



RWTO/OERO Owen Sound and Area

LET'S DO COFFEE!

Are you feeling a little isolated? A little bored? LET'S DO COFFEE! - A monthly Zoom event.

This is a new initiative for RWTO members. Hope Leon, from Hamilton Branch, is encouraging us to join her on Zoom to meet new friends and enjoy a coffee hour together once a month. No responsibility, just an opportunity to have a fun visit over coffee with others!

Coffee Time: Thursday, April 7, 10:00am; Thursday, May 5, 10:00am; Thursday, June 2 10:00am

Limited to 25 people each month in order to fit on a single screen in Zoom.

You must email Hope at hleon@bserv.com in advance to request the Zoom link. Put "Let's Do Coffee OWEN SOUND" in the subject line. The first 25 people from the province to email her will be given the link, so don't delay in emailing! You must be at least three days in advance of Coffee Hour when emailing. If you are too late one month, try again the next month!



Submitted by **Connie Morris**

RWTO Spring Luncheon

Wednesday, June 1, 12:00 pm

Inn on the Bay

Register: Louise Lipsett rlipsett@outlook.com
or 519-376-6722

It is recommended that you be fully vaccinated.

Thank you Bobbie and Marilyn for the fabulous table decorations.



We had a wonderful meeting!

Spring – a time for growth and renewal. Now that Covid seems to be abating we are venturing out to renew friendships and activities. It may take a while to adjust to ‘new normals’ but the light is at the end of the tunnel! Happy Spring Everyone!

We have resumed our in person General Meetings! After a very well attended and successful November meeting we decided to stay at the Inn on the Bay for our March meeting. Over 40 people attended the general meeting and luncheon. Reviews on the venue and meal were positive. We enjoyed a very informative talk by Bob Knapp on ‘Trails of Grey County’. What a fascinating and beautiful area we live in! Our next general meeting date will be held on Wednesday, June 1st at the Inn on the Bay. This is a change from the originally announced May 25th date as there is an activity conflict. We look forward to seeing you at the next general meeting and luncheon on June 1st.

Good news! The Provincial Conference ‘**Laughter Lifts Us Up**’ will be held in person in London on June 7, 8 and 9. There will be the usual business meetings and policy discussions; however, there will also be ample time to socialize with members from other branches. Great entertainment is always on the agenda.

Once again I must extend a plea to you to consider becoming a volunteer member of our local executive. We have an opening for 1st vice president. Our work is important and rewarding. Please consider joining this group of wonderful and dedicated women.

It is with a heavy heart that I contemplate the fates of children and teachers in the Ukraine. It is unthinkable that children anywhere have to endure the horrific experiences of war. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of the Ukraine.

Yours in Caring and Sharing

Sue Loyst, President Owen Sound and Area



Guest Speaker
Bob Knapp



Marcia Masuda retired from teaching as an occasional teacher for the Bruce Grey Catholic Board and the Bluewater Board. She loved to read to the children. Marcia was the Bluewater Occasional Teacher President for 3 years!

In her retirement she is looking forward to travelling and in particular, travelling to Japan. She wants to spend more time with her four grandchildren and she wants to paint more. She is interested in sharing pictures of both her grandchildren and her paintings. Someday she would like to try painting with oils. She would like to make a memoir book of her parents for her mom, as her mom is still alive and Marcia is her Essential Caregiver. Welcome Marcia! We are happy you have joined us.



THINKING OF YOU!

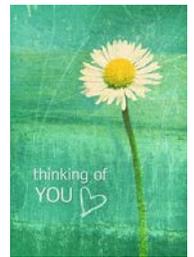
It was lovely to see so many of our members at our meeting and luncheon on the 23rd of March. Since our Newsletter in February, we have sent many cards to our members.

Valentine cards went to our over 90 members. Sympathy cards went to Suzanne Vamplew at the passing of her brother, a belated card went to Orla Cathrae at the passing of her sister-in-law and another Sympathy card went to Orla Cathrae at the passing of a second sister-in-law.

