

'CARING & SHARING'
RWTO/OERO NORTHUMBERLAND/SOUTH DURHAM BRANCH
FALL 2013 NEWSLETTER - ISSUE TWENTY-ONE

FALL MEETING

- WHEN:** Wednesday, September 25, 2013
10:00 am - Registration/Social 11:00 am - Guest Speaker
12:15 pm - Lunch 1:00 pm - Business
- WHERE:** St. Andrew's United Church, Old Danforth Road, Grafton
- MEAL:** Ham, Scalloped Potatoes & Fall Vegetables \$15
** Please let us know if you have special dietary needs.
- PROGRAM:** Guest Speaker - Darlene Read, a retired teacher, who in her humorous way will speak about a program that she has begun with a group of creative friends, while demonstrating items that they make from everyday items for their 'Operation Christmas Child' for children in third world countries. Note: She will be speaking at 11 am.
Installation of 2013-2014 Officers
Silent Auction during social time for gently used books (donations gratefully received).
- CHARITABLE DONATIONS:** Cornerstone Family Violence Prevention Centre
(formerly known as Northumberland Services for Women)
- REPLY:** **Before September 18th:** Call Bonnie Greer - 905 372 5886, Elaine Doty - 905 983 5831 or Julia Esford - 905 576 4494 or email Julia: esfordjr@bell.net if you plan to attend.

* **A Gentle Reminder:** We are committed to pay for all meals ordered. If you are unable to attend as you indicated to Bonnie, Elaine or Julia, please cancel by contacting Julia at least seven days before the meeting. Thanks!

If you know of a retired woman teacher who is not a member of our RWTO Branch, please invite her to come to the meeting with you. Let the person that you contact know the person you will be bringing. All qualified teachers who are retired are eligible to be members of RWTO regardless of whether they are receiving a teacher's pension. Teachers on Long Term Disability may become members.

Branch Newsletter: To save postage and photocopying expense the branch newsletter is sent by email to those who have given us an email address. If you received yours by mail and you do have email, please let the editor, Joan Smith, know (joan.charlie@sympatico.ca) in time for the Christmas issue.

BRANCH CHOIR

Message from Choir Director Vicki Cubitt:

We will try to start up the choir again this September and see if we have enough members. This is not an audition choir. We welcome anyone who loves to sing. Fun and companionship is the motivation!! You just need to be a retired female teacher to join (our hope is that this could be a venue to get more branch members). For a while, practices will be at my house to see if our numbers can increase to at least ten members. Address: 479 Rembrandt Crt., Oshawa. Practices will start on Tuesday, September 17th from 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm. PASS THE WORD AND ENCOURAGE LADIES TO COME OUT! Thank you!

Editor's Note: Our **Branch Choir** will fold unless 10 women become members. Call Vicki Cubitt at 905 723 5114 or email cobysummer@netscape.net to let her know that you will be coming and/or for directions.

BRANCH SPRING MEETING

Our spring meeting was held at Royal Canadian Legion, Bowmanville on May 7, 2013. President, Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers, welcomed everyone and then capably handled the business portion of the meeting.

Treasurer, Julia Esford, reported that our membership is lower and she emphasized that we all need to help in recruiting new members. Julia also reminded members that we have to pay for meals that are ordered even if the person does not attend. Members donated \$51.75 for 'Big Sisters/Big Brothers', and the silent auction of gently used books raised \$37.00 to help with branch expenses. Carolle Kennedy-Harding, our insurance convener, advised those who are enrolled in the RWTO/OERO plan to check the insurance company to see exactly what coverage they have. All members are encouraged to complete the information forms to provide updated information and give to our archivist, Barbara Moorcroft. If you know of a retired woman teacher who is in a retirement/nursing home or hospital, please contact your local goodwill representative. The resolutions for the provincial conference in June were discussed.

The 2012-13 Cora Bailey Award for our branch was presented to Carolle Kennedy-Harding by Past-President, Vicki Cubitt. Vicki mentioned Carolle's expertise in teaching and in our branch serving as our insurance representative for many years, as first vice-president and executive member. She has shared her musical talent with us, especially playing piano for our meetings. After she was presented with carnations from our branch president, Carolle thanked the membership and related many interesting proverbs that suited the situation.

