

# *Retired Women Teachers of Ontario* MISSISSAUGA BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Caring For Our Past – Sharing In Our Future

Spring 2010 Vol.4 Issue 2

## *From the President*

As I reflect on the past year as president, I realize how well RWTO provides activities for retired women teachers. There is life after teaching. Joining RWTO was one of the best things I have ever done and I hope that you feel that way too. Mississauga branch is vital and growing. Many new members are attracted by our array of activities. There are five luncheons with entertainment, 46 interest groups and a variety of trips and visits to the theatre that allow members to spend time with friends, make new friends, and pursue interests of their choice.

Serving as your president was a rewarding experience. It provided an opportunity to get to know many more members than I knew before. I am appreciative of the support and positive comments of the membership. It took a bit of getting used to being called “madam president”. One of the highlights of the year was meeting our oldest member, Jean Ford, on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Jean is described as a dynamo by the people who live in her building. She lives a healthy, active and stress-free life. That seems to be the secret to her longevity. Now that her secret is out, maybe we will see more of our members reach the age of 100. I can only hope so.

This was a banner year for charitable donations for the Mississauga branch. Besides our usual donations, Mississauga branch was able to make some larger donations due to the generous cheque received from the convention profits. Donations of \$1000 were made to Applewood Centre for Adults with Special Needs, Armagh, Alzheimer Society of Peel, Erin

Oaks, Community Living off Peel, Multiple Sclerosis of Peel and Hospice of Peel. These donations were possible due to the generous participation in charitable activities at the RWTO convention in June. Mississauga branch had the one time luxury of generously contributing to the Mississauga community in the spirit of caring and sharing.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the president of Mississauga branch. I wish to thank the members of the executive who give so generously of their time. Thank you for your support and caring. I wish to give a warm welcome to the incoming president, Carol McConnell. Carol brings a wealth of leadership experience to her role as president. She has already been hard at work planning for next year. I look forward to seeing everyone next October for a fun filled year of activities, caring and sharing. Have a memorable summer,

*Phyllis Robson*



Celeste Martin, April luncheon speaker, and Phyllis don their “personality colours”

# INTEREST GROUPS

## Craft Group Three

Craft Group #3 meets on the last Tuesday of the month. We have about ten members; although there are usually 6 to 8 present. Often the craft matches the holiday of the month, season or some interesting favourite design of the hostess. The elementary experiences with school crafting are very evident with expert instruction coming from some retirees. But those of us with all thumbs or from secondary level are grateful for their guidance. We have painted coffee mugs and fired them in the oven. We have made fall and Christmas decorations. We have covered glass plates with fabric prints to make candy dishes or stand-up decorative plates. Styrofoam bunnies and butterflies were constructed as practice for entertaining many of our grandchildren before Easter. The actual craft making seems to come second to the sharing of teaching memories or vacation stories. We bring the year to a close in May with a potluck lunch. Lots of fun.

*Sheila Williams, Convenor*



Members of the **Digital Photography Group** are Dorothea Phair, Irene Bantin, Jennifer Fowler, Linda Kenny, Mary Ellen Cavanagh, Nancy Perrin, Rosemary Rock-Vincent, Shirley Dawn, Sophie Matta, Susan Kitchener, and Clara Gigliotti. Our activities include: the use of our digital cameras, techniques in picture-taking, use and display of digital photographs and field trips to practise our new techniques. This picture taken at Crawford Lake with Susan, Sophie and guest is an example of one of our excursions.

## Bridge Group Four



left to right - Kathleen Crawford, Jennifer Fowler, Carolyn Venus and Sheila Williams

Monday morning bridge games are sometimes sleepy; sometimes invigorating; sometimes desperate as we struggle to find spades at the last minute. But whatever happens we have a motivating time. The more experienced players lead the novices through the styles of bidding. "Get the kiddies off the street" translates "pull trump before the opponents catch you". "Would no trump be easier than four spades?" Such comments are analyzed and chuckled over after the hand is done. Everyone cheers when a hand is well played. Each player grimaces at simple mistakes. But all seem to thoroughly enjoy the socializing along with the breakfast treats that are consumed with coffee, tea and juice. Our group is fluid because of southern vacations to which our retirees are prone to take. Occasional health problems or calls back to teaching duties interfere; so we are always looking for players to keep our group afloat. Come join us. We are easy going and love to have new players.

