PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Our year got off to a great start with our September luncheon. It was wonderful to look out at 165 smiling faces! It is always good to meet and greet our friends and make new ones. We recognized our Branch Past Presidents, welcomed our new members with a yellow rose and congratulated Nancy Iannizzi for receiving the Provincial Honorary Membership Award at last June’s Convention. It was also wonderful to acknowledge our “Forever Young, Over Ninety” members and to have two of them at the luncheon. The Ukrainian food, as always, was delicious.

I have begun my year in the Revolving Book Club reading, Package from the Past. This novel was written by Jacqueline Opresnik, who is a member of our St. Catharines Branch. It is a fast-paced mystery that is set in Port Dalhousie and St. Catharines. The plot has a lot of twists and turns and I am really enjoying it. Well done, Jacqueline!

I want to thank Clarice West Hobbs for organizing the workshop on Wills and Estate Planning, including the duties of an executor. There are new rules in effect and it is always good to be well-informed.

We are looking forward to participating in our many upcoming events: The October luncheon, Interest Groups, the Arthritis Gift Wrapping at the Fairview Mall, assisting the Toy Bureau in December and raising money for Community Care at our Christmas Luncheon on December 6th at the St. Catharines Golf Club. We have had a great start to what we hope will be an exciting and rewarding year. Many thanks to all of the Executive, Interest Group Leaders and Volunteer Members for making it so. This is truly a caring and sharing Branch.

Susan McLaughlin - President
SEPTEMBER MEETING

All the signs of autumn are upon us: potted mums on the doorsteps, pumpkins lining the grocery sidewalks and perogies at St. John's Ukrainian on Lakeshore Road! I'm not sure what would happen to my internal clock if we didn't have that wonderful meal at St. John's for our first luncheon in September.

Mr. Bill Smith, (harmonica and Ukulele) of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Ukesters emailed the next day saying what a terrific audience we were! He couldn't believe we were retired. "You all look too young!" This is especially true for our two new “Forever Young” members, Mary Jane Tanner and Bev Davies.

Linda Holmes, organizer again this year, asked for volunteers for the Arthritis Christmas Wrapping fund raiser. Many members had signed up before the end of the luncheon. Members were also asked to think about volunteering for the Community Care Christmas Toy Bureau at the Oct. 25th luncheon. Retired women teachers are organized and plan well in advance!

We are an organization that runs completely on “volunteer power.” Each year, our branch recognizes one to three women who have made significant contributions to our Branch. Please consider nominating a member for the Cora Bailey Award 2017-2018! (Note: The President, 1st V.P., 2nd V.P. and women who have previously won the Cora Bailey Award are NOT eligible.)

Send your nomination to Patti Malkiewich, 905-356-4132 or pmalkiewich@gmail.com Nomination forms will also be available at the Oct. 25th luncheon.

We are asking all previous Cora Bailey Award recipients from the St. Catharines Branch to attend the October luncheon to receive a newly created Provincial Cora Bailey pin.

Patti Malkiewich – 1st Vice President
MEMBERSHIP
A new year is upon us and our Membership Committee is busy distributing information to our Affiliates and personal contacts, seeking new members. To date we have 12 new members who have joined us. Our new members can be identified by the STAR on their name tag. Please take the time to make them feel welcome whenever you have the opportunity. As well, continue to provide myself or any of the Membership Committee members: Donna Painter, Margo Smith and Clara Warden, with the name and contact information for any potential member. Please note that there is specific information that we share with potential members that differs from confidential information provided once a member joins. We are happy to follow up!

The executive is also pleased to announce that Ruth Hulme, Rosemary McNamme and Anna Thwaites are our newest Life Members.

