



# Super Teacher

September 2022, Issue 34

## President's Report:



Welcome to Fall! After so many months, the Peterborough Branch is looking forward to meeting together in person. Your hard-working Executive members attended two hybrid meetings at my home and they have some exciting plans for you this year. There are currently three openings on the Executive. Please consider joining us as the Media Convenor, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. You will receive lots of assistance and encouragement from our vibrant, well-informed members.

Our three annual Luncheons are moving from Baxter Creek. We are booking local venues which require a room rental fee and an outside caterer. A new feature, to cut costs, is to BYOD....Bring your own dishes! Look for the details in upcoming Dispatches.

Thank you to all who sent in their membership fee for this year. We are encouraged to see your dedication to our Branch. We also welcome three new members, Patricia Day, Rhea Whatman and Ann Sinclair. Thank you for your interest. Please note that, during Covid, we did not charge a Social Fee. This \$10 fee will be reinstated for the 2023 -2024 membership year.

Interest groups are commencing again and a new one may be starting. It was great to have the Book Worms continue meeting during Covid on Zoom meetings and the Let's Do Lunch group are enjoying going out for lunch again. Thank you to the members who are hosting these special activities.

I also want to welcome our new Area Director, Lynda Sommer, from the Belleville Branch. She will oversee Area 7's five Branches: Trenton, Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland South Durham and Peterborough and represent us at the Provincial Board Meetings. This year, Area 7 has a Resolutions Committee that will prepare resolutions to be presented at next year's AGM in Kingston. The Presidents in Area 7 also all agreed that we should have another Luncheon. Regrettably, the new \$50 price for the Area 7 Luncheon at Baxter Creek is too expensive, so that venue has been cancelled. We are now looking for another central venue that is more affordable. The new date will be in the Spring.

In caring and sharing,

Judy-Anne

# Convention 2022



The 66<sup>th</sup> Annual RWTO/OERO Convention hosted by the London Branch took place at the Four Points Sheraton Centre in London. After two years of Virtual Conventions there was great excitement to join with other members in person celebrating the theme Laughter Lifts Us Up. As well, there were many opportunities to 'tune in' from home if you could not attend.

Our delegates were Joyce Fee and Esther Kampstra, who capably contributed during discussions with other delegates from Area 7 at the AGM and voted on your behalf. Resolution #1, regarding the increase of the rebate to Branches carried. The rebate will increase from 25% to 30% commencing in the 2023 -24 membership year. This means a \$2.00 per member increase for most members and, for our Branch, equals about \$100.00. Please go to [RWTO.org](http://RWTO.org) to read the details of all of the resolutions presented.

In recent years, Branches have been fortunate to receive equal Grants from the BOD, based on monies available. These are not guaranteed and may not be forthcoming in the future. Each Branch must be fiscally responsible for itself.

The Awards Banquet is always anticipated as all Branches have the opportunity to win. Congratulations to Area 7's Durham North for winning the Barbara Bain Award again for increase in membership. The meals were wonderful and the entertainment was superb. Joyce Fee was chosen to participate in one of the Magician's acts. The look on her face, wand in hand, when flowers appeared, was priceless. Joyce was also honoured at the Thursday Luncheon along with others who have reached the Milestone of 90 years old.



Cathy Harrison, Convention Convenor, her team and the Branches in Area 3 who supported the London Branch, are to be commended for providing us with a safe and successful Convention.

Submitted by Judy-Anne Tumber

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## President's Tea:

About a dozen ladies attended the President's Tea held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at Judy-Anne's home, near Lakefield. It was a beautiful sunny day and while several ladies sat on the deck, others preferred the air-conditioned coolness of inside the house – or was it because the food was there??

And what a variety of food there was! The ladies were invited to bring their own sandwiches, but there were some egg sandwiches available for those who forgot, like me! The scones were newly baked and were delectable with the butter and jam. Then there was a wide selection of delicious desserts. "Do not stand on any weigh scales for a week" should have been posted!!!

