



RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch

WINTER NEWSLETTER

January, 2017



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, Kathy McLean

Already our second newsletter of 2016-17! I hope everyone had a great Christmas Holiday and is looking forward to an even greater Happy New Year.



The fall season saw a series of successful events for RWTO /OERO in Ottawa-Carleton. Who could forget the "Fun Fashions for Retirement" that were designed, created and modelled by our members at the fall luncheon in September? One comment overheard was that it was super fun putting together the outfits, with their unique play-on-words names and descriptions - e.g "print" dress that was "black and white and red (read) all over", and made of - newspaper, of course! Imagine others using words such as flower prints, bell-bottom pants, bloomers, pin-striped suit and so on. What a great day!



October saw us welcome Peggy Stock, our Provincial President, to our Hallowe'en-themed luncheon held at Robbie's Restaurant. She came suitably attired in her black and orange like many attendees, and joined us in our Hallowe'en fun, before bringing her timely message from the Provincial organization. A good time was had by all!



In November, over 40 of us gathered for a light lunch at the Carlingwood Family Restaurant while we enjoyed a fashion show with seasonal clothing from Northern Reflections, again modelled by our own members! We saw everything from glittery tops for New Year's Eve, to cozy pj's for cool winter nights. A surprise visit from Santa Claus brought smiles to all our faces!



The Christmas Luncheon in December had 62 members registered for our delicious traditional turkey meal. The fluffy white flakes sure put us in the holiday mood, that is, after we managed to navigate through them to get to the Centurion Centre!! Everyone seemed to enjoy the Chinese Auction, and brought home some great gifts donated by our members. Our charity collection (more details later) and entertainment by The Ladies of the Day finished off the afternoon.

A special thank you goes out to the ladies on the Executive who have organized the programs and details of these activities in addition to doing their identified jobs as Executive members.

We have another exciting series of upcoming events planned through the winter and spring to which you can look forward. I hope to visit with many of you there. Look for more details later in this newsletter.

May 2017 see you caring, sharing and having fun!

Kathy

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

OTTAWA-CARLETON CONTACTS

President, Kathy McLean: 613-829-6234 badgerkat2016@gmail.com
Insurance Convenor, Margaret Dempsey: 613-820-7864 medempsey@sympatico.ca
Goodwill Convenor, Marilyn Adair: 613-274-3331 marilyn.adair@gmail.com
Membership Convenor, Barbara Edwards: 613-731-3331 angelbunny@live.ca
Movie Club, Anne Christians: **613-731-9355** annechristians35@bell.net
Book Club, Joy Phillips-Johansen: 613-728-3897 joyphillips@rogers.com

PROVINCIAL CONTACTS

Area Director, Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell: 613-829-7167 suzanne.lanouettecarswell@gmail.com
RWTO Provincial Office, Exec. Sec.-Treas.: Gloria Drake: 1-877-607-6696 info@rwto.org
RWTO/OERO Website: www.rwto.org
Manulife Insurance: 1-800-268-3763
Insurance Convenor, Bertha Breen: 519-274-2464 bertbree@gmail.com
Insurance Broker, Terry Kennedy: 519-583-2876 tkennedy34@bell.net

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE... MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Help Wanted

If you are a pianist, and have a portable keyboard, this message is for you. From time to time as programs are being planned, the idea of having piano accompaniment comes up. Some venues have a piano available, but others don't. If you would be interested in helping out with this, please contact President Kathy.

Registering for Activities

Timelines for registrations are based on several things - the request of the venue for numbers for meals, setup needs, and other preparations that must be made. It is very helpful if you register early - it makes the planning work go along smoothly. It is also a guide for planners if you sign up at any of the luncheons to indicate your intent to register in the future.



An Opportunity

We are looking for someone to take over the Communications Convenor position next year. She doesn't need to be a "techie", but should be able to use a word processor efficiently, keep files in order, and

send out/receive e-mails. If you are interested in this job, and might feel more comfortable taking it on if you had some experience working along with me during the rest of this year, I would be pleased to have the help. Drop me a line. (Martha)

Changes in Contact Information

Please notify Membership Convenor, Barbara Edwards, at 613-731-3331 or angelbunny@live.ca of changes in your contact information - address, phone or e mail, to ensure our records are up-to-date.

