

Belleville Branch of RWTO/OERO September 2022

Celebrating our History

50 Years and Still Going Strong!

Welcome:

President Elaner Pound welcomed Branch Members and Guests to the 50th Anniversary of the Belleville Branch of RWTO/OERO.

The September 21st meeting was held in Foxboro at Emmanuel United Church.



The church hall was beautifully decorated with fall colours.

Introduction of Guests:

Elaner called on Members who had brought guests to introduce them. Nine guests were in attendance. Guests were treated to a free lunch.

Recognition of Past Presidents:

The names of all Past Presidents since the inception of the Belleville Branch were read and acknowledged. Each past President, in attendance, was presented with a flower.



L to R: Judy VanLeeuwen, Diane Fisher, Mavis Rupnow, Sandra Campbell, Robin O'Connor, Kay Snedden, Elaner Pound

Recognition of Past Area 7 Directors:

President Elaner named all past Areas Directors from our Branch and welcomed Linda Sommer into her role as Director.



Mavis Rupnow was presented flowers. She was the only past director present.

PRESIDENTS OF BELLEVILLE BRANCH – 1952-2022

1952 – The local organization was called “The Retired Teachers’ Club.

1952 – 1957 Pearl Campbell

1956 – OASWT (Ontario Association of Superannuated Women Teachers) was formed as a Provincial Organization.

1957 – 1960 Nellie Anderson

1960 – 1962 Grace Tucker

1962 – 1964 Lillian Hart

1964 – 1966 Edna Emery

1966 – 1967 Dorothy Blakely

1967 – 1969 Wanda Sine

1969 – 1972 INACTIVE

1972 – 1974 Daisy Young **(Considered to be year one for the Belleville association)**

1974 – 1976 Helen Calnan

1976 – 1978 Edna Welsh

1978 – 1979 Ethel McDonald

1979 – 1981 Lorna Rorabeck

1981 – 1983 Marie Emerson (10 yrs for Belleville)

1983 – 1985 Marion Cornwall

1985 – 1986 Ann Smith

1986 – 1987 Pat March

1987 – 1988 Thelma Hicks

1988 – 1989 Helen McLaren

1989 – 1991 Verna Howard

1991 – 1993 Eleanor Alexander (20 yrs for Belleville)

1993 – 1996 Marion Cameron

1996 – 1998 Irene Duncan (**1997 was the 25th Anniversary for Belleville**)

1998 – 2001 Judy VanLeeuwen

1999 Name of the Provincial Organization changed to RWTO

RETIRED WOMEN TEACHERS OF ONTARIO

2001 – 2003 Sandra Campbell (30 yrs for Belleville)

2003 – 2005 Mavis Rupnow

2005 – 2007 Elaner Pound

2007 – 2009 Robin Gibbs

2009 – 2011 Lynda Sommer

2011 – 2014 Jennifer Davis (40 yrs for Belleville)

2014 – 2016 Kay Snedden

2017 – 2020 Diane Fisher and Judy Mewett and Wendy Bryson – shared duties

2020 – 2022 Elaner Pound (**50th year CELEBRATION**)

BELLEVILLE BRANCH AREA 7 DIRECTORS

1997 Marion Cameron

2016 – 2018 Jennifer Davis

2006 Mavis Rupnow

2022 Lynda Sommer

General Meeting: - approval of minutes of last meeting and treasurer's report.

Adopt a Child Donations:

Donations collected at the meeting today totalled \$1260.00. Every year our branch collects donations to buy winter coats for children.

Door Prizes and Share the Wealth:

3 Door Prizes were given out. Jan Chappell won the Share the Wealth Draw of \$72.50. She donated the money to the Adopt A Child fund raiser. Nancy Shorey won the Early Bird Draw. She will have her 2022/2023 Membership paid by branch.

