



THE SCRIBBLER

SAULT STE. MARIE R.W.T.O. NEWSLETTER Spring 2018

SHARING CARING HAVING FUN

Spring Parting Message from the President

This year for me as President of the Sault Branch of R.W.T.O. has been a very rewarding experience. It was enjoyable planning enriching activities for us with input from the ladies on the board. Chairing executive and general meetings was a wonderful learning opportunity. The ladies on the executive are a supportive and dedicated group of women with whom I continue to enjoy working. I am grateful to you, the members, who take the time out of your busy lives to be a participant in our branch meetings and activities.

I am proud of all that our branch has accomplished this year Caring, Sharing and Having Fun.

Firstly, the activities we planned and participated in were educational and fun.

In September, we celebrated Canada's Sesquicentennial by either dressing like teachers did in the 1800's or by wearing red and white, the colours of our national flag. The executive members provided foods from coast to coast to coast which we enjoyed for lunch. Mary Madonna led us in singing songs from many parts of Canada and by many Canadian songwriters.

October took us to Meadowview Alpaca Farm and Fiber Studio where we got to meet some llamas up close and to learn from two educators turned ranchers how llama wool is graded, spun and woven into beautiful items of clothing and rugs.

In January, some of us dressed and acted like characters in a murder mystery, while others tried to solve the crime over lunch. We had lots of laughs listening to the clues and using our deduction skills.

February was fabulous with a floral arrangement presentation. We learned from Eva Bruni, a florist from Routledge's, how to prepare, care for and embellish cut flowers for a vase.

Shirling Koa, a Gentle Yoga instructor, taught us in March how to stretch our bodies using a chair for support and balance.

In April we visited New North Greenhouse for a hands-on lesson in Kokedama and the opportunity to preview garden décor and early plants.

May brought Lois Lockhart, Provincial President, and Donna Hemeon, Provincial Insurance Convenor, to our joint meeting with the Central Algoma branch. We learned from Lois that we are doing good things in our branches and Donna went through the Insurance booklet with us explaining benefits.

Secondly, we helped others in our community and in the world with our philanthropy.

We contributed to Arch Hospice in September.

The two dozen woolen stockings that we stuffed with toiletries for men and women were given to needy adults in our community as we joined in Leslie Cassidy-Amadio's Joy full Socks campaign in November.

We contributed six bed kits to Sleeping children Around the World this year in the names of presenters and in the name of deceased members.

We showed caring by visiting ill members in hospital and at home, by sending cards and gifts to members who had surgeries or illnesses and by attending funerals of deceased members and funerals of members' family members.

Before Christmas, we packed boxes of cookies for members who are shut-in or live in senior residences where they cannot bake for themselves.

Milestone birthdays were recognized throughout the year.

Thirdly, we got together aside from general meetings. The Breakfast Club met every second Friday of each month and will continue to do so all summer. The Book Club met every third week of the month and will start again in September. The Scrabble Club got together every first Friday of the month and will resume in September.

We did a lot, gave a lot, laughed a lot and consoled each other a lot. The scrapbooks and website chronicle another year of Caring, Sharing and Having Fun.

I am excited to serve you as Vice President, Past President and Communications Convenor this coming year.

Respectfully submitted, Brenda Gallander

New Members

We welcomed three new members to our branch in 2018: Myra Graham, Carol Gartshore and Carol Robinson. We are so pleased to have these ladies join us!

In Memoriam

Mary Beaver--On Monday, January 30, 2018, Mary Beaver passed away at the age of 87. Mary graduated from the Native Language Instruction Program at Lakehead University. She shared her love of the Ojibway language with many students over the years.

Lillian Nisbett—Lillian passed away on Thursday, May 3, 2018, at the age of 92. Lillian was a kind lady and teacher. Two schools at which she taught are F.H. Clergue and Northern Heights.

We will greatly miss these ladies. We will hold a eulogy for them in the fall.