Note the following changes:

Margaret Hughes has a new suite number... 211-340 Industrial Avenue Ottawa ON K1G 3Z6

Add: Chloris Brown 114-550 Wilbrod Street Ottawa ON K1N 9M3 613-828-2691 cjbrown@hotmail.com

New: Pat Taylor 166-2120 Itabashi Way Burlington ON L7M 0V3 905-333-5095 ptaylor54@cogeco.ca

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In the last newsletter we told you about a plan to raise the profile of the Branch by reaching out to the community to focus on the RWTO goal of providing support for women and children. We are pleased to let you know this has started off well!

At the October Executive Meeting, three local charitable programs were identified to be recipients of our donations this year.

1. **Youville Centre** "is a non-profit, registered charity that serves adolescent mothers and their children. Youville's trauma-informed, holistic programs and services include: crisis intervention, intensive mental health therapy and treatment, addiction counselling, collaborative problem solving, a licensed child development program with a focus on infant mental health, attachment-based parenting programs with intervention and treatment, and a fully accredited secondary school." Find out more about the Centre at their web site at youvillecentre.org.



Youville Centre

Charitable Reg. #118848456RR0001

2. "After fleeing a violent situation, women and children in the National Capital Region, often arrive at local women's shelters with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. Once they are safe from the violence, they face the prospect of starting their lives over and rebuilding a home from scratch. Since 2009 the **Ottawa Basketeers** has tried to make the transition to their new beginnings a bit easier. Twice a year, and with the help and support of our Basketeers, volunteers and the community,

household items are collected to be donated to these women to start their new lives. Items are loaded into laundry baskets according to their use - e.g. bathroom, kitchen, etc. and distributed to the various women's shelters in the city."

Someone will need to go out shopping to fill some baskets!! Learn more about this program at basketeers.org/chapter/ottawa. We will be proud to be considered among supporters of these women.



3. **Twice Upon a Time** is a registered charity in Ottawa, operated entirely by volunteers. Their goal is to encourage children to read by giving them new or gently-used books. Each child and adult who goes to one of four locations can choose one free book during each visit to take home and keep for their own library collection. Our donations to Twice Upon a Time, will help ensure that more books make their way to new proud owners, and sit on shelves in the homes of some of the most vulnerable children in Ottawa. Check out twiceuponatime.ca for more information.

A quote from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: "It is a good thing to start life with a small number of really good books which are your very own."



Of course, making a donation means raising the funds to donate. At our fall events, we had a new "member" in attendance, Princess Priscilla Pig. She joins us each time to help lighten the load we carry in our purses by accepting loose change (or bills) which are added to the community outreach fund. In addition, there have been several other fund raising activities, a guessing game (pay to play), and the Chinese Auction and traditional Branch "pass-the-basket" at the Christmas Luncheon. We are delighted to let you know that so far we have raised \$747.80! Of that, \$400.00 from the basket went to the Youville Centre to support Christmas for the young women in their program. The remainder will go to the other charities later in the year. To make this even more special, a decision was made at the October Executive Meeting to match all funds raised during the year with an equal amount to be taken from the Branch account using remaining proceeds from Convention 2014.



A huge thank you goes to all who have participated. We look forward to several other upcoming activities to grow our charity fund by the end of the year... and Priscilla will be waiting for you!.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

By now, you will all have had a chance to read the December issue of **Connections**, our Provincial Newsletter. There are several items we would like to highlight, since they may have very important implications for each of us.

1. Survey to Study Future RWTO/OERO Conventions (page 4)

In January you will be receiving the full survey about this topic. Many of you were involved in hosting the 2014 convention here in Ottawa, or have attended those in other centres, and can provide valuable input. We hope you will take the time to prepare your response and submit it to our Area Director, Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell by February 7 by mail, e-mail, or in person at our January or February Branch events. The Executive will address the topic at the February Executive meeting, discussing your responses and submitting a response on behalf of our Branch.



2. Follow the Dream in the World of Retirement (page 3)

The invitation has been extended by the 2017 Convention planning group to identify members in all Branches who have followed a new dream after finishing their teaching careers. If you know someone in our Branch who has done this, you may submit her story as described either to those named in the article, or notify a local Executive member who will follow up on the story. We would love to have good representation from the Ottawa-Carleton Branch for this unique opportunity.