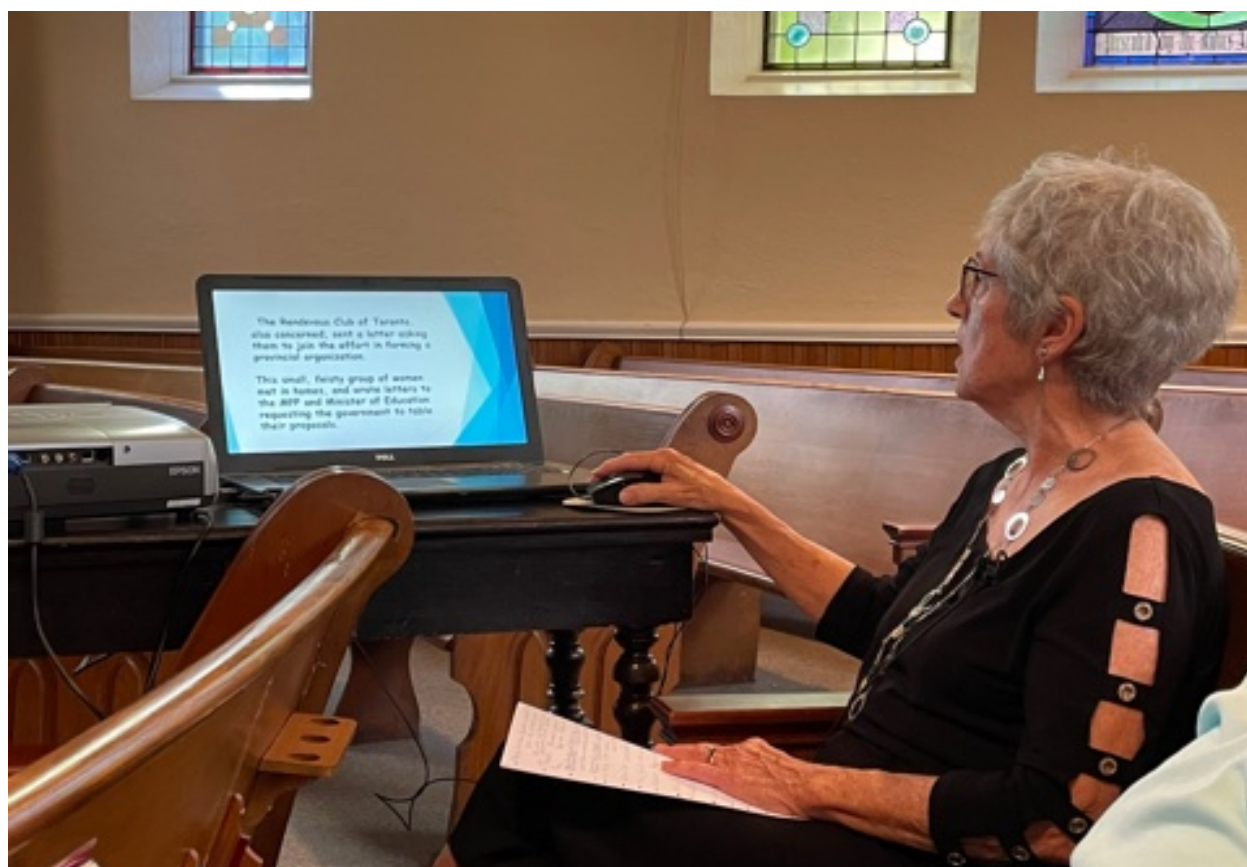
Luncheon:

The church ladies prepared a chicken and salad luncheon for us. Beverages of apple cider and tea were served. Dessert was a delicious carrot cake.

