

CARING & SHARING

WINTER 2022



Retired Women Teachers of Ontario—Windsor-Essex Branch



President's Message -- Patricia Wales

Connecting at holiday gatherings begins for many of us when we start opening recipe files to find those favourite family treats, shared over time, which have become memories of love. Recipe books come down off the shelf, requests are submitted and foraging for ingredients begins.

At our Branch, connecting with each other is our recipe as we continue to be mindful of those in need in our community. The energy in the room at our Fall turkey dinner at St. Mary's, Maidstone was evident. Our out of town guest, Provincial President Judy Drummond came for a visit. Thanks to your dedicated help, donations of food, toiletries and a cheque were organized and delivered throughout the county. Thank you to Marianne Angus, Marg Ferris, Maureen Johnson, Carole Kuli, Wanda Lacey, Linda Lynch, Diane Picard, Nancy Thomas, Vicky Walker and the Board Members for all the help you provided.

A wonderful bus trip to see a play in Petrolia gathered some of us for a day of laughter, games and connection organized by Anna Campigotto and the Social Committee.

Our Christmas Luncheon on **Wednesday December 7th** returns to the Ciociaro Club where they are ready to welcome us back. Details are on the last page of this Newsletter. At that time, we look for Member volunteers who are available to drop off our donations to the selected charities. It is a joyful task! You will be provided all the contacts necessary, it can be done at your convenience and you will be welcomed heartily. I know this to be true!

More ways of connecting are outlined throughout this Newsletter.

The main ingredient is gathering in love with those who care. My hope is that you are surrounded by caring others to celebrate those you love and those you miss.



Congratulations

Deirdre Palamides was the recipient of the **CORA BAILEY AWARD** at our Fall Luncheon.

We recognize Deirdre's willingness to commit her talents to the service of her sisters of RWTO Windsor-Essex, Area 3 through her membership on the Social Committee. She assisted with decorating for the 2016 Convention and helps to plan activities and bus trips for our members. Deirdre is also our very efficient branch secretary who continues to share her time and skills.

Congratulations Deirdre !



Membership

- - **Arlene Veitch**

The Executive and Board would like to thank all the members who have renewed their RWTO/OERO Membership for 2022-2023. We presently have 224 Members, 14 Life Members and 8 Associate Members.

In order to keep in touch with all our members, please let us know if any of your information changes (address, phone #, email, etc.).

You can always contact me at veitarle@hotmail.com or 519-735-0306.

Goodwill

- - **Val Luscott**

We were pleased to honour Eleanor Robinson's 90th birthday at our Fall luncheon. She was somewhat overwhelmed with the gifts we showered upon her. Thank you to Nancy Johns-Root for her kind remarks.

Arrangements will now be made to purchase Christmas gifts for some of our special members.

Once again a big thank you to our Forget-Me-Not group. Please consider sharing some sunshine, a visit, an hour of your time with one of our sisters who needs and would appreciate your friendship, your smile, your time.

Thank you to Emy McBride and Marie Bailey for helping me to carry on Shirley Dicker's tradition of sending cards to our members.

There will be Christmas cards for members to sign at our December Luncheon.

In Memoriam

*“A music teacher helps their students
find the song in their heart,
the beat in their feet and passion for life.”*



Our Branch would like to express our sympathy to
the family of Cleata Morris.
In her memory, a children’s book will be
donated to a local library.



Cleata Morris
1924—September 24, 2022

Insurance

- - Marilyn Harvey

Our Manulife Hospital and Home Care Plan offers many benefits.

DID YOU KNOW?

The spouse of a member who has passed may continue to participate in the plan as long as the spouse pays the premium.

DID YOU KNOW?

During your first year of retirement your acceptance into this plan is guaranteed. You cannot be declined and you don't need to complete the Medical Questionnaire. Spousal application requires completion of the Questionnaire.

DID YOU KNOW?

It is important to retain photocopies of everything submitted when sending in a paper claim. Things can go missing!

DID YOU KNOW?

It is essential that you sign the Authorization Section (4) when submitting a paper claim. The claims adjudicators are strict about this and can deny your claim.