*Sheila Williams, Convenor*

## RWTO INSURANCE

RWTO members and spouses have the advantage of participating in several types of insurance. These are: **Hospital & Home Care**-call Terry Kennedy at Manulife-905 -339- 2424 for information, **CanAm Travel Insurance**-call toll-free-1-888-326-3535, **Marsh Home & Auto Insurance**-1-800-265-2196. New members please be aware that you do not need a medical in order to be accepted for **RWTO Hospital & Home Care Insurance** during your first year of retirement. Please contact Eleanor Dallimore [e\\_dallimore@yahoo.com](mailto:e_dallimore@yahoo.com) or 905-827-5970 if there are any questions or concerns.

## Your New Executive 2010 - 2011

### Core Executive

President	Carol McConnell
Past President	Phyllis Robson
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Gerrie Khalid
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Carolyn Venus
Treasurer	Johanne Dalton
Secretary	Eva Hergovich
Insurance Convenor	Eleanor Dallimore

### Convenors

Membership	Pat Koelle
Social	Joan Anne Ziolkowski
Friendship and Goodwill	Anne Reedie
Issues and Concerns	Yvette Nehou
Historian	Joan Gingras
Interest Groups	Debbie King
Publicity	Sharon McCarthy
Trips and Tours	Judy Putherbough
Phone Captain	Karen Alexander

### Assistants

Treasurer	Anne Dowling
Membership	Isobel Mather
Phone Captain	Jackie Findlay
Historian	Pat Moroney
Trips	Joan Gingras
Interest Groups	Jennifer Fowler
<b>Standing Delegate</b>	Marilynn Childerhose

Thanks and best wishes are extended to Eva Emo for her service and dedication to our Executive and Branch. We also thank Jackie Findlay for her years of service as Phone Captain. Jackie has graciously offered to return next year as Karen Alexander's assistant. We welcome Carolyn Venus, Eva Hergovich and Joan Anne Ziolkowski to the Executive and hope their experience will be an enjoyable one.

As a result of our increased membership we have Seven Voting Delegates attending the Convention in London, in June, on behalf of the Mississauga Branch. They are as follows: Johanne Dalton, Marilyn Childerhose, Gerrie Khalid, Carol McConnell, Yvette Nehou, Phyllis Robson and Carolyn Venus.



## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

### FINAL DUE DATE: MAY 31

**The total fee is \$55 (\$40 provincial fee and \$15 branch fee).**

**Those members who retired before August 31, 1980 pay a total of \$30 (\$15 provincial and \$15 branch fee).**

### Please Note:

**After May 31st an administrative fee of \$5 will be charged and the amount required will be \$60. This administrative fee is to cover the cost of extra printing and postage in mailing out reminders to those who are late with payment of their fees.**

We encourage all of our members to submit their fees on time as it is difficult to contact people over the summer months. Thank you for your cooperation.

*The Executive*

Your cheque should be made payable to RWTO – Mississauga and may be submitted at the May Luncheon or mailed to our treasurer:

Johanne Dalton  
2205 South Millway #29  
Mississauga, On L5L 3T2

## New Retirees Tea



Our Annual “New Retirees Tea” will be held on Thursday September 9, 2010 at St. Patrick’s Church Hall at 1:30 pm. Invitations are sent out to those retired women teachers who are interested in joining RWTO and would like to find out more information about our branch. If you know of anyone retiring in June or who is already retired and would like to join our branch, please contact our Membership Convenors:

Pat Koelle

905-820-8249 or pkoelle@pathcom.com

Isobel Mather

905-945-8925 or isomather@cogeco.ca

## ***A Reason To Celebrate***

Jean Ford has been a member of our RWTO Mississauga Branch for many years. This year is a very special one for Jean as she celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 16<sup>th</sup>, becoming the first centenarian of our Branch.

Jean was born on March 16, 1910 near Ancaster. Her family owned the Carluke General Store where Jean sometimes served. Jean’s first teaching assignment was at a one-room school near Binbrook before she moved to the Toronto area to continue her teaching career. Jean returned to the Hamilton area and for many years she had a bungalow in St Elizabeth Village. Recently she moved into the Villa located in the same area.

In recognition of this wonderful milestone in Jean’s life, Phyllis Robson and I visited Jean on her birthday, and presented her with roses and a gift basket on behalf of RWTO and our membership.

We arrived in the midst of her celebration with family and friends and were able to share some of those special moments. Jean showed us her many gifts, flowers, and letters of congratulations. Jean told us of how honoured she felt when her birthday was celebrated by her church congregation and how delighted she was to receive cards from the children at the local school.