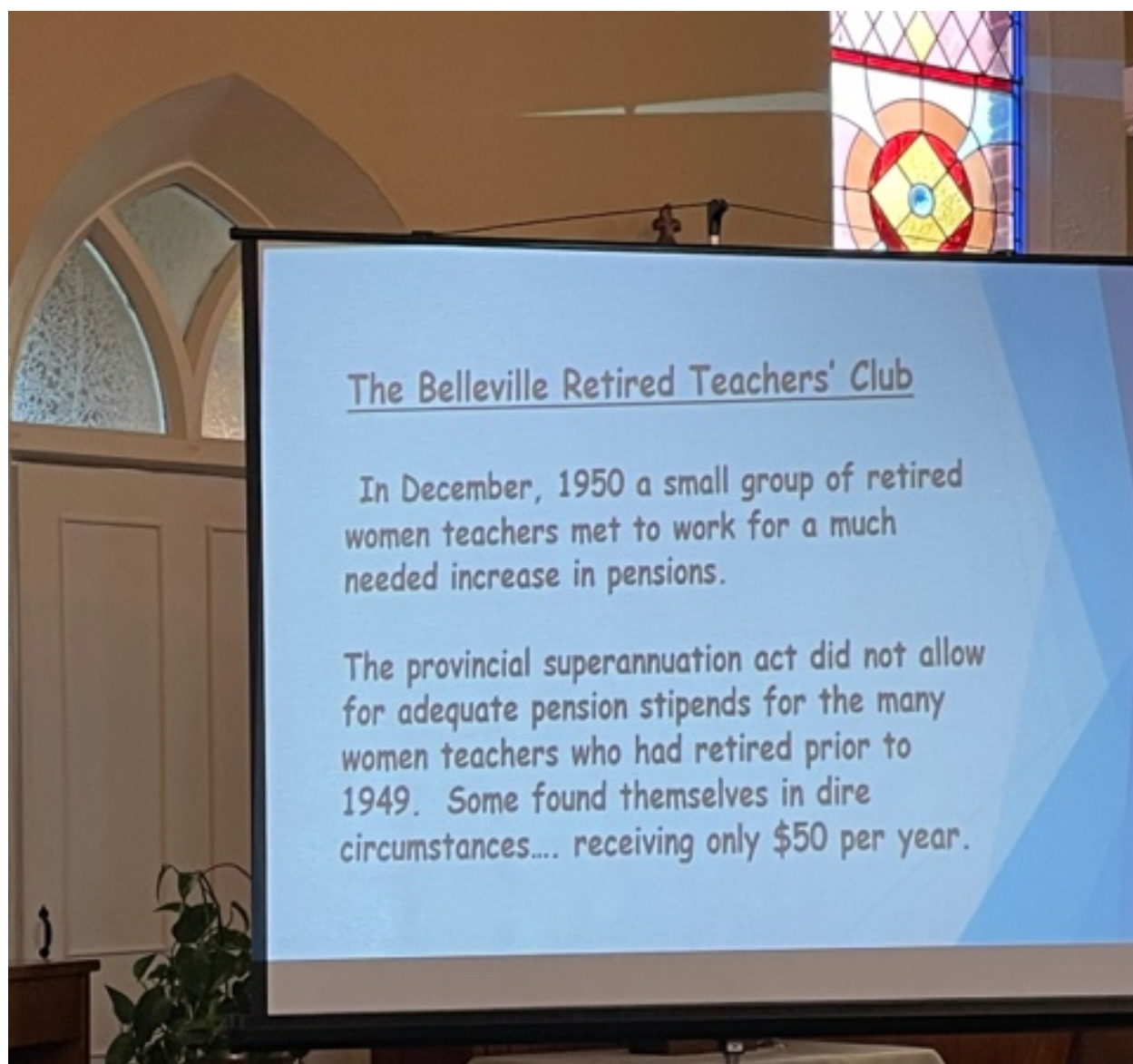


Program:

Introduction of Kay Snedden, our Archivist “The History of the Belleville Branch of RWTO/OERO” Kay Snedden in collaboration with other Branch Members (Jean Sowden and Elaner Pound) presented an excellent overview of the beginnings of the current RWTO and of the 50 year history of our Branch. This was done through a power point presentation of pictures and a commentary. All aspects of what our Branch does was touched upon: programmes; awards; support of charitable groups; interest groups; special events and many more.