Judith Bennoch - Membership

Change of Information?
Contact Judith at
judithbennoch@icloud.com
905-468-3040 or 905-394-1660 (cell)

NEW MEMBERS
Linda Borland
Marion Cross
Kathy Dussome
Joanne Hall
Ingrid Hearn
Monique Hoffner
Susan Jobson
Melanie Kelch
Caroline Leip
Katherine Morrison
Kathy Spiessmann-Ilich
Kim Tanner
Kathy Trussell
Karen Waterman

New Members- September 2017
In Memory Of

Cathy Collins
Barbarba Mekheb

“A Life So Beautifully Lived And A Heart So Deeply Loved”

GOODWILL
The St. Catharines Branch is privileged to have many “FOREVER YOUNG” members. We are proud to honour these women for all that they have contributed to their families, their communities and to our organization.

Alice Bradnam - Goodwill Convenor

FOREVER YOUNG MEMBERS

Victoria Brett
Bev Davies
Helene Fast
Anne MacDonald
Marian McKnight
Rosemary McNamee
Joyce Montgomery
Mary Jane Tanner
Anna Thwaites
Geraldine Young

CONVENTION 2019
Thank you to all who have submitted volunteer sheets for Convention 2019 to be held at the Holiday Inn, St. Catharines. I am excited to feel the enthusiasm and to hear the new ideas
The first official planning meeting will be held on October 24.

Marilyn Emmett – Convention Convenor

INSURANCE
Our branch currently has 195 members taking advantage of the benefits under the Hospital and Home Care Plan. As I begin a new venture as your Branch Insurance Convenor I may not always have an immediate answer; but, I will gladly find out the necessary information on your behalf.

Chris Graham – Insurance Convenor

Your Directory will be available for pick-up at the October Luncheon.

St. Catharines Branch Membership Directory
A Message from the Convenor

The 2017 season for our interest groups has commenced! Twelve groups are up and running, with several suggestions submitted for new ones! Pole walking, a Shaw Theatre excursion, and scrapbooking are few of the ideas. Please let me know if you would like to head up one of these activities so we can work on forming a new group.

The Euchre group has a maximum number of participants now, but four interested members have signed up. If others wish to also participate, perhaps a second group could be formed. I was unaware that it was full when I placed the sign-up sheet at the luncheon. Let me know if you would be interested in this and we can get Susan Burnison to advise us on how it is organized. Have fun everyone!!

Nadine Martin-Special Interest Groups Convenor

Creative Cooks

Creative Cooks: we are a group who has been together for a few years. We like to get together and have fun. We find creative recipes but recipes that everyone is comfortable with. We have gotten to know each other and have become friends. We really enjoy each other’s company and we haven’t had a bad meal yet. New members are definitely welcome although space is limited in some of our homes.

Linda Thiessen

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Revolving Book Club

The RWTO Revolving Book Club is running this year with 81 members in 9 areas of our branch. One of the books that we will be reading entitled, Package from the Past, is written by one of our members, Jacqueline Opresnik. Jackie has autographed each copy so the owner at the end of the year will have a cherished memento.

This year our Book Club will run until June rather than July and this is in part, because of the expenses incurred to purchase the books. With that in mind, it is my intention to increase the cost to $25.00 next year so that we can afford to go for 10 months.

At times, our memory failed us and several of us forgot if they had paid me in the Spring. To address this issue, I will be issuing receipts when you join up should you pay me in cash. Hopefully this will help relieve the anguish some of us experienced.

Hope you enjoy the books that Pat Wilcox and I chose for you!

Patt Chivers
The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch enjoy getting together to enjoy good food and good company. We meet from November to March usually on the third Wednesday of the month. Last year we went to George’s, The Blue Mermaid, The Lemon Tree and Spicy Thai. Unfortunately the Sweets Café was cancelled in March because of a blizzard.

Peggy Allen

The Bowling Group

The bowling group meets every Thursday morning at 10am in Port Dalhousie. The goal of the group is fun and exercise. It is a very social and active group of ladies. All members welcome. No experience required just a willingness to enjoy yourself while bowling. Occasionally the group completes the morning with lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Bonnie Leistner

Dining Divas

Let’s Chat About It Book Club

“Chatting about their book club”

Morning Walkers

We meet 2 mornings a week and walk throughout beautiful Port Dalhousie. We meet at 8:30 AM on Monday at the Lakeside parking lot, walk FOR AN HOUR AND GO TO Balzac’s for coffee. On Thursdays we meet at the Lion’s Club in Port. New members welcome.