MURDER MYSTERY -- Those members who attended the Murder in Las Vegas Mystery Luncheon at North 82 on January 24, 2018, as characters and as guests had a laughter filled afternoon. Every character had a motive for the murder of the father of the bride including: the bride, "Virgin White" (Elaine Mc F.), the groom, "Easy Rider" (Jenny K.), chorus girl, "Ruby Lips" (Brenda G.), father of the bride's ex wife "Dee Vorst" (Sheila M. and Steph H. shared the role), Elvis Presley impersonator "Rock King" (Brenda O.), "Reverend Hal Fyre" (Rita W.) and Librarian on holidays, Mae B. Wild (Gerry Y.). Bernice aptly modified the game to suit the number of participants and played card shark "Ace Spader" as well. With accents, expression, and gestures on the part of the characters, the guests were certainly entertained. Fun was had by all trying to guess "Who Dun It"!



Elaine McF. as Virgin White



Brenda G. as "Ruby Lips"



Rita W. as "Rev. Hal" Fyre



Gerry Y. as "Mae B. Wild"



Brenda O. as "Rock King"



Bernice W. as "Ace Spader"



Left to right: Marg W., Brenda O., Rita W., Jenny K., Elaine Mc F., Brenda G., Irene G., Sheila M., Paula H. and Gerry Y.

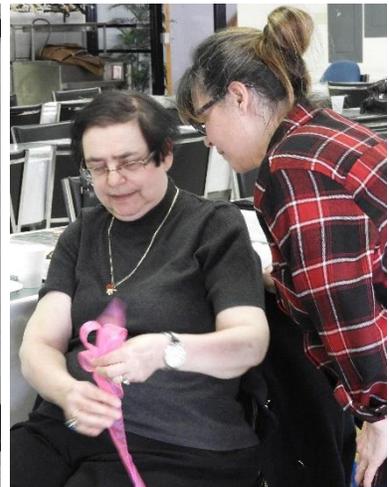


Left to right: Brenda G., Irene G., Bernice W., Steph H., Gerry Y., Marg W., Brenda O., Bonnie R., Rita W., Jenny K. and Elaine Mc F.

Fabulous Flowers February 28, 2018—Following our meeting and lunch, we gathered our chairs in front of Eva Bruni, a florist from Routledge Florist shop, who gave us many tips on selection and proper care of cut flowers. Eva guided us step by step through the creation of a gorgeous arrangement of flowers. Eva, a very personable, candid lady shared with us that floral arranging for her is therapeutic, soothing away cares and worries.



Eva explained how to trim leaves. A gorgeous arrangement!



Marg C. made a bow.



Pat P., Marilyn C. and Paula H. watched intently.



Carmen C. (right) won the draw for the arrangement. Lucky her!



Gerri received the other lovely arrangement as a gift for having had two surgeries.

Stretching with Shirling on March 28, 2018—Our activity for this meeting was Gentle Yoga before lunch taught by Shirling Koa, a yogi and owner of Jade Wellness. Shirling gathered us around her and led us through stretches on, behind and beside our chairs. She left us each with a handout, so we can practise the stretches at home.

The Membership Committee made a special effort at recruitment by sending special invitations to lapsed members and retired teacher friends to join us for Gentle Yoga and lunch. Carol G. and Carol R. responded to our invitation immediately and have since become new members.

Each member received two Laura Secord chocolates in a little bag prettily tied with a ribbon by Jenny K. as a token of our appreciation for coming to the event.



Bending and stretching!



Left to right: Joyce R. and Carol G.

Kokedama Special Spring Event Wed., April 25 A group of members carpooled to the Boots and Saddles Road House for lunch, then went to visit the New North Greenhouse which was open. Six of us got our hands dirty playing with earth, plant roots and twine in the make and take Kokedama lesson taught by an in-house gardener. The others perused the early annuals and outdoor garden décor.



(Left to right) Paula H., Carol G., and Marg W. carefully took their ferns out of the pots and shook some soil from the roots of them ferns before covering the roots in wet prepared soil.



(Left to right) Joyce R., Emily N., and Brenda G. proudly displayed their Kokedama creations after they wound twine around the ball of roots and wet soil. Looking good, ladies!



