

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: Judy Mewett

2nd Vice President: Wendy Bryson

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 Branch? Call 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 12:00 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 meets monthly. New members are most welcome. Need to spruce up a photo album, create a new one or have a special project in mind?

Contact Elaine Truman



The Belleville and Area Branch met for their annual Christmas luncheon at the First Pentecostal Church in Belleville. As usual, the church was decorated beautifully and inspired the feelings of Christmas in all of us. We also enjoyed our annual turkey dinner with all the trimmings including a variety of homemade pies.



A tribute was made to long time member Barbara Cameron, who had passed away.

Our good will convenor, Irene Duncan will make a donation to the Quinte Arts Council in Barbara's memory.

Irene also reminded members that Alice Heasman, who resides in Stirling, will be turning 107 years old on December 23.

Congratulations, Alice!

As part of our Caring and Sharing, members of the Belleville and area Branch donated in kind and monies, more than \$1200 worth of personal hygiene products again this year to the Hastings and Prince Edward Learning Foundation/Student Emergency Fund.

With our \$1200 monetary contribution to the Adopt-A-Child program which provides new winter clothing for children up to 12 years of age, the members have outdone themselves again with their generosity to the children in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties.



Elaner Pound, a member of the Learning Foundation Board, explained the significance of our gifts. The students who receive these donations and other help from the Learning Foundation are marginalized and often homeless. These gestures make it possible for them to continue in school with dignity.



Director for Area 7, Karen Rynard, joined us for our Christmas celebration. Karen spoke on how different expectations and change can alter our lives in and out of the teaching profession. She encouraged members to tell and share their stories to celebrate the 60 anniversary of RWTO/EORO. Through these stories “we

respect the past.” She also encouraged us to focus on the future and the “sparkle” that it holds for each of us and our organization.

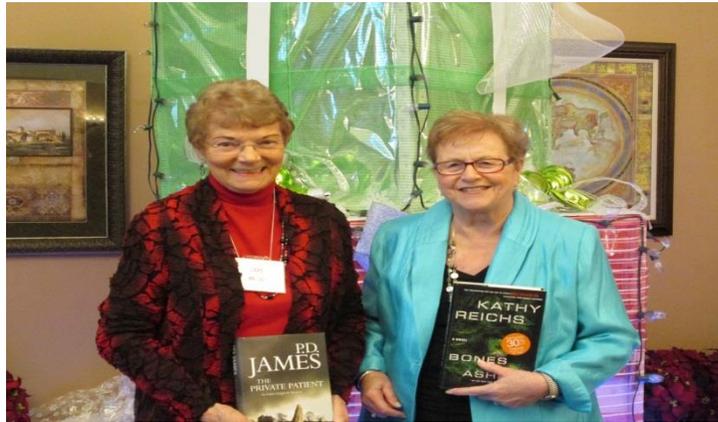


Karen also helped us welcome new members to the Belleville and Area Branch by presenting each one with her pin.

Congratulations on joining a terrific organization. You made a wonderful choice!



The book club set up a table for a book exchange, bring one...take one! Thanks go to Robin O'Connor, the book club convenor.



After the delicious meal, members of the Belleville and Area Branch were treated to the piano styling of Tony Sylvestri, an award winning singer and keyboardist from our area. Tony played his original compositions as well as cover songs of Elton John and the Beatles.



Tony has been touring with Glorious Sons and has opened for the likes of Pat Benetar, Kim Mitchell and April Wine. Tony wowed the women at the luncheon with his keyboarding and vocals.



Tony's original compositions are being played on the radio.

He also has a CD and 3 lucky women won a CD from our door prize draw, Joyce Smith, Elaine Dafoe and Judy Mewett.



Tony was accompanied vocally on a couple of selections by Carol Flynn.

What a marvellous way to finish a meeting and usher in the month of December!

We left with joy in our hearts!

Our next meeting is Thursday, April 14, 2016 at St. Mark's Church in Cannifton.

Our guest speaker, Terry Sprague is presenting **The Natural Wonders of the Quinte Watershed.**