Kay Snedden – Archivist Belleville Branch



The Belleville Retired Teachers' Club

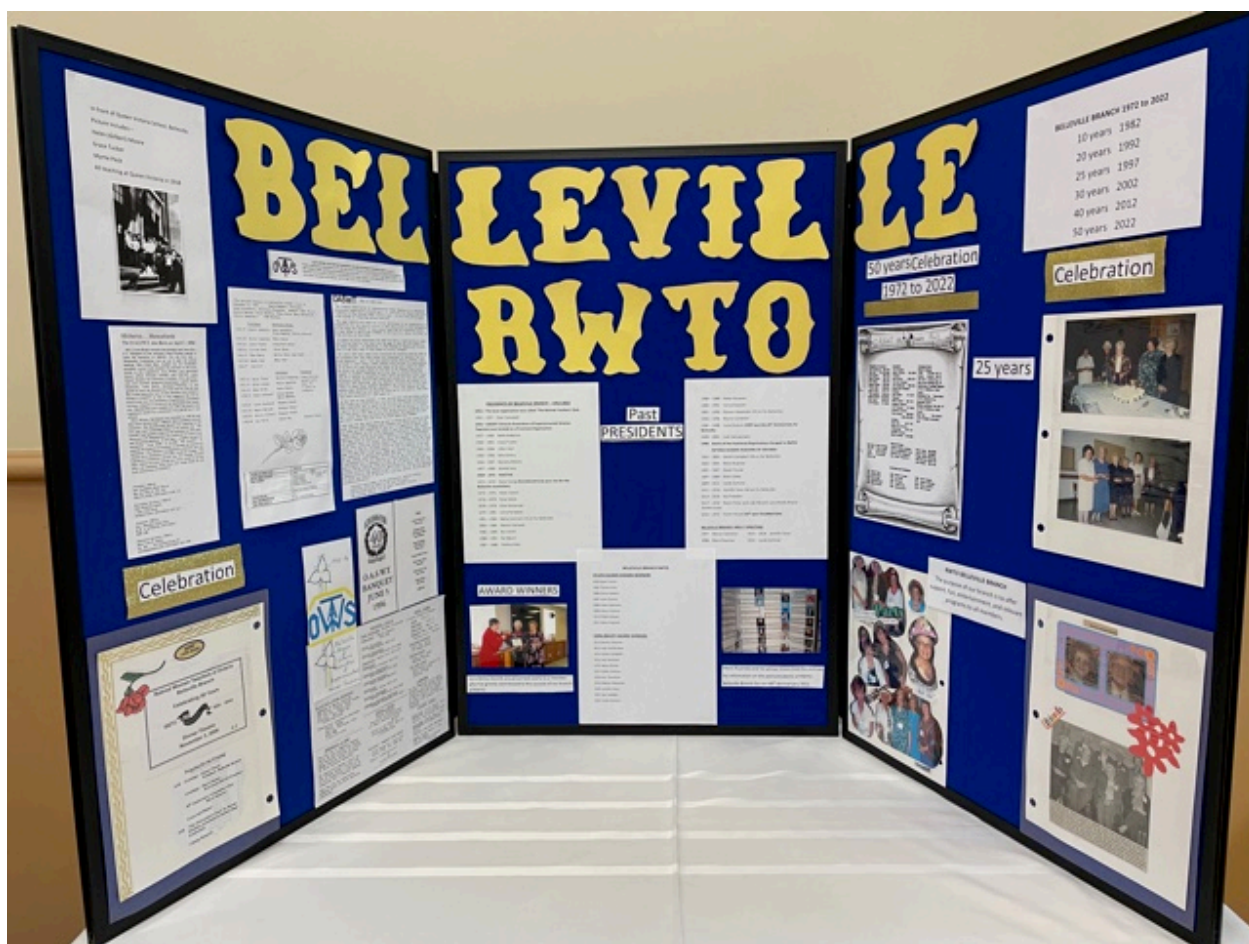
In December, 1950 a small group of retired women teachers met to work for a much needed increase in pensions.

The provincial superannuation act did not allow for adequate pension stipends for the many women teachers who had retired prior to 1949. Some found themselves in dire circumstances.... receiving only \$50 per year.



Display Board:

Lynda Rollins created a display board outlining the history of our branch and RWTO.



Entertainment:

Lynda Rollins introduced and thanked the Musical Group – “Kindred Spirits”. Both members of the group, Lianne Snow and Gerry Burford entertained us through song and guitar playing. A

musical “Trip through the Decades” was enjoyed by all. The encore song was an original written by Lianne.



KINDRED SPIRITS – Lianne Snow & Gerry Burford