Eleanor Robinson was born on August 13, 1932 to parents Wes Kendrick of Maidstone, ON and Daisy Miner Kendrick of Essex, ON. Daisy was the daughter of George Miner who was Jack Miner's brother. Daisy was also the principal of Walker Road Public School.



Eleanor was raised in Essex and went to London Normal School and started teaching at David Maxwell School in Windsor. She always taught the primary grades. She would drive her mother in to Walker School every day and she would go on to Maxwell. She married Ray Robinson and they settled on a farm on the 6th Concession off the Arner Townline. They grew wheat, soy beans, oats and corn. There were even peacocks and horses.

In 1960 she had to resign because she was pregnant. In those days once you started to "show" they made you resign. Their son Luke was born in January, 1961. Eleanor wanted to go back to teaching in September but the Windsor Board wouldn't hire her so she applied to the Sandwich East Board like her well respected mother....and John A MacWilliam hired her. She started at John A MacWilliam School(1961-1966).

She was at Gilmore School from 1966-1985. Over the years at Gilmore she would teach the children of children....everyone loved her. Many times Eleanor would call parents and say that she would be taking students home to clean her barn...as a message to have good behaviour at school. There was never a problem with this request and after a shift in the barn she would feed them supper and then drive them home...I think the kids enjoyed this more than any "timeout" or "detention" at school.

Years later, when Gilmore was celebrating a reunion, the committee sent a limousine out to the farm to pick her up and she was the honoured guest.

Her last 5 years were at J E Benson School. Eleanor and Ray hosted every June staff party at the farm. There was always a local band playing on the hay wagon...what a great time we all had at those parties.

Sadly, in her first year of retirement she lost Ray after 67 years of marriage. Eleanor stayed on the farm until 2017 when Luke took it over and she went to live in town at the Iler Lodge where she is quite happy. She is proud of her son Luke and Sandy and her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Eleanor is a beautiful pianist and likes to paint....she even painted scenes on the barn and out-buildings at the farm. She likes to write and has written a short story about her time in Essex.

I was lucky to teach beside her at Gilmore and again at Benson. If you ask anyone she taught or taught with or taught for about Eleanor and you will get the same answer...JUST THE BEST!!!



On October 6th ,some of our RWTO sisters and friends went on a fun filled bus trip to Petrolia.

We started out at Parks Blueberries where we got to shop, taste and purchase their delicious muffins, scones and pies.



We travelled up the road to Victoria Playhouse to see the flying fiddles, grand guitars, awesome accordions and toe tapping entertainment of “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling”. What a wonderful treat to listen to all those Irish songs. We were very excited to meet a cast member and include them in our photo shoot. David Hogan, a Windsorite and Victoria House director even jumped on the bus to say hello.

Chuck’s Road House was was our last stop where we shared food, fun and friendship.

Thanks to Deirdre Palamides , Debbie Powell, Roberta DiLallo and our photographer, our own President Pat Wales. Please check out our website for the wonderful slide presentation.

Hope to see more of you next





*To shine forever
as an example
to all women,
that is the mythic
and collective legacy of all
sisterhoods.*



Willistead Manor Christmas Tour

Tour one of Windsor's most elegant mansions all decked out in its holiday finest. An unforgettable experience for all!

When: Sunday December 11, 2022

Time: 1:30 p.m. Meet at Willistead (purchase your ticket at the door)

Cost: \$5.25

Dinner: 3:30 p.m. If you choose to join us at Gilligan's - 1270 Walker Rd.

Please **RSVP by December 4, 2022**

Contact: Anna Campigotto

519-978-0652 OR campya23@me.com



Legends of Motown

Singers and musicians performing live tributes to The Supremes, The Four Tops, The Temptations and many more features of your favourite songs of the Motown era!

Join us for this fabulous entertaining night.

Where: Chrysler Theatre

When: Saturday February 25, 2023

Time: 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Cost: \$43.00



Contact: Anna Campigotto 519-978-0652 OR campya23@me.com before December 16,2022 to reserve your seats.