Thank you, Judy Anne, for hosting this event and doing so much preparation for us. Your friend Madhu was such a friendly person and a wonderful help with everything.

How good it was to meet in-person once again and catch up on news!!! The Covid years have certainly affected us all. We look forward to the interest groups and our General Meetings starting up again in-person this September.

Submitted by Ann Siddell

## Membership:

At our May 2022 AGM, we gladly welcomed two new members, Ann Sinclair and Ria Whatman. Ria has joined our golf group. During the summer Patricia Day joined us and we enjoyed meeting her at Let's Do Lunch and at the President's Tea. Ten women teachers who retired this year signed up to win the lovely hanging baskets at the Public and the Separate Boards' Retirement Galas. We hope to meet them in the next few months.

The best way to increase our membership is as always – by you asking a friend who is a retired woman teacher to join us at one of our meetings. Let's Do Lunch is a good starting point! Monday September 12 we are meeting for lunch at Aunt Laura's in Bethany. On September 27, we have our first Luncheon General Meeting at the Bridgenorth Community Centre, an exciting new venue for us. So, invite a friend, or two or three ... to come along with you.

Submitted by Ann Siddell

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## Archives:

Recently Jean Axcell, a long-time member in Peterborough and a former Provincial President, handed me a bag full of books and photographs that she had in her home. Some books deal with the history of OASWT, the forerunner of RWTO. Several books were written to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of RWTO. Others were written by individual RWTO members, such as Doreen Roland, Judy Cahorn and Grace Morton. It is fascinating reading about how things used to be in education and the strength of some of the women teachers who strove to make changes, from which we have all benefitted. Thank you, Jean.

Submitted by Ann Siddell

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## Issues and Concerns:

Tips to protect yourself from scammers and identity theft:

- ❖ **Delete unsolicited emails** – no legitimate company will ask for your personal information by email
- ❖ **Never give out personal information over the phone** – if someone claims to be from your bank or credit card company, hang up and call your financial institution at the number listed in the phone book or on their personal website to verify if the call is genuine. Don't access a phone number or email address in that email. Scammers can send an email or phone message using someone else's name or number.
- ❖ **Keep your bank account and credit card information safe** – don't give out passwords and shred papers containing your account numbers.
- ❖ **Report lost or stolen credit or bank cards immediately.**
- ❖ **Review bank/credit statements every month.**

Submitted by Marion Philp

## Goodwill - Birthday Wishes

During the last two years we have sent Birthday cards to those members who have provided information about their special day. To all our other members we wish you the Best of Birthdays. We look forward to celebrating with all our members at our yearly Birthday Bash next spring.

Submitted by Mena Fulton

Special Birthday Wishes to:

Dorothy MacKenzie on her 90th birthday

Pat Schiarizza for her 95



**Congratulations ladies!!**

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## Outreach

The RWTO is continuing to support various organizations in the community thanks to your generosity. This year we will give donations to Crossroads, Cameron House, Salvation Army, YES and Kawartha Food Banks. ***In September, we will be making a collection of school supplies, single sheets, towels, washcloths, unscented shampoo, slippers, cash and gift cards to Crossroads. Please bring your donations to the September meeting.*** If you can't make the meeting, please let me know and we can arrange pick up or delivery.



The Salvation Army is in need of children and teen-age books to distribute at Christmas to needy children. We will be collecting these at the meeting in November. During the same meeting we will be collecting handbags and toiletries as well as clothing for Cameron House.

This year we have found a need for milk bag mats in Peterborough so we will be distributing some of the mats to One City to support those who are living outdoors.

Thank you for your support in helping to make some lives a little better.

Submitted by Karen Howard

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## RWTO Insurance Update:

1. If you are an insured RWTO member with Manulife, you will have received an insurance card with a RWTO Hospital and Home Care Plan that has an ID number that is unique to you.
2. The Secure Serve Website ([manulife.ca/secureserve](http://manulife.ca/secureserve)) on the back of your card can be used to register your information, to review your contact details, submit claims and register for direct deposit. The phone number 1-877-222-7340 is a dedicated line for our RWTO policy and will be promptly answered by a service representative.
3. You can now choose to fill in the RWTO insurance form and submit it online or print a paper copy of the insurance form to complete and send to Manulife.