(Left to right) Carol Mc F., Carol R., Carmen C. and Rita W. checked out the strawberry plants.

JOINT MEETING---On May 30th, the Central Algoma Branch joined us in welcoming two visitors from the R.W.T.O. Provincial Executive. Lois Lockhart, President, and Donna Hemeon, Insurance convenor, travelled to Sault Ste. Marie after visiting the Sudbury Branch the previous day.

We started off with an icebreaker called Two Truths and a Lie. Joyce R., Area Director, had us each choose a number which designated our group. In the group, we each told two truths and a lie about ourselves, and the others had to determine which was the lie. It was fun way to get to know each other a little better.

It was Central Algoma's turn to welcome the president creatively incorporating background information about Lois in their welcome. Dressed in overalls, straw hats and carrying garden implements or hockey sticks, our counterparts sang a song they wrote about Lois' life on a farm semi-retired but still making maple syrup and favouring the Hamilton Bulldogs hockey team.

Lois brought greetings and praised our branches for the work we do and for our great looking webpages.

Donna, after being serenaded by some Central Algoma members, took us through the R.W.T.O. Insurance brochure elaborating on benefits and answering our many questions.

We enjoyed a delicious lunch catered by Sandra Punch.



The Central Algoma members sang a song about provincial President, Lois Lockhart, highlighting her farm life and her enjoyment of the Hamilton Bulldogs hockey team. It was a cute welcome!



Joyce R., Area Director, looked on as Lois L., Provincial President addressed us.



Donna H., Provincial Insurance convenor made a presentation.



Sandy F. (centre) presented Lois and Donna with a S.C.A.W. kit donation each



Doreen S., Steph H., Marg Caruso, Shirley L. and Elaine B. followed the insurance presentation.



Two Treasurers: Anne W. and Sandy F.



Joyce M. and Bev B. got caught up.



(L to R.) Dorothy M., Brenda O., and Rachel R.



Carol R. and Lois L. had time to chat.



(L to R.) Jean Campbell (Central Algoma V.P.), Joyce R., Lois L., Donna H., and Brenda G.

Reminder Regarding Membership Fees

R.W.T.O. Membership Fees:

\$25.00 if you retired prior to 1980

\$50.00 if you retired after 1980

Due Dates for Membership Fees:

- Membership Fees are due now.
- To pay over the summer, mail a cheque to Sandy Fulcher, 4528 Second Line West, Prince Township, Ontario, P6A 6K4. She will mail a receipt to you.
- You may pay in cash or cheque at the first general meeting in September, the date of which has yet to be determined. Make your cheque payable to R.W.T.O.
- Monday, October 8, 2018, is the absolute final deadline for Sandy, Branch Treasurer, to have received your payment.

To maintain the RWTO insurance, you must maintain your membership by the deadlines above.

For information about insurance, contact our Insurance Convenor, Bev B., at 705-949-0266 or at ourplace86@shaw.ca

Announcements of Our Activities in the Media

The announcement for our Joint meeting was sent to Richard Plaunt at Sun media for publication in The Sault This Week and The Sault Star's Three-Day Planner well in advance as always. He did not print either. Three emails were sent to Mr. Plaunt and a voice message was left for him, but he has not responded to tell us the reason for not printing our announcement.

Looking at other announcements in these papers, one can assume that only those which invite the public are published. This must be a new practice beginning in May 2018, because all the previous announcements were published.

We will continue to contact Brian Kelly when we have a unique activity and ask him to come to take a photo. As a reporter, he can never promise, but he has put photos of us in the paper several times.

Reminder Regarding Breakfast Club

Local RWTO members will continue to meet throughout the summer for breakfast or coffee the 2nd Friday of each month. Join us at 9 a.m. at Gino's Restaurant, 1076 Great Northern Road.

Our Webpage

Be sure to check out our webpage over the summer at www.RWTO.org

The 2018-2019 meeting dates will be posted by the end of August/early September.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER!