Jean feels she has been blessed with good health. She thinks it’s important to plan for something to do every day and remains very active in her community. She continues to play Bridge and Euchre several times a week. When staff members at the Villa are asked about Jean’s whereabouts, they usually check the car park first to see if her red Ford Contour is in its parking spot.

Jean’s recipe for a long and happy life is, in her words, “to always be positive, to not worry about yourself too much, and help others when you can”.

Congratulations Jean! You are an inspiration to us. It was a privilege to be a part of your celebration.

*Pat Koelle*

*Membership Convenor*



# RWTO/OERO

## MISSISSAUGA BRANCH hosts **PENTA 2010**

- Where:** Le Tréport  
1075 The Queensway East  
Mississauga, ON L4Y 4C1
- When:** Tuesday, November 9, 2010
- Registration:** 10:30 a.m.
- Lunch:** 12:00 noon
- Cost:** 34 dollars (taxes and gratuities included)  
Envelope for cheques will be available at April, May & October luncheons. If mailing, payment must be in to Johanne Dalton by October 15, 2010.
- Menu:** Butternut Squash Soup  
California Mix Salad (Olive Oil & Balsamic Vinaigrette)  
Stuffed Chicken (Broccoli, Fontina Cheese, Red Pepper)  
with House Blend Vegetables  
and Roasted Potatoes Parisienne  
Ice Cream Crepes  
Coffee and Tea  
\*Vegetarian dish available
- Cash Bar:** Wine @ 4 dollars per glass

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**Guest Speaker: Carole Holmes**  
**“Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers”**





## *In Memoriam*

*Vera Halpenny  
March 2010*

## FRIENDSHIP AND GOODWILL

Thank you to all of our members who demonstrate caring and sharing by keeping us informed of the happenings of our members. Birthday cards have been sent to the Golden Girls and we will celebrate all of their birthdays at the May luncheon with birthday cake. Jean Ford celebrated her 100th birthday on March 16. Phyllis Robson and Pat Koelle visited her taking a bouquet of roses and a basket of goodies.

Get Well cards have been sent to Anne Brownjohn, Mary Lou West, Betty Schultz, Carolyn Venus and Doris Paton.

Cards of sympathy have been sent to members who have lost a loved one - Ann-Marie Buna, Karen Alexander, Lyn Gunther. Mary Corrigan and Gio Petrucelli.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Vera Halpenny. A card has been sent to her daughter, Cynthia Bragg and a donation to the Alzheimer Society of Guelph Wellington has been made in Vera's memory. There was a memorial service for Vera at the Unitarian Congregation of Mississauga on April 18<sup>th</sup> and was attended by some of our members. Libbie Fisher spoke at the service on behalf of our Branch. Vera was 93 years young, a past president, and always managed to attend one of our luncheons every year, all the way from Elliot Lake. We will certainly miss her enthusiasm and loyalty to RWTO.

Please continue to keep us informed of any member who is celebrating a special birthday, is ill, is in hospital, or who has suffered bereavement. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and fun summer,

*Anne Reddie, Convenor  
905 – 897-7473*

## **Stress**

***A lecturer, when explaining stress management to an audience, raised a glass of water and asked, 'How heavy is this glass of water?'***

***Answers called out ranged from 20g to 500g.***

***The lecturer replied, 'The absolute weight doesn't matter.***

***It depends on how long you try to hold it.***

***If I hold it for a minute, it's not a problem..***

***If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm.***

***If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance.***

***In each case, it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes.'***

***He continued,***

***'And that's the way it is with stress management.***

***If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later,***

***the burden will become increasingly heavy: and we won't be able to carry on. '***

***'As with the glass of water,***

***you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again..***

***When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden.***

***So, before you return home tonight, put the burden of work down: don't carry it home.***

***You can pick it up tomorrow.***

***Whatever burdens you're carrying now, let them down for a moment if you can.'***

*Submitted by,  
Phyllis Anzil*

# The Cora Bailey Award

The Cora Bailey Award is a Provincial honour presented at the local level to recognize outstanding service or commitment by a member to her Branch for the benefit of RWTO. We are delighted to announce that Eleanor Dallimore, Yvette Nehou and Judy Putherbough are this year's most worthy recipients. Congratulations to all of them!

**ELEANOR DALLIMORE** has been an active member of the Mississauga Branch since she retired in 2001. She became 2<sup>nd</sup> VP in 2003 and President in 2005.

