



Sault Ste. Marie RWTO Newsletter Fall 2013

SHARING CARING HAVING FUN

Past president receiving a pin: *Sherrill Dewar* **New members:** *Doreen Simard and Dionisia Marson*

Cora Bailey Award: *Sandy Fulcher*

At our September 11th meeting we shared memories from our teaching careers. Doreen Simard showed us a six decade old handmade leather wallet and shared this memory: "I began my teaching career in a little one room school near Lindsay 61 years ago. A little girl in grade 1 gave me this handmade wallet as a gift. It had been made by her father, a disabled veteran of World War Two. The last time I was in contact with her was to congratulate her on her graduation from Oxford University."

On October 1st, members from Sault Ste. Marie and Central Algoma joined to hear from our Provincial President Anne Graham and the Provincial Insurance Convenor Nancy Iannizzi. The theme of the meeting was Anne of "Graham" Green Gables. The meeting began with a fun facts quiz on Anne of Green Gables, followed by Central Algoma presenting Anne Graham in true Green Gables fashion. Anne brought greetings from the provincial level and encouraged us to keep growing our membership while continuing to share, care and have fun as retired teachers. A tasty lunch was organized by Paula Harrison, Bernice Whalen, Rita Wagner and Lorraine DeFazio. Nancy Iannizzi presented the health top up insurance benefit package that RWTO members may purchase from Johnson.



Anne Graham, Provincial President, enjoyed the Anne of Green Gables display.



Mary Jane Thompson and Joyce Ratz had lots of fun in Anne of Green Gables garb.

A great beginning to the holiday season was our December 4th Christmas meeting. We had a short business meeting followed by a memorial for Gladys Strom. Gladys was very involved in church music as well as teaching music to many children. We hope that in heaven she enjoyed our lively rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Rita Wagner shared the meaning of the symbols in the song along with a beautiful pop-up book she has read to former students. Bernice Whalen organized the Human Christmas Tree Parade. Gathered in small teams, we used the Christmas items given in large green bags to decorate one of our teammates as a Christmas tree. The human trees paraded around the hall to the reworded song "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas". Josie Vallee assembled cookie boxes for our shut-in members from the baking our ladies brought. Gerry Yeo had the hall decorated for the season and provided a lovely light snack to go with the tea and desserts. Fun was had by all!



Carol McFarlane, Sheila Mount and Judie Kearns in their Christmas tree finery.



Bev Brazeau, Josie Vallee and Steph Hattie display the festive boxes of baking for shut-in members.

REMINDERS:



1. For more information about enhancements to the RWTO Hospital and Home Care Plan, call Beverley Brazeau at 705-949-0266 or email her at ourplace86@shaw.ca.
2. Local RWTO members meet for breakfast (or just coffee if you wish) and to socialize the second Friday of each month at 9 a.m. at Gino's Restaurant, 1076 Great Northern Road. Please join us.
3. Our book club meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in joining us, contact Brenda Gallander at 705-949-9145 or gallanb@shaw.ca.
4. Next Meeting: Wed., Feb.12th at the United Baptist Church at 41 Malabar. This will be a craft session. If you have suggestions, please contact an executive member.
5. If you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please contact President, Carol Coutu--705-759-8633 or cacoutu_18@hotmail.com.