linda White -- President



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Treasurers Report

Thanks to everyone who renewed their membership!

An organization is only as strong as its members and you have all shown how important membership in RWTO/OERO is to you. We are in good financial standing to continue supporting our local charities. We also send special gifts to many of our members by draws throughout the year. We will continue to supplement our luncheon costs when our luncheons resume.

Karen Clark-Lauzon - - Treasurer

Congratulations

Early Bird Draw Winners \$25 CASH Prize

Sheila Dinnendahl

Marie Bailey

Thanksgiving Treasure Chest Draw

Emy McBride



In Memory



Helen Rapaich

1937 - October 21, 2021

*"Teachers can change lives
with just the right mix of
chalk and challenges."*

~Joyce Meyer

Recently our Branch lost a
Life Member and
an Associate Member

We extend our condolences to
the families of

Helen Rapaich and Irlma Rose.

A children's book will be placed in a local public library in their memory.



Irlma Rose

1927—October 8, 2021



Insurance

To all Manulife Hospital and Home Care Plan insured members:

By now you will likely have received your new identification card. The plan number on the front of the card (17777C) refers to our RWTO/OERO Hospital and Home Care Plan and is common to all insured members/spouses. The ID number is unique to the person insured.

On the back of the card is noted the Secure Serve website(manulife.ca/secureserve) which you can use to register your information in order to review your contract details, submit claims, and register for direct deposit. The 1 877 222 7340 phone number, also on the back, is a dedicated number for our RWTO policy and will be promptly answered by a service representative.

The number for pharmacists and dental carriers which appear on the back are not intended for our use. As this is a somewhat generic card, those two numbers are for other Manulife plans---so please ignore them.

The brochure has received an update. It is now on our RWTO/OERO website. The new printed brochure will be available at our next gathering or from me, if you require one. Claims can be submitted online for those choosing to use that service. Please note that the cost of insurance coverage has not changed and claims will continue to be accepted using the current paper copy.

As of October 2021 all new and existing SecureServe customers will be required to create a Manulife ID in order to login. This ID is being rolled out across all of Manulife as a single sign-on credential that will give the customer access to all their Manulife products. This does not apply to those members who mail in their forms or communicate with Manulife by phone or through Terry Kennedy.

For those insured members/spouses needing Nursing Care, Manulife now requires the completion of a Prior Authorization Form by your family doctor or nurse practitioner. This form can be found on the RWTO website (www.rwto.org/membership/insurance). Manulife will arrange for your nursing care. If your need for Home Nursing is urgent, verbal authorization can be obtained by calling Manulife at 1 877 222 7340.

Stay healthy and active !

Marilyn Harvey -- Insurance Convenor

Connect, Learn, Share

Zoom presentations have helped our members remain connected and given us opportunity to exchange ideas, visit together and learn something new.

Monthly Book Chats are the occasion to talk about what members are currently reading and get ideas for future reading. All members are sent the Zoom invite shortly before the start of Book Chat on the second Wednesday of the month, 10:30a.m. During the winter months, take the opportunity to log on, join in or just listen. Less than an hour of time is all it takes.

The **Zoom App** is acquired by downloading it from Zoom.com (a niece, nephew or grandchild can assist or call a member of the Executive) to open up these opportunities with RWTO friends. We have had Associate Members join in from the east coast. If you hear of a speaker who might interest our members please contact any Executive member who will then make the arrangements.

Kathy Gallagher, Provincial/Branch Website Convenor is offering all RWTO/OERO members the chance to take part in the following upcoming **workshops**. On the same provincial website Communication Convenors page, scroll down to locate three short **YouTube videos** on these introductory topics:

- [How to join a Zoom Meeting](#)
- [How to schedule meeting](#)
- [Zoom Meeting Controls Overview](#)

Our Branch information can be found on rwto.org (Go To Branch). From the Windsor-Essex homepage see the Gallery of recent photos of our latest activities. The pandemic has challenged everyone in new ways but technology has connected us.



The graphic features a purple and blue geometric background. On the left is a circular portrait of Kathy Gallagher. To the right, the text reads 'RWTO/OERO' with the organization's logo, 'Upcoming Workshops', and 'Open To All Members'. Below this, it says 'Register for a session or sessions on: rwto.org/branches/communication-convenors'. At the bottom, two workshop sessions are listed: '26 JAN. The Zoom Platform' with sub-points 'Screen Sharing, Polling, Spotlighting' and '23 FEB. Branch Facebook Pages' with sub-points 'Creating, Administering, and Guidelines'. A bold note at the bottom states 'NOTE: ALL SESSIONS BEGIN AT 10:00 AM'.

Convention 2022



Our 66th RWTO/OERO Convention is scheduled to be held **LIVE** in London, Ontario from June 7-9, 2022.

The theme is ***“Laughter Lifts Us Up!”*** Every branch in Area 3 has volunteered to assist the host London /Middlesex Branch. We chose to take on the exciting responsibility of providing DOOR PRIZES.

- Door Prizes need to be collected, wrapped and distributed. We NEED members willing to ‘Lift with Laughter’ and get this job done! Please contact Karen Clark-Lauzon for detailed information (clarklauzon@gmail.com)
- Our branch qualifies for five (5) delegates. Linda White and Karen Clark-Lauzon have committed to attending. We are looking for three (3) more delegates from our membership. If interested contact Linda White (rwto.oreo.we@gmail.com).