Thinking of You cards were sent to Louise Lipsett as she dealt with her husband's heart attack and following surgery. A card went to Barb Schwartz as she deals with her husband's cancer treatments, and a Get-Well card was sent to Mary Mackenzie as she recovered after surgery. If you have any Thinking of You cards you would like to donate, we could use them.

Spring seems to be on its way, so our wish is for everyone to enjoy the return of birds, spring flowers and warmer temperatures.

Yours in caring and sharing
Lorraine Dunning 519-376-5017



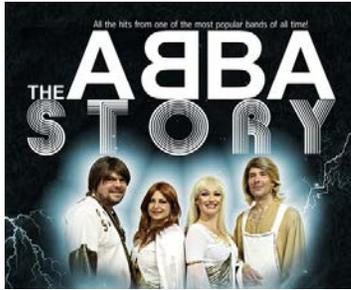
THE TEACHER'S MARK

By Louise Dobson (*May 6, 2021*)

We take this time to think about a teacher who has passed
 And though their final bell has rung the lessons they taught last
 The red ink marks they put on paper fade more every day
 No longer do they stand on duty watching children play
 Their voice is silent but their echoed words of wisdom ring
 Their lamp of knowledge shines no more but sparks it gave still bring
 To the students that they mentored and the knowledge shared with them
 Nuggets for their minds to treasure from that teacher way back when
 But it's not just textbook lessons or the teaching of some facts
 That's remembered, but the teacher planting love seeds on their track
 And those seeds of love they gave to every student in the class
 Have continued to keep growing, that's the teacher's mark that lasts



Remember those who have passed. We are happy to report that our group has not experienced a death for over 2 years.



Wednesday, May 25, 2022

RTO is returning to their theatre outings!

The trip includes the coach to Bingeman's, a buffet luncheon and musical production featuring the ABBA Story.

Dance in your seats to the wonderful songs that made ABBA the "Supergroup" of the '70's. Enjoy such songs as "The Dancing Queen, Fernando, Mama Mia, Knowing Me, Knowing You, Waterloo and Money."

You will need proof of double vaccination to board the bus.

Lunch includes bread, buns, salads. 2 hot entrees, potatoes, veggies, dessert, and coffee or tea. Taxes and gratuity included.

Send a cheque for \$103 made out to:
District 10 RTO Travel

Mail to : Jan Chamberlain.

189 Somers St
Owen Sound, N4K 6V5.



The trip is almost full so please mail in your cheques promptly. I will be placing names on a waiting list once filled and will contact you by email or phone.

Please include your name or names, address, phone number and email. I will contact you re: pick up point once I have all the information.

The bus will be departing from Staples in Owen Sound. I will contact you re: pick up point and itinerary once I have everyone's information.



CHICAGO

"Sin, dance and all that jazz"

RTO has tickets for this musical on Thursday, September 22, 2022, in Stratford at the Festival Theatre. There will be dinner after the show. The final details are being worked out.

Please contact Kay Simpson by email to have your names added to the list. You don't have to be a retired teacher to join us. So call your friends and relatives asap.
kay.simpson@hotmail.com



Rhonda O'Reilly received the Cora Bailey award at our March meeting.

School Memories from Teaching from the book *Cherished Memories 1999* Donna Steinacher

I suppose it's only natural that many of my memories of teaching are tied up with music:

(1) Christmas Concert - the hours of practicing with choirs, string groups, operettas and skits; making costumes working with the rest of the staff; and then the magic excitement of the big night and the actual performances.

(2) Music Festival - working with individuals, small groups and large ensembles through the winter months leading up to the competition was a great way to get to know these people well and many are still friends in the orchestra, choir and church.

One fond memory is of a boy named Doug, who liked his races as well as any but who also liked his violin. One of our weekly violin classes was at noon hour and the other right after the afternoon recess. Without ever being asked, while I was seeing the rest of my class safely outside for recess, he would be quietly taking the thirty cases off the shelves, placing them on desks and opening the cases. Then he would pick up my violin and play a clear and steady "A" while I worked my way up and down the aisles tuning all of the instruments. By the time the bell rang we would all be ready to play.