Singing for Fun

Singing for fun is exactly what we do. We sing along with the guitar to old favourites and popular karaoke songs, Every session is filled with happy voices and lots of laughter. It’s a great time to renew and make new friendships. We always break for a yummy snack and a good chin-wag!

Laurie Benson

Newsletter Submissions

Articles and pictures for our newsletter can be sent to Marilyn Emmett at: emmett@cogeco.ca
In and Around Our Community

Several of our members work at the rowing regattas from spring until fall at the Grand Stand and also at the Concession Stand on Henley Island. They are members of The Henley Island Helpers.

Missing from the photo is Sue Morrison

RWTO/OERO Website

The St. Catharines Branch of the rwto.org website is currently being updated. Check it out in the next few weeks!

How?
- Google rwto.org
- Click on BRANCH NEWS
- Scroll down past the map to Area 13
- Click on St. Catharines

RWTO St Catharines Needs You!

Are you interested in joining the RWTO Executive for the 2018-19 year?

Care about our organization and Share you talents. Become part of this dynamic group of ladies.

We meet 5 times a year and work cooperatively to make our organization the best it can be.

Don’t be shy! We need you!

If interested, please contact Kathleen Bradley at kathleen.brady@cogeco.ca

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON.
December 6, 2017
Symposium 11:30 Lunch 12:00
St. Catharines Golf Club

We will have a festive buffet and celebrate the season by singing Christmas favourites led by Chris McLaughlin and accompanied by John Butler.

Donations for Community Care will be collected at the door before the luncheon. Receipts will be issued for amounts of more than $10.00. Please put your donation in a sealed envelope with your name, address and the amount on the front. (No stamps)

More information at our October luncheon.
LUNCHEON INFORMATION

➤ The December luncheon begins at 12:00. Doors open at 11:30 AM.
➤ The luncheon costs $30.00. Luncheon prices are determined by our cost to provide the meal (including the room, taxes, and gratuities) plus additional expenses including door prizes, AV equipment rentals and flowers.
➤ Payment for luncheons must be received by the Wednesday, November 29.
➤ PAYMENT:
  • Please indicate the appropriate luncheon month(s) on the cheque.
  • Cheques are payable to: RWTO St. Catharines
  • Cheques mailed to: Linda Foster
    14 Woodgarden Court
    St. Catharines L 2M7C9
➤ Your name tag, including a door prize ticket will be waiting for you at the door.
➤ Please tear the door prize ticket in half, save half and put the other half in the basket.
➤ Luncheon payments will be returned for any cancellations received by Linda Foster at 905-935-6182, on or before the Wednesday prior to each luncheon.
➤ A friendly reminder will be sent out if you have not indicated that you are attending.
➤ You will be notified by e-mail when your cheque has been received by the Treasurer and you will receive a reminder a few days before the luncheon.
➤ Escorts needed. Sometimes our members need a ride to the luncheon. If you can help out, please call Alice Bradnam 905 934 7108.

Please Note:

We are a Fragrance Free Environment!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Menu</th>
<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 6</td>
<td>St. Catharines Golf Club 70 Westchester Ave. St. Catharines</td>
<td>Buffet: Turkey with all the trimmings, ham, salads, potatoes and dessert</td>
<td>Christmas Sing</td>
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ATTENTION: DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

✔ Members MUST advise Linda Foster of their DIETARY RESTRICTIONS when reserving their luncheon ticket/s.

✔ Meal substitutions or accommodations will NOT be made at the venues, unless they have been pre-ordered.

✔ We want your luncheon to be pleasant, needs appropriate and ready. We also want to be fair to our venues and their staffs.