As Insurance representative for our Peterborough and area branch, I will be attending an insurance meeting this fall with one of our Provincial Insurance Convenors, Karin Mussen or LeAnne Taylor. If you have insurance questions or concerns you would like addressed at that time, I would be pleased to present them.

For more information contact RWTO Peterborough Branch Insurance rep: Ruth Anne McNaught at [ramcnaught@gmail.com](mailto:ramcnaught@gmail.com) or 705-740-3266

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## *Interest Groups*

### Golf:

The RWTO Friday Morning Golf group got off to an early start this year, with our first game on May 6. We plan to play every Friday morning at Heron Landing as long into the Fall as weather permits.

There are 13 in our group, so we usually have three tee times but sometimes only two, as more summer travel has been possible this year. Each golfer takes a two week turn as "Bookee". This has worked very well.

As was the case last year, we are having a Closing Luncheon after golf on Friday, September 23, right at Heron Landing. We do plan, however, on continuing to golf into October.

New members are always welcome.

Think about it!

Submitted by Marilyn Peavoy 🏌️



## Merry Mattress Makers:

As many of you know, since starting this project in our Peterborough Branch, I have had the opportunity to make presentations to many church groups and other RWTO Branches. The UCW at Murray Street Baptist Church, introduced to me by our late member, Pat McAfee, has continued to make mats at the home of Edie Faiers who recently informed me that they will not be weaving mats anymore. I wish them the best and thank them for their consistent interest in this project over the last few years.

The group in Trenton continue to make mattresses and pillows and recently I picked up 28 mats and many pillows from Winnie and Ralph which included mats crocheted by Pat and larger mats woven by Joanne. It is always a pleasure to see them.

Usually, I deliver all of our mats to Angela Kesthely in Kleinburg who then takes them to be distributed by Canadian Food for Children which is located at 1258 Lakeshore Road E. in Mississauga. Angela oversees this project for many groups, including all of ours. So far this year 3453 mattresses have been donated for use around the world.



Recently, Joyce Fee informed us that a Peterborough group, ONE CITY, would be happy to receive mats so Joyce and I delivered the 28 mats and pillows from Trenton to Tammy.

One of our newest members, Patricia Day, is learning to weave the mats and will be taking this project with her to Pembroke.

Our group is starting up again on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Deb Glynn's home at 1:30 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please call her at 416-200-7555.



Submitted by Judy-Anne Tumber



## Let's do Lunch:



The last two years have meant the loss of face-to-face visits while we eat lunch at one of the many restaurants in this area. We are starting the lunches again, but are booking restaurants that either have a separate space for groups or are less busy at lunch time. If you have some suggestions let me know.

Sixteen members met at Aunt Laura's on September 12 for a lovely lunch and an informative talk by owner, Kathy, who is very involved in the local community

Also, we are asking members to invite a friend to join us - a retired teacher who may have recently retired or have been retired for years. One of the comments people make in not joining a group is that they have never been asked. So, let's make this the year they are included.

Tuesday, October 4 - Chemong Lodge in Bridgenorth

Submitted by Joyce Fee [jfee@accel.net](mailto:jfee@accel.net)

## Book Worms

Our book club met on the porch of Judy-Anne's house in June. It was nice to reconnect with the ladies that were able to attend.

We have a full schedule of books for the following year. In September, Karen Howard will be hosting. The book to be discussed is Big Lonely Dog. Some other books we will be reading are Ru, Cat's Eye, The Henna Artist, and Where the Crawdads Sing.

Our book club is so popular that we have had to close the membership. We would be glad to add anyone to a waiting list that is interested in joining. Happy reading.

Submitted by Karen Howard