Help Needed



Our Branch is seeking a Member to organize Memorial Services for Branch Members who have passed away. This person would lead our short RWTO prayer service. Upon the death of a Member, contact is made with the funeral home who gets family permission. The service itself is already compiled. You choose readers from among the Members who arrive at the funeral home to take part. We have often heard how much families appreciated this prayer service for their loved one and our Member. Your occasional help to assemble and inform Members of a service would be such a comfort and extends Caring and Sharing at a most needed time.

Please contact Pat Wales: rwto.oero.we@gmail.com or (519) 567-8990.

Donation Suggestions for Christmas Luncheon—Dec. 7, 2022

St. Vincent de Paul – St. Alphonsus Conference

Food Donation & Winter Wear needs:

Food Cupboard needs:

- ~ Habitant canned soup
- ~ Uncle Ben's Quick Rice, Bistro Express Rice, Ready Rice, etc. packages
- ~ Knorr Side Kicks pasta packages
- ~ peanut butter

Friend Bags (to help create these support kits):

- ~ toothpaste
- ~ bars of soap
- ~ snack size raisin boxes
- ~ individual Kleenex packs
- ~ snack size cracker & cheese
- ~ granola bars
- ~ snack fruit cups with flip top lids
- ~ snack tuna cans with flip top lids
- ~ Gatorade



Winter Wear:

- ~ toques, gloves, scarves in neutral colours (preferred new but will accept good condition, washed/clean if used)
- ~ adult packs of socks in black or grey

Second Chance Ministry

Toiletry Donation needs:

Lady Bags (to help create these support kits):

- Tampons
- Pads
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Toothpaste
- Soap
- Body wash
- Individual Kleenex
packs
- Deodorant

Being less active and socially connected can lead to isolation. Seniors tend to be one of the larger groups experiencing social isolation. Connecting with others, engaging in a physical activity, having good physical and mental health, balance, and a general feeling of well-being are useful tools to support active aging.



Comfort level plays into how we participate in holiday activities. Deciding to go out, stay at home or invite others over can be ways of celebrating. Scheduling activities with others can be more fun. Walking into a room by yourself puts up obstacles so arrange to meet someone to go in with you. As teachers you have great skills, ideas and solutions. You have given back to the community and are an active productive person with experiences and skills to share. Staying connected gives you a sense of purpose. Reaching out to new people or old friends takes us out of our comfort zone and expands possibilities. Zoom, Facebook or Messenger can give ideas and activities to involve others. Check newspapers, community TV stations and social media for activities in your area. By interacting with others, you are taking steps to improve your quality of life and that of those you are interacting with.

Some ideas for staying in, going out, or being on line:

- Holiday Light Display – if you cannot attend something, have someone videotape the activity to share later
- Share a craft you enjoy
- Share pictures and stories of earlier Christmas celebrations.
- Make favourite recipes with friends then get together to enjoy the results.
- Play Christmas Jeopardy - people participating can create questions
- Make Christmas phone calls to others
- Watch Christmas specials then discuss.
- Volunteer in an area you support and enjoy.
- Keep a journal - Santa does !



Enjoy your holidays by sharing the best gift with others ...you.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2022

Wednesday December 7, 2022

Social Hour 11:00—11:45 a.m.

Lunch Served 12:00 noon

Location Ciociaro Club
3745 N. Talbot Rd.
Oldcastle, ON
NOR 1L0

Cost \$35



Chicken Scallopine

Risotto

Autumn Vegetables

REMEMBER

**your Rewards Card and
RWTO Membership Pin**

Support Our Mission of *Caring & Sharing*

St. Vincent de Paul – St. Alphonsus Conference—Food items & Winter Wear

Second Chance Ministry—Toiletries

Street Help—Share the Wealth

We will collect used eyeglasses and children's books. Book exchange will be available

Tickets must be purchased by **Wednesday November 30, 2022**

Sorry, no refunds after the deadline

Options for payment:

1. **e-Transfer** to rwto.treasurer6@gmail.com—NO security question/answer

Include your name and "Christmas Luncheon"

2. **Mail or porch drop your cheque** (no post dated cheques will be accepted) **along with the form below to:**

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

Member Name _____ First luncheon ? Y or N

Guest Name _____ First luncheon ? Y or N

Newly retired teacher ? Y or N

_____ of lunches @ \$35 = _____

Our new member incentive will be in effect.