

BEYOND THE BLACKBOARD

ERT
ERO

DISTRICT 24 – SCARBOROUGH AND EAST YORK



Volume 32 Number 3

FALL 2013

<http://district24.rto-ero.org>

FALL LUNCHEON AND CRAFT SALE – OCTOBER 24, 2013



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~ photos by Wendy Hooker & Bonnie Clarke



DISTRICT 24 BRIDGE NEWS

We continue to play Tuesdays at 12:30 at Ellesmere Community Centre, on Canadian Drive opposite Costco. New members with a working knowledge of the game are always welcome, no partner needed. Come every week, or come when you can. Currently we have around five tables, and we'll be happy to have new members in September.

On Tuesday December 17, we will have a potluck lunch, starting to set up at 11:30. We always have lots of great food, and then play our usual rounds of bridge after. If you have played with us in the past, and just have been too busy in this crazy retired timetable we lead, see if you can join us. Or, if you're new, and want to try us out... come on this date!! We will resume playing after Christmas on Tuesday, January 7, 2014. For more information contact Terry or Dale Smith at: 416.438.0430. **24**

And now, a Bedtime Bridge Story...

A bumbling bridge player explained to his friend how he planned to improve his game: "Every night when I go to bed I think about the mistakes I made that day at the bridge table."

"Gee," said his friend, "how do you get any sleep?"



GOODWILL: PHONE COMMITTEE



This year we are attempting to contact **800** members who retired before 1998. Cards have gone out and many calls are still being made in an attempt to contact these members. The response has been very positive. Hopefully these calls will be completed soon. A big thank you to all the members who have volunteered their time to make our goodwill calls. **24**

~ Lynne Horvath, Goodwill-Phones

GOODWILL: HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The following members have celebrated a special birthday between July and December 2013:

90th Birthday Celebrants:

Theda Anderson
Flora Boasie
Carlton Carter
Joan Cooper
Gwendolyn Darch
Shirley Donely
Rita Ingram

Martha Massey
Ruth McCall
Ena Mulligan
Echo Murdock
Alice Papazian
W. S. Roliff



100th Birthday Celebrant:

Sheila MacKenzie

101st Birthday Celebrant:

Elise Brydon

102nd Birthday Celebrants:

Mildred Wideman

Enid Coulter

One other member has also celebrated her 100th birthday, but has requested that her name not be published.

Each of the above celebrants has received a special birthday card indicating that a donation to Breakfast for Kids has been given in his or her name. **24**

GOODWILL: CARDS

Every year, each 90th, 100th and older birthday celebrant is honoured with a special card and a donation to Breakfast for Kids given in his or her name. In 2013, twenty-six members celebrated a 90th birthday, three celebrated their 100th, three celebrated their 101st and two celebrated a 102nd birthday.

This year, Walter Perry P.S., a TDSB school in the Brimley-Eglinton area of Scarborough, was chosen to receive the birthday celebrants' funds. At Walter Perry, they run a breakfast programme for 60 students and a morning meal programme for approximately 460 students, including the 60 students who also receive the breakfast. A cheque for **\$950.00** was delivered to the school