One not so pleasant recollection was the year I taught French and Music "on the run" to the whole school. (1 — 8) In the morning I had my home class but most of the afternoon I had my cart and travelled on the run to the Primary grades for twenty minute classes, continually changing mode and hoping nothing was missing from my cart.

One funny memory from my third year of teaching is of my student, Willie, at Alexandra. Willie had lost his mittens. "Did you look in the lost and found box?" I queried. He didn't know where it was, so I went down the hall to help him. "What colour are they?" I asked. "Red and blue" was the answer. So I rooted through the box till suddenly he said, "There they are!" Not seeing any red and blue mittens, I looked up questionably as he retrieved his mittens. "One red and one blue," he said. Then I stood up quickly and cracked my head on the overhead cupboard!



I started teaching at Meaford Community School in 1987 and ended my career at St. Vincent Euphrasia in 2017. Growing up in Meaford, it was exciting to teach in both elementary schools that I attended as a student. Unfortunately, neither school exists today, since being replaced by a K to 12 school near the site where SVE stood.

I am married and have two adult children. I am fortunate to be able to look after my 2 year old grandson three days a week. I keep busy by creating greeting cards, scrapbooking, skiing, lawn bowling, playing in a bell choir and walking with friends.

Wendy Calvert-Morris



Welcome Wendy!



A Poem That Was Us

A little house with three bedrooms,
One bathroom and one car on the street,
A mower that you had to push,
To make the grass look neat.

In the kitchen on the wall
We only had one phone,
And no need for recording
Someone was always home.

We only had a living room
Where we would congregate,
Unless it was at mealtime
In the kitchen where we ate.

We had no need for family rooms
Or extra rooms to dine.
When meeting as a family
Those two rooms would work out fine.

We only had one TV set
And channels maybe two,
But always there was one of them
With something worth the view

For snacks we had potato chips
That tasted like a chip.
And if you wanted flavour
There was Lipton's onion dip.

Store-bought snacks were rare because
My mother liked to cook
And nothing can compare to snacks
In Betty Crocker's book.

Weekends were for family trips
Or staying home to play
We all did things together
Even go to church to pray.

When we did our weekend trips
Depending on the weather,
No one stayed at home because
We liked to be together.

Sometimes we would separate
To do things on our own,
But we knew where the others were
Without our own cell phone.

Then there were the movies
With your favourite movie star
And nothing can compare
To watching movies in your car

Then there were the picnics
At the peak of summer season,
Pack a lunch and find some trees
And never need a reason.

Get a baseball game together
With all the friends you know,
Have real action playing ball
And no game video.

Remember when the doctor
Used to be the family friend,
And didn't need insurance
Or a lawyer to defend.

The way that he took care of you
Or what he had to do
Because he took an oath and strived
To do the best for you.

Remember going to the store
And shopping casually,
And when you went to pay for it
You used your own money?

Nothing that you had to swipe
Or punch in some amount,
And remember when the cashier person
Had to really count?

The milkman used to go
From door to door,
And it was just a few cents more
Than going to the store

There was a time when mailed letters
Came right to your door,
Without a lot of junk mail ads
Sent out by every store.

The mailman knew each house by name
And knew where it was sent;
There were no loads of mail addressed
To "present occupant".

There was a time when just one glance
Was all that it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
The model and the make

They didn't look like turtles
Trying to squeeze out every mile;
They were streamlined, white walls, fins
And really had some style.

One time the music that you played
Whenever you would jive,
Was from a vinyl, big-holed record
Called a forty-five.

The record player had a post
To keep them all in line
And then the records would drop down
And play one at a time.

Oh sure, we had our problems then,
Just like we do today
And always we were striving,
Trying for a better way.

Oh, the simple life we lived
Still seems like so much fun,
How can you explain a game
Just kick the can and run?

And why would boys put baseball cards
Between bicycle spokes
And for a nickel, red machines
Had little bottled Cokes?

This life seemed so much easier
Slower in some ways
I love the new technology
But I sure do miss those days.

So time moves on and so do we
And nothing stays the same,
But I sure love to reminisce
And walk down memory lane.

With all today's technology
We grant that it's a plus!
But it's fun to look way back and say
HEY LOOK, GUYS, THAT WAS US!