1. Executive Positions
2. Forget-Me-Nots
3. Convention Delegates
4. Convention Door Prize Committee
5. Luncheon Decorating etc.
6. Delivering Goods

Recipe

Cabbage Roll Soup

8 oz. lean ground beef

8 oz. ground pork

1 egg beaten

¾ cup uncooked rice

1 medium onion, minced

1 sm clove garlic, minced

Salt & pepper to taste

2 tbsp vegetable oil

8 cups chicken broth

28 oz. can diced tomatoes

4 cups shredded cabbage

¼ cup chopped fresh parsley



In large bowl, mix together beef, pork, egg, rice and garlic. Season with salt and pepper. Form into 1 ½ inch balls to make 25 to 30 meatballs. In Dutch Oven or soup pot, heat oil over medium heat and brown meatballs. Add chicken broth, tomatoes (including juice) and cabbage. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat and cook for 20 minutes. Stir in parsley. Serve.

Social Committee Report

Happy Fall! I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather.

The Social Committee had planned a Rum Runners Tour, painting and a luncheon at a restaurant as well as an overnight trip to the Canada Eh! Show in Niagara Falls with a wine tour and shopping. Unfortunately everything was put on hold until the health guidelines set out by the province allow these gatherings once again. New ideas have been brought forward and will be considered and evaluated for their feasibility.

As a Committee we had decided to have several 80+ Treasure Chest Draws. I would like to thank the Social Committee for all they have done to assist in delivering goodies, making the cards and to Lowanna Closs for designing the beautiful treasure chests. Our Christmas draw will be the last draw at our Christmas Luncheon December 1, 2021 . Good luck ladies! Please stay safe and healthy.

Yours in Sisterhood,
Anna Campigotto - - Social Committee Convenor



Just A Thought. . .

Canadian winters can be long and cold and often dreary. After the holidays, hibernating till Spring is very appealing. Staying socially connected and active is important for your physical and emotional well-being. Consider inviting a family member, friend or neighbour to join you at a zumba class, take a walk, share a cup of tea or a glass of wine and conversation, try out a new recipe, play a game of cards or a board game, arrange an arts and craft afternoon.

Keep yourself busy and plan to do something with someone, somewhere.

“ Beat the winter blahs”, make new experiences, exercise your brain and your body!

Upcoming Events

Wed. November 10 at 7:00 pm	ZOOM Book Chat
Thurs. November 25 at 7:00 pm	ZOOM Gardening with Nicole Hall
Wed. December 1 at 11:00 am	Christmas Luncheon at Ciociaro
December	Forget-Me-Not Visits
January / February	ZOOM Presentations (Cooking/Executor Duties/etc.)
Wed. January 26 at 10:00 am	The Zoom Platform with K. Gallagher
Wed. February 23 at 10:00 am	Branch Facebook Pages with K. Gallagher

Issues & Concerns

The Southwestern Ontario (SWO) **Gleaners** is a dedicated charitable organization that provides FREE dehydrated vegetable mix and dehydrated fruit snacks that are distributed to community partners and reputable relief agencies around the world.

This non-religious related food processing plant is located in Leamington.

In the last couple of years, they have donated around 3 million servings per year and hope to get to 5 million once the pandemic is over.

The charity dehydrates donated products and makes soup mixes to help feed the hungry, both here in Essex County, and in poorer areas around the world.

The Gleaners have been supported financially by local businesses, community groups, churches and individuals. 100% of the costs and the proceeds to keep the organization going are through donations or community grants.

Over 1 million pounds of fresh produce is saved from the landfill each year. Farmers will donate their #2 quality gradeouts and the Gleaners' volunteers will inspect and prepare for dehydration. The volunteers also package and seal bags of soup mix to be ready for shipment to its destination.

Dehydration is perfect for international food aid. It is lighter and will not spoil until moisture is added to the mix. Millions of servings can be shipped for less cost and people can easily cook up a bag to feed their families.

For distribution, the Gleaners partner with other reputable aid agencies to get the soup mix to its destination. Our food is donated to organizations like Loads of Love, Canadian Food for Children, World Vision and the Red Cross. Locally, food banks receive the product for distribution in our communities. Food has been delivered to people all over the world including Africa, Central America and Asia.



The Gleaners require up to 30 volunteers daily, Monday to Friday (ages 14 and up) to keep our production line moving. Production volunteers work 8:00 am – 12 noon. All necessary equipment such as aprons, knives, gloves and hairnets are supplied.

Fresh baked goods and refreshments are enjoyed daily. RWTO members can volunteer their time and/or also donate online at www.swogleaners.ca. The SWO Gleaners would welcome you to join them in supporting their mission of supplying food to those who need it in our community and abroad.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2021

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Social Hour 11:00—11:45 am
Lunch Served 12:00 noon
Location Ciociaro Club
3745 N. Talbot Rd.
Oldcastle

Cost \$35
Entertainment Magician
Chris Pilsworth

Tickets must be purchased
by **Friday, November 20**
Sorry, no refunds after the
deadline

Payment by etransfer to
rwto.treasurer6@gmail.com

OR

Mail your cheque
along with the form below

to

Karen Clark-Lauzon
266 Ramblewood Dr
LaSalle, ON N9J 3B3

Our Mission... Sharing & Caring

Please help us support others in
need by bringing a donation.
Food / toiletries / winter clothing /
new children's books / used eye-
glasses.

Share the Wealth will support:

- Essex Salvation Army Food
Bank
- Goodfellows
- Hiatus House

**** REQUIRED ****

Proof of Vaccination

Rewards Card

Mask

Member Name _____ First luncheon ? Y or N

Guest Name _____ First luncheon ? Y or N

Newly retired teacher ? Y or N

_____ of lunches @ \$35 = _____

Paid by etransfer from email address _____

CHEQUE enclosed (**no post dated cheques**)

A new member incentive will be in effect.