3. Security on the RWTO/OERO Website (page 15)

In this time of electronic communication, privacy sometimes becomes a concern. This article leads to a couple of ideas: a) If you receive e-mail messages from a number of different organizations or sources, and would like to manage them a little more efficiently, you might want to set up a different e-mail, as described, for your RWTO communications. This would make them easier to find if you need to look back at them at a later date. b) If you are one of the members who has not given us an e-mail address because you are

concerned about privacy, setting up a different one just for this would alleviate any concerns you have about this issue. If you don't have computer access, you might consider having a relative or friend set one up for you this way and pass along any messages that come through. This would ensure you get all communications in a timely manner. If you decide to do this, please be sure to inform Barbara Edwards, Membership Convenor, of the change to or addition of an e-mail address.

4. Travel Insurance (page 6)

If you are planning to travel out of the province or country, remember that RWTO/OERO members get a very good rate on travel insurance. You can also top up existing insurance if you will be away beyond your coverage time.

Call Can-Am Insurance at 1-888-326-3535.



LANARK EVENTS 2017

The Lanark Branch invites members of Ottawa-Carleton to join them at their activities for fun and friendship. To confirm your attendance, please e-mail Judy Drummond at jjdrum@xplornet.com.

Thursday, February 16 Join us for our "New Year" luncheon at the Perth Restaurant - 11am. Pay your own. Speaker: Rev. Shirley Abrahams from "His House". Collection for the Perth Food Bank.

Thursday, March 23 Gather with your RW friends at Chuckles Jack, Smiths Falls. 11:30am. Pay your own.

Thursday, April 20 Carleton Place Curling Club Chicken Dinner \$18.00. "Follow your Dream in the World of Retirement" - 125 words and a picture. Member Presentations. Collection for Carleton Place Food Bank.

Thursday, May 18 AGM and visit from Provincial President, Peggy Stock. "Celebrating Canada 150" - Wear Red and White, Canada Trivia & Entertainment. Perth - details to follow.

Note: A Pin Draw and Share the Wealth Draw will be held at each luncheon.

2017 Winter & Spring EVENTS... MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Registration for all activities should be done by mail, telephone or e-mail as indicated. Registration Forms are on the last page of this newsletter. If you must cancel after registering, please try to do so in a timely manner.
- Please sign up at luncheons to give us an idea of the number we should expect at each event.
- Please note on your form if you have any dietary restrictions.
- Please indicate if you would like a ride or are willing to provide one, or if you would like to car pool, and every effort will be made to get you to the events.
- Remember to wear your RWTO/OERO pin to all activities - you may win the prize!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2017

MUSEUM OF HISTORY VISIT

9:45 a.m. Cost : \$16 - Group Museum Admission

Meet at the "Group" entrance on the P1 level

Join fellow members for a day at the museum to view the special display, "Nice Women Don't Want the Vote", watch the CINÉ+ (Imax) movie, "Wild Africa" at 11:00 a.m. and enjoy lunch together at the museum (at your own cost).



To register, send the attached registration form and your cheque to Barbara Edwards **by January 9**.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017

TELL ME A STORY

International Restaurant at Algonquin College
near College Square

11:15 a.m. Cost: \$24.00

Today we feature a presentation by two special local published authors, our very own members, Margaret Singleton and Joy Phillips-Johansen. We will enjoy a delicious lunch of either salmon or chicken prepared by the college, our regular draws, and a used book sale. If you have two or three books you have read and enjoyed recently, we invite you to donate them to this fund raising activity.

To register, please send the form, with your cheque, by **January 25**, to Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell .



TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017

LUNCH AND LEARNING

"The Informed Consumer's Guide
to Funeral Planning"

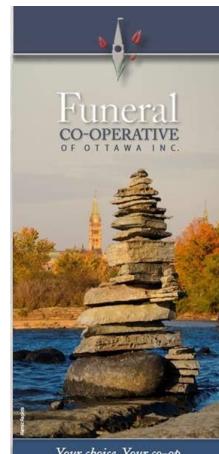
11:30 a.m. at Kristy's Restaurant

809 Richmond Road

Today we come together for our usual RWTO/OERO lunch, fun and fellowship, with a special presentation by Beverlee McIntosh, VP of the Funeral Co-operative of Ottawa. Funeral costs in Ontario are among the highest in North America. "Consumers who come unprepared to funeral planning can end up buying unnecessary and expensive products and services. Families need to know what to request or decline when making funeral arrangements that reflect their values and preferences as well as their budget." We look forward to hearing about this very relevant topic.

Lunch will be on an order-from-the-menu basis, and is at your own cost. Space is limited, so we suggest you register early.

To register, contact Janet Thomas at 613-744-6568 or by e-mail at janet.thomas@opera.ncf.ca before **March 14**.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017

HATS OFF TO OUR "OVER 80"S!

St Mark's Anglican Church
1606 Fisher Avenue

11:15 a.m. Cost: \$17.00 Free for those over 80!



We all join together this day to "**Take Our Hats Off**" to those members who have reached (or will reach) their 80th Birthday this year! Of course, we will all have to wear hats to accomplish this! Hats may be small or large, fancy or funny - let's see what we can come up with. Our regular prizes, a delicious lunch and superb musical entertainment by Garth Hampson and Joy Hoyano Simper will be featured.

To register, send the registration form and your cheque to Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison by **April 7**.

Location: West side of Fisher, south of Meadowlands Dr. at corner of Normandy Cres. - Easy access through garden door from large parking lot.



JUNE 6 - 8, 2017

RWTO/OERO Annual Convention and AGM

"FOLLOW THE DREAM"
Ajax Convention Centre



TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017

HAPPY 150TH, CANADA!

Spring Luncheon and AGM

Falcon Ridge Golf & Country Club
1740 High Road across from RC Raceway

11:15 a.m. Cost: \$35.00

At this spring gathering to finalize Branch business at the Annual General Meeting, we will also help our country celebrate its 150th Anniversary by enjoying a lovely luncheon and entertainment with our friends. We encourage you to wear your finest red and white in honour of the occasion and brush up on your Canadian trivia - you may need it!

To register complete the attached form and send it with your cheque to Sharon Chop by **May 5**.



Don't you love our language???

Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things?

Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites?

Why is "phonics" not spelled the way it sounds?

Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?

REGISTRATION FORMS FOR BRANCH EVENTS

The following events require pre-registration and payment. Please complete the appropriate form and send it by the due date to the designated person to ensure your place. You may also register at preceding events.

JANUARY 19, 2017 MUSEUM OF HISTORY VISIT REGISTRATION

Name _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Enclosed is my cheque for \$16.00, payable to RWTO/OERO.

Send to Barbara Edwards at 2266 Kipling Street, Ottawa ON K1H 6T5 before January 9.

I need a ride to this event. _____ I will provide a ride. _____

FEBRUARY 7, 2017 “TELL ME A STORY” REGISTRATION

Name _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I would prefer a) Chicken _____ or b) Salmon _____ for my lunch.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$24.00 payable to RWTO/OERO.

Bring form and cheque to the January event, or send to Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell at 2695 Hickson Cres., Ottawa ON K2H 6Y5 before January 20, 2017.

I need a ride to this event. _____ I will provide a ride. _____

I have the following dietary restriction: _____

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017 "HATS OFF TO OUR OVER 80'S" REGISTRATION

Name _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Enclosed is my cheque for \$17.00 or I am 80+ years of age and need not pay ____.

Bring form and cheque, payable to RWTO/OERO to a previous event, or send to Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison at 476 Evered Ave Ottawa ON K1Z 5K8 before April 7.

I need a ride to this event. _____ I will provide a ride. _____

I have the following dietary restriction: _____

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017 HAPPY 150TH, CANADA AND AGM REGISTRATION

Name _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Enclosed is my cheque for \$35.00 payable to RWTO/OERO.

Bring form and cheque, payable to RWTO/OERO to a previous event, or send to Sharon Chop at 637 Fraser Ave Ottawa ON K2A 2R6 before May 5.

I need a ride to this event. _____ I will provide a ride. _____

I have the following dietary restriction: _____