

## **RWTO/OERO EAST PARRY SOUND BRANCH**

### **almost FALL NEWSLETTER**



### **Greetings Everyone!**

After a long and very beautiful summer, isn't it nice to welcome cooler evenings and beautiful sunsets! Soon we'll be celebrating the glorious colours of our trees. We are so lucky to be able to enjoy four seasons of beauty here in the highlands of Almaguin. Hoping everyone is well and enjoying a less restrictive lifestyle than that of a couple of years ago. Hoping too that this summer gave each of you the opportunity to spend happy days with family and friends. We have certainly missed those close connections and it's wonderful to be able to be together again.

Our Branch Executive for 2022-2023 met recently at Sundridge Lions Park for an outdoor executive meeting.

Here are our fall meeting dates:

Thursday September 15, 2022....10 until noon

Thursday October 20, 2022.....10 until noon

By the time you read this newsletter, you will have already been invited to the September meeting. I hope you will be able to join in the fun and friendship. Both meetings will be held at the South River/Machar Arena Community Room. This venue offers us the ability to meet together indoors safely while maintaining social distancing. Plus it's very accessible.

### **We Need Your Help and Input.....We Hope To Hear From You**

Unfortunately using the South River Arena venue comes at the considerable cost of \$90.00 per meeting for the room and an extra cost for use of the kitchen.

To date, we've had COVID concerns about having a catered indoor luncheon. On top of that, we need to know of a good caterer. We hope that, by spring 2023, we will be able to find a caterer and a more reasonably priced accessible venue. Until then, we are endeavouring to provide some light refreshments that you might enjoy.

In June, we served muffins, tarts, squares and fruit. For September and October we are bringing in sandwiches and squares from Foodland. That, plus coffee etc. all adds up too. We're asking members to contribute \$10.00 per lunch, to help with these expenses.

Being able to come together safely is of utmost importance we know, but, we are hopeful that by Spring 2023, we'll be back to our traditional meeting style. Do you have any suggestions or contacts for venues and for caterers? Or do you know of a speaker or a topic that would be of interest to our group? Please let us know. You can contact any member of the executive with your ideas.

**This and That:**



**This year's Annual Convention Theme was  
"Laughter Lifts Us Up".**

**Here's Kathy, Peggy and Debbie thinking of setting off in the Hot Air Balloon! We decided to have our picture taken instead.**

**We had a wonderful time.**



**Our June Meeting Activity was lots of fun.**

**We loved wearing our summer attire as we browsed the items we had donated for our Trash and Treasures Sale.. Lots of bargains were found, and at the end of the day, we had raised \$130.00. for the Women's Own Resource Centre.**



**Our unsold treasures were donated to the Almaguin Pet Rescue Garage Sale.**

## **Meet Isabella**

**Here is a picture of Isabella Loranger, our Bursary Recipient for 2022. Isabella is heading off to the University of Ottawa and we wish her lots of success. Kathy and Peggy met with Isabella shortly before the Graduation Ceremony. The high school was bustling with proud parents and very excited graduates.**



**Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday to both Betty Caldwell and Joy Gutjahr**

**These wonderful women turned 90 this summer! They are now members of the Over 90s Group in RWTO/OERO. They join our other Over 90s, Beth McGirr and Lisa Fry.**

**Goodwill**

**Caring and Sharing in good times and bad** is a real strength of our organization. Liz Bradley is our Branch Goodwill Convenor. Please reach out to Liz or to any member of the executive when you learn of members in need of encouragement, friendship, support. We all experience life's ups or downs and we all care.

### **Membership Winners**

Thanks to all members for renewing your membership this year. Our Branch is one of the few that has retained a healthy membership during these past two years. For those who paid their dues before September 1<sup>st</sup>, a lucky draw was held at our recent executive meeting.

**Joan Phillips and Marion Morris, congratulations!**  
You have each won a free membership for this year.



**The Membership Directory** will be updated and available for you soon. Please let Kathy Pike know very soon if there is a change in your contact information.

**Here are the Executive members for 2022-2023. Please reach out to any one of them with your ideas.**

**Co-Presidents:** Eleanor Atkinson, Peggy Stock  
**Past President:** Barb Niles  
**Secretary:** Eleanor Atkinson  
**Treasurer:** Kathy Pike  
**Goodwill:** Liz Bradley  
**Communications:** Peggy Stock  
**Programme:** Lori Holotuk  
**Insurance:** Elva Taggart  
**Archivist:** Joy Gutjahr  
**Honorary President:** Susan Rose

Because of COVID and our lack of regular meetings, your Executive has stayed on for another year. It's certainly wonderful that each one of these ladies has made this commitment to our Branch. However, this isn't a guaranteed commitment for next year. Please consider how you might be able to serve within our Branch Executive. Most positions will be available from President through to Archivist. Change is good for everyone.

Hoping to see you at a meeting or two very soon,  
Yours in Caring and Sharing,  
Peggy