After a roast beef dinner, Bunny Wright introduced our speaker Julia Reynolds-McNeil from the Arrowsmith Program. The candidates for this program are any level of disabled students. It takes about three to four years to see concrete results, but there is empirical data that shows that there are substantial improvements. The founder of the program is Barbara Arrowsmith Young who wrote the book The Brain that Changes Itself about the brain and neuroplasticity. Our speaker, Julia, spoke about the book and recommended The Woman Who Changed Her Brain, another book written by Young.

BRANCH BIRTHDAY PARTY
(Vicki Cubitt)

Our branch had a wonderful time at Kingsway Arms Retirement Home in Bowmanville on June 11, 2013. We had a good turnout of our members and the residents of this home. There was lots of laughter and singing as we were entertained by Patricia Prout (90 years of age) on the piano. Our singsong was most vigorous. Lovely cupcakes, punch and a warm welcome were provided by the staff at this beautiful retirement home. Do join us for the upcoming great birthday party in 2014!

OTHER NEWS

Membership Fees: If you have not paid your **2013-14 fees**, they will be collected at the **fall meeting, September 25th**. Members involved in the RWTO group insurance **must** renew membership. Membership cards will be distributed at the meeting. If you are unable to attend, please send your fees to the treasurer by **September 30th**.

Julia Esford, 1268 Cherrydown Drive, Oshawa, On L1H 7T2.

Cheques: Please make out to RWTO/OERO Northumberland/South Durham.

Fees: Provincial RWTO Fee - Members retired before August, 1980 pay \$15.00.
- All other members pay \$40.00.

Branch Fee - \$5.00 per member.

Rebate: The provincial rebate to each branch is based on \$10.00 per member paying the \$40 fee and \$8.00 per member paying the \$15.00 fee.

It would be great if the Northumberland/South Durham Branch could earn the **Barbara Bain Membership Award** for 2013-2014. This is an award created by the provincial executive to honour Barbara, a past president and the first membership convener. Branches who achieve the largest annual increases in membership are eligible for cash awards.

Membership Folders: These are prepared by Vicki Cubitt and her membership committee and are for any retired teacher or newly retired teacher. They are full of valuable information. If you know of someone who would find the folder beneficial, they are available from Vicki.

Goodwill Conveners:

West of Port Hope Municipality of Port Hope, Hamilton Township & Cobourg	Jan Engel	905 623 4071
East of Cobourg Visitation (shutins in their homes, and nursing homes)	Muriel Bell Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers Bonnie Greer	905 885 2882 613 475 1608 905 372

5886

Resolutions for Annual Meeting: There were four resolutions to be voted on at the provincial meeting. Although our membership at the spring meeting did not agree

with the four resolutions, our two delegates, Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers and Jan Engel, reported that all four resolutions were approved at the conference.

ELECTED OFFICERS & CONVENERS FOR 2013-2014

(to be installed at the fall meeting)

Executive:

Past President
President
Co Vice-Presidents

Vicki Cubitt
Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers
Valdeen Button
Barbara Northey
Jan Engel
Julia Esford

Secretary
Treasurer

Conveners:

Archivist
Goodwill - West
 - Municipality of Port Hope,
 Hamilton Township, Cobourg
 - East of Cobourg
 - Visitation

Barbara Moorcroft
Jan Engel

Insurance
Issues & Concerns
Membership
Newsletter & Brochure
Program/Social - East
 - Central
 - West

Muriel Bell
Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers
Bonnie Greer
Carolle Kennedy-Harding
Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers
Vicki Cubitt
Joan Smith
Bonnie Greer
Muriel Bell
Linda Hansen
Bunny Wright

Table Favours

Do you like to write and have computer skills? A newsletter editor is needed for three issues a year! Do you like to work with financial figures? A treasurer is needed. Contact President Astrida if interested in either position (613 475 1608 or a.chalmers@hotmail.ca)

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

Sept. 25th - Executive Meeting after the fall meeting in Grafton.

Dec. 5th - Christmas Meeting - St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Port Hope with Provincial President, **Anne Graham**, as our guest.
To be followed by an **Executive Meeting**.

Third Thursday of Every Month - Social Event - Breakfast - 9:30 am -
Traditions Restaurant 1053 Simcoe St. N. Oshawa. No business.
Everyone welcome. Contact Vicki Cubitt.

