

Belleville and Area Branch

Caring and Sharing and Having Fun

President: Kay Snedden

Secretary: Diane Fisher

Past President: Jennifer Davis

Treasurer: Eileen Freeman

1st Vice President:

Insurance Convenor: Judy Vanleeuwen

Communications: Jennifer Davis

Issues&Concerns: Judy Vanleeuwen

Membership: Mavis Rupnow

Goodwill: Irene Duncan

Travel: Lynda Rollins

Archivist: Jean Sowden

Program: Lynda Sommer/Patti Clapp

The Belleville and Area Branch is seeking retired women teachers in Belleville and surrounding areas from Prince Edward County to North Hastings and areas in between!

Interested in joining our RWTO/OERO Branchcall 613 962-7390

We meet in April, June, October and December. Our meetings include a social time, luncheon, business and entertainment.

Euchre Club Report:

The Euchre Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm at the Richmond Retirement Residence on North Front Street. They have lunch at the nearby Tim Horton's at 12:00 noon. Sometimes the group plays bid euchre or regular euchre, depending on the number of players.

Come and join us for fellowship and fun.

Contact Lois Thompson

Chit Chat Club:

The Chit Chat club is a friendly, small group of RWTO members who meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month except for July and August. The meetings are held at Federation House, 114 Victoria Ave. Belleville at 1:30 pm. The group discusses current topics of interest. A light snack concludes each meeting. Twice a year the group dines out at a local restaurant. Interested in joining?

Contact Bev Pulver or Marilyn Stobbart

Book Club

The book club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm. Favourite books are discussed and members may recommend the next read. It is an informal book club and not everyone must read the same book. Interested in joining the book club?

Contact Robin Gibbs

Bridge Club:

The Bridge Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1pm and they want you to join them as a regular or a spare. They finish playing around 4pm.

Contact Cathy Atkinson

Diners' Club

The name says it all. This group meets and eats! They dine out the 2nd Monday of each month at 12:30 pm.

Contact Carol Watson

Walking Club

This group meets each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and walks various trails throughout the city. It's a great way to get to know one another. The walkers are a friendly, easy going group.

Contact Jennifer Davis

The Scrappers

This group has meets monthly. New members are most welcome. Some are sprucing up their photo albums. **Contact Elaine Truman**



The Belleville and Area Branch met on April 21, 2015 at St. Mark's Church in Cannifton, Ontario. We were treated to a delightful full course luncheon with tables decorated with tulips and pussy willows! Spring at last!



Members enjoyed one another with laughter and conversation before the business meeting began. Many members were back from warmer climates and the rest were glad to be out of hibernation.



President Kay led the business meeting. Members voted to accept the 2014 budget as presented as well as the proposed budget for 2015.

Members also gave the delegates approval to vote at their discretion at the annual convention in June after hearing all the information presented.

Sandra Campbell, our 2014 Cora Bailey Award recipient, introduced our 2015 Cora Bailey Award recipient, **Jean Sowden**.

Jean was nominated for her dedication to RWTO as well as her community responsibilities such as volunteering for Heart and Stroke, the Cancer Society and Multiple Sclerosis. Jean volunteered for a time at local schools after her retirement. She has been secretary for the Belleville and Area Branch and has had the position of archivist for 15 years. Jean lovingly cares for our history and was instrumental in finding storage for it in the Educational Archives in Ameliasburgh. Jean has represented our branch at conventions. Jean thoughtfully leads us in a memorial service each fall. Everything Jean does, she does with care and dedication. Congratulations, Jean!



President Kay and Jean



Cora Bailey Award recipient Jean Sowden with her daughter Beth



Lynda Sommer introduced our guest speaker, Sue Meech, a retired registered nurse who accidentally fell into the role of animal rescuer. Sue heads up Sandy Pines Wildlife Center in Napanee, Ontario. Sue's first animal rescue, approximately 25 years ago, was a bald eagle. After the eagle's successful release to the wild, Sue began her rescue and rehabilitation adventures.

Sandy Pines takes in most of Eastern Ontario from Toronto through to Montreal and Ottawa. Her presentation introduced us to the many creatures, mammals and

birds that have received care from the staff at Sandy Pines. There are 2 full time employees and 100 volunteers at the center. It is a fully licenced facility.

Sue's philosophy is "If you build cages, they will come!" The members enjoyed Sue's wit and dedication.

Sandy Pines has just completed a new state of the art hospital facility which Sue is extremely proud of.

The members showed their appreciation through applause and a donation to the center.



Patti presents Sue with a donation on behalf of the members of Belleville Branch.

Two new members were welcomed to the Belleville and Area Branch.

Glad you've joined us Shirley and Cindy!



The next meeting for Belleville and Area Branch is on June 17, 2015 at the First Pentecostal Church in Belleville. Our guest will be Tony Silvestri.

Belleville and Area Branch has been invited by Trenton Branch to join them at their June meeting.