Eleanor was instrumental in having Mississauga host the 2009 Convention. When Eleanor was President, Provincial approached her at the Convention in Kingston with the idea of our Branch hosting a Convention. Eleanor thought it was a great idea and approached Barbara Johnston and Alba Falconi who thought it was a great idea also. The rest is history. At our Convention in June 2009, she was busy behind the scenes with her team of volunteers greeting new arrivals in the parking lot and welcoming delegates to Stage West. Eleanor enjoyed being on the executive so much she took on the role of Insurance Convenor which she has held for the last 3 years. She also saw a need and formed the Bereavement Phone Committee which contacts members when a member has passed away. She is the captain of the Bereavement committee and belongs to 5 interest groups....marathon bridge, bridge, book club, hiking and lunch group one of which she is co-convenor. Eleanor loves to attend RWTO Conventions and because she is always so cheerful and supporting of others, she has made many new friends in the past nine years.

Caring, sharing and having fun is a perfect motto to describe Eleanor.

*Phyllis Robson*

**YVETTE NEHOU** has been an active member of the Mississauga Branch for 10 years. Yvette was hired from France in 1968 to teach French language in Ontario and joined the Peel Board of Education in 1971. She herself learned English while instructing many students in French until her retirement in 1998. Yvette joined RWTO in 2000 and has been an active member of the Executive since then. Yvette is our longstanding Issues and Concerns Convenor for Mississauga Branch. Her passion in this drives various RWTO activities for the needy in our community through glasses, coin and soup label collections; as well as toys and food for the Salvation Army. In addition, Yvette constructs the Branch

Program booklet each year - not an easy task - but invaluable for our members to keep up-to-date with activities and their interest groups. She again put her valued computer skills to work in designing the program booklet for our 2009 Convention. She sees a need and gets the job done well. In the future, Yvette envisions RWTO as an organization striving to help elderly members, particularly those with reduced mobility. She asks "Can we do more for those members who need outreach programs, home visits and transportation?" It is a challenging question for all RWTO members.

Hats off and many thanks to Yvette for her leadership in compassion and action in the Mississauga Branch of RWTO.

*Gerrie Khalid*

**JUDY PUTHERBOUGH** retired in June 1998 after thirty-five years of teaching and attended the RWTO tea for new members in September. She was impressed with what membership had to offer, joined and in September 2000 became 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President. Going up through the ranks she became President in the Fall of 2002 and kept very busy in her position during a difficult personal time for her. After completing her year as Past President Judy became the assistant to the Trips and Tours Convenor and then In 2006 Judy became the Trips and Tours convenor and continues to do an outstanding job to this very day. Luncheon Group 3 is also fortunate to have Judy as convenor as she is always interested in finding a new dining experience each month..

For Convention 2009 Judy and Jeannine Dykstra organized the tours enjoyed by all of the delegates.. Judy was a voting delegate for four years at the annual RWTO convention. She enjoyed this experience immensely and continues to attend every Provincial Convention making her own arrangements to do so. To quote Judy: "Attending conventions has been fascinating. You see how our provincial organization works, how resolutions are prepared and visit places of interest in the area of Ontario where the convention is held."

Judy is a valued member of RWTO Mississauga Branch and a most deserving recipient of the Cora Bailey Award in 2010.

*Louise Joyce*

Birthdays are good for you.  
The more you have, the longer  
you live.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 31      Deadline for Fees  
                 without penalty
- June 1-3     Convention 2010 in  
                 London, Ontario
- Sept. 9      New Retirees Tea
- October 13   General Meeting and  
                 Luncheon at LAC
- Nov. 9      Penta Luncheon at  
                 Le Treport Banquet Hall  
                 \*\*\* Hosted by our own  
                 Mississauga Branch



## TRIPS 2010

**Thursday October 21**  
Stratford Avon Theatre  
The musical "Evita"  
Cost \$120  
Lunch on your own

**Thursday November 25**  
Annual St. Jacob's Trip  
Shopping at the Market and at  
the Discount Mall  
Includes lunch at "Verses"  
"Separate Beds" at the  
St. Jacob's Playhouse  
and Shopping downtown  
Cost \$104

Contact: Judy Putherbough at  
905-822-9581

### Newsletter Submissions

Please email articles, poetry, your ideas, classifieds and  
advertisements for the 2011 Winter Newsletter to:  
Ann-Marie Buna, [ambuna@rogers.com](mailto:ambuna@rogers.com) by Dec. 1, 2010