Retired Women Teachers of Ontario
Windsor-Essex Branch
CARING & SHARING
Winter 2024

President's Message

Gina Marcon



Happy Autumn everyone. It seems like just yesterday I was extending summer greetings to all our RWTO sisters. We were all pleased at the turnout in September for the wonderful Turkey Luncheon at St. Mary's Hall. The feedback we received was wonderful. Many members shared with our Executive Committee that they would agree if the cost of the luncheon was increased to $40.00. *We will make that increase for our Spring 2025 luncheon*. The location will be announced in the Spring 2025 Newsletter. Much gratitude is extended to the volunteer helpers who delivered our donations throughout the county – MaryAnne Angus, Maureen Johnson, Lowanna Closs, and Gail Raymond. Also, to Vicky Walker and Luana Zambito for organizing, sorting and packing the donated food and toiletries. Big thanks to our welcome table ticket sellers: Maureen Johnson, Diane Picard, Paulette Renaud and Gloria Kenny. Finally, a big appreciation is extended to Val Luscott and Judy Van Wijingaarden for their lovely presentation to our Forever Young Award recipient – Anne Rudy.



Congratulations to our prize winners:
AMICA prize basket – Stehane Mikitch
Christmas 2024 Free luncheon – Luciana Marier
Share the Wealth – Kathleen Paterson, Jo-anne Duffy, Donna Hiller
RWTO Donated Door Prizes – Carmen Eaton, Genny Rudzinski, Ruth Rhea, Liz Rogers, Brenda Hobson, Josephine Starets.

Share the Wealth

The Executive would like to thank Chris Pastorius and Annette Bezaire for their long-standing support of RWTO/OERO's Share the Wealth initiative. Without fail, *for the last sixteen year*s, they have been greeting you at our luncheons and manning the Share the Wealth table.
We cannot thank them enough for their dedication to our caring and sharing initiative. When you see them at our next luncheon, please thank them in person for their long-term contribution.

"Win" ter Mint Fest

Linda White



Join us at our Winter Luncheon at the Ciociaro Club for a fun, festive shopping spree. Browse through the wide array of gifts, make your selections and drop your purchased tickets. Enjoy shopping for yourself and those special people in your life. Your ticket purchase also includes a numbered "WIN" ter mint for a Bonus draw gift package!

6 Tickets for $5.00
***No Debit or Credit - Cash only** 😉

Treasurer's Report

Karen Clark-Lauzon

Your dues help our Branch to plan activities and support our members for the upcoming year. Belonging to an organization of professionals keeps our sisterhood connected. Dues also determine the number of delegates we can send to the annual AGM (in Brantford this year), so that your voices are heard within the Provincial organization.

Please note that if you have paid dues since April 2024, you are paid up and do not need to send them again until August 2025. Dues are $60/year. Also note, at this point, the charge has been $35 for a luncheon, with a subsidy provided by the Branch. This amount will increase to $40. Please contact our president, Gina Marcon, if you have any questions/concerns regarding the effect this increase may have on you.

How to pay:

1) E-transfer to rwto.treasurer6@gmail.com
In the message section, please put your name and the word "Dues". No security question or answer is needed.

2) By cheque made payable to RWTO Windsor/Essex. Mail by Canada Post or drop off in the mailbox at:
Karen Clark-Lauzon
266 Ramblewood
LaSalle, Ont
N9J 3B3

Insurance Convenor

Luana Zambito

The Fall Luncheon was a huge success and we had the honour of listening to Terry Kennedy, our Manulife representative. She was very informative and discussed the Hospital and Home Care Insurance Plan. The benefits include Convalescent, Comfort Care, Home Nursing, Ambulance/Taxi, Cataract, Physician Validation, Transportation, Patient Transfer and Fracture Benefits. I am hoping that her talk helped our members. Go to https://rwto.org/membership/insurance-plan/ if you would like more information.

REMEMBER the deadline for the Open Window is December 31. If you want to enroll, give Terry a call at 519-583-0098 or you can email her at tkennedy34@bell.net

DID YOU KNOW that you don't need to see the specialist who treated you in the hospital to complete the claim form? Your family physician receives all reports from the various specialists you may visit and will usually complete the forms much quicker than the Specialist. If you are charged a fee to complete the Attending Physician Statement of the claim form, you can submit a receipt for that charge and be reimbursed $50 under the Physician Valuation Expense benefit.



Sharing and Caring

Vicky Walker

Our sponsored charities are:

The House of Sophrosyne provides programs and services to women and their families who are battling substance misuse.

● Peanut Butter, Soups, Jam, Pasta Noodles, Rice, Tuna, School Snacks, Cereal, Oatmeal, Body Wash & Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner

IRIS House provides safe and secure supportive housing and services for persons with persistent serious mental illness.

● Maxi Pads (thick), Ladies' Stick Style Deodorant, Toothbrushes

Kids First Food Bank is dedicated to making a positive impact through its social housing and support services, programs that encourage children and families to be active and socially connected, and meeting basic needs via its food bank.

● Food & Toiletries

Kingsville Food Bank proudly helps Kingsville residents who may be experiencing food insecurities.

● KFB will be the recipient of our Share the Wealth draw.

Membership Convenor
Carole Kuli

Like a tree, RWTO keeps extending their branches and reaching out to more and more ladies in our educational family; EAs, CYWs, ECEs, Social Workers, Psychologists, Speech and Language Pathologists and Office Administrators. Because this is a relatively new aspect of our organization, please invite someone you may know from these branches and teachers too, to our next luncheon so they can see what we are all about.

To date, we have 255 Members, 9 lifetime Members and 5 Associate Members. We happily welcome our new members Wendy Hill and Maureen Johnson to our RWTO family.

The Early Bird Draw was again a big success. Congratulations to Kathy Lefave, this year's winner of the Indigo Gift Card. We still have some outstanding membership dues. Please try your best to pay Karen Clark Lauzon as soon as possible. (See payment instructions in the treasurer's report)

Congratulations to Vivian Lacroix for winning the free membership for 2024-25.

Letting me or another Board member know when your personal information has changed (phone number, address, email address etc.) would be greatly appreciated. This allows us to communicate much more effectively.





Goodwill Convenor
Val Luscott



Thanks go to Judy Van Wijngaaden and Carol Kuli for helping to arrange the 90th+ celebration for Ann Rudy at our September luncheon. Judy and Ann delighted us with anecdotes and reminiscences. Ann expressed her delight and said she was overwhelmed by it all.

We are asking for help with the Goodwill program. We need help with the following :
- To assist in delivering our Windsor Essex Branch's Memoriam Service. This service would be delivered when the family of a deceased member have permitted us to hold this service.
-To present a Branch candle and card to the family.
-To help arrange an annual memorial service at the Spring luncheon.

Please contact Val Luscott at vluscott54@gmail.com and/or Gina Marcon at rwto.oero.we@gmail.com
if you would consider helping. Our motto is Caring and Sharing. We try to carry this motto out for our members, especially for those who have left us.

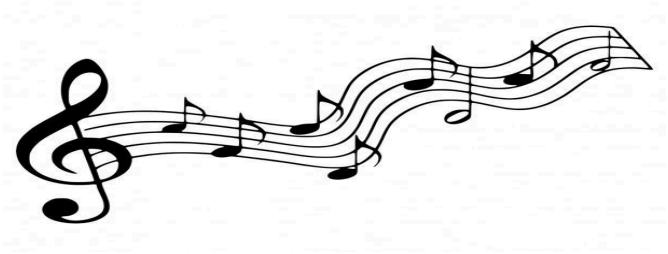
Financial Planning Workshop
Vicky Walker.

The workshop was held at the Ciociaro Club. Corrine from Educators Financial Group shared many strategies to protect our assets and ensure our health care and final wishes are carried out. The ladies who attended had lots of questions and we learned so much that we are looking at inviting Corrine back for a part two! Stay tuned.

Social Committee Convenor

Anna Campigotto

We went back in time to the great days of Rock and Roll! “Relive the Music of The 50’s & 60’s” at the Capital Theatre on October 16. Talented singers, musicians and dancers entertained us. We sang along with the likes of Tina Turner, Elvis Presley and Buddy Holly to name a few of that era’s great artists. It was a great night shared with RWTO ladies.



“Music is the universal language of mankind.” — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Upcoming Social Committee Events

Anna Campigotto

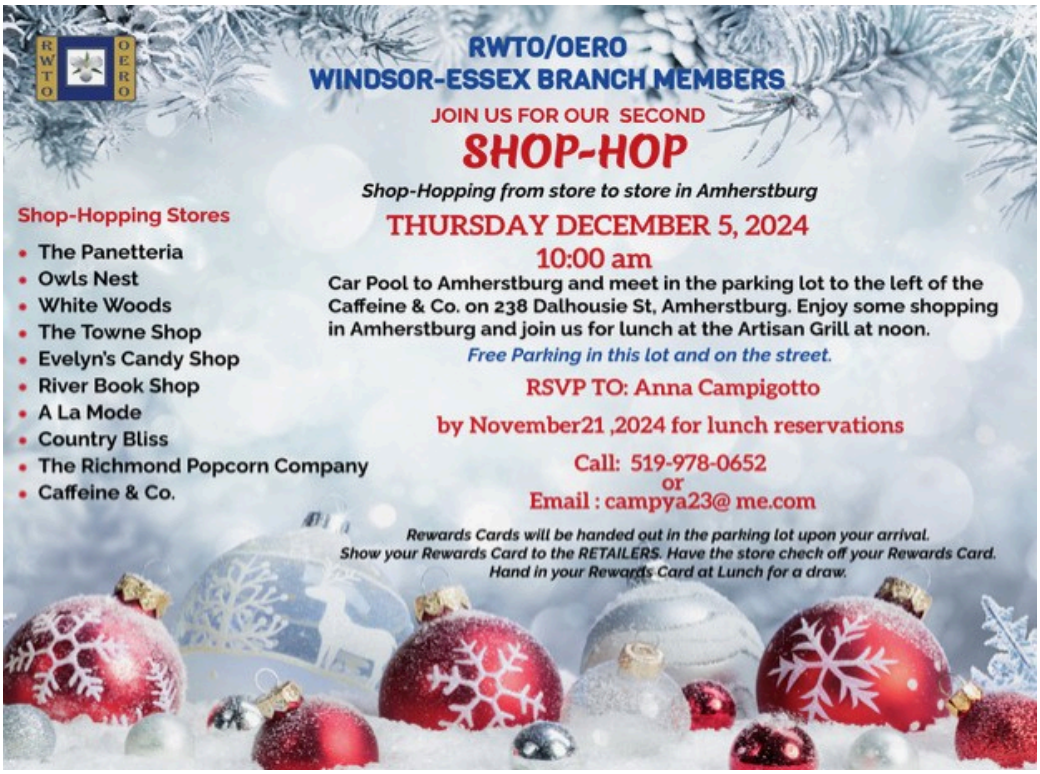
Starbright in Petrolia, November 28, there’s still room for more people. Must contact Anna Campigotto before November 1.🎭

Shop-Hop - Shop Hopping from store to store in Beautiful downtown Amherstburg. 🛍️

Paint Night - Back by popular demand a paint night with Julia Conlon in February 2025.🎨

St. Patrick’s Day - Come join the festivities and learn all about the Irish limericks and traditions with some green beer, friendly faces, good food and lots of laughter. The Thompson House is a fantastic place to gather 🍀
When: March 18 2025; Time: 12:00 pm

Contact: Anna Campigotto if interested in any of the above events. Phone: 519-978-0652
Email – campya23@me.com



Issues and Concerns Convenor

Janice Murphy

I think of the year's last newsletter like it's report card time, leaving us open to new opportunities and ideas. When making decisions, each person has their individual opinion based on past experiences. Some people are more comfortable leaving a situation as it is and others are more comfortable introducing change. Both can be right at the same time. This requires communication, being open to hearing both sides/points of view and actively listening to what the other has to say. We all have shared experiences, for example, when determining whether to transfer to a new school, you might ask yourself, "Do I initiate the transfer or wait until I am in a position where I must move due to numbers, or have the decision imposed on me?" These are situations that we might expect, are inherent in the positions we held as former teachers and then we use that information to form our decisions. However, since we don't know the future and there is no crystal ball, we don't know what might happen when we least expect it, the following is something to keep in mind when processing information.

At one of the AGM workshops a facilitator introduced a new concept they had been working on. They were promoting an opportunity to welcome people who needed their facilities for community, friendship, and some assistance to come to their facility before they had a medical incident that forced them to have to be there. That way you may feel you had a choice in the decision and when difficulties arose they were already in a place which was familiar to them. It only took a few seconds for conversations to pop up all over the room with discussion. There is a wealth of information available to assist us as we and the people we love age. Listening is always helpful and productive but expanding our perspectives to changing times and studied concepts may prove to be of some help in making significant decisions.

Past President Presentation



Linda White proudly presented our most recent past president, Pat Wales, with her Past President's Pin.

The board and our membership would like to thank Pat for her continuing contributions to RWTO/OERO Windsor-Essex Branch.

Fall Luncheon Photos









Winter Luncheon – Tues. December 3, 2024



Social Hour: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **Lunch Served:** 12:15 p.m.

Venue: Ciociaro Club, 3745 North Talbot Rd., Oldcastle, ON

Cost: $35.00 **Menu:** Served Family Style, Penne Bolognese, Chicken Marsala with mushrooms, Mixed Vegetables, Garden Salad, Pastries with coffee & tea

Options for payment:	
1) *** e-Transfer** to: **rwto.treasurer6@gmail.com** Please include your full name and "Winter Luncheon" in the transfer message area. *e-Transfers are **auto-deposit.**	2) **Mail or porch drop your cheque,** (please, no posted dated cheques) along with the form below, **made payable to:** **RWTO Windsor-Essex** **Send to:** Karen Clark-Lauzon 266 Ramblewood Dr. LaSalle, ON N9J 3B3

Please purchase your tickets by: Monday, November 25, 2024
Sorry, no refunds after this date.

Support our mission of Sharing and Caring



1. **The House of Sophrosyne** - Peanut Butter, Soups, Jam, Pasta, Noodles, Rice, Tuna, School Snacks, Cereal, Oatmeal, Body Wash, Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner
2. **IRIS House**- Maxi Pads (thick), Ladies Stick Style Deodorant, Toothbrushes
3. **Kids First Food Bank -** Food & Toiletries
4. **Kingsville Food Bank-** Share the Wealth

A book exchange will be available.

****Remember to wear your RWTO membership pin.**

Member Name: _____ First Luncheon? Y or N

Guest Name: _____ First Luncheon? Y or N

Number of lunches @ $35.00 - _____ **Newly Retired Teacher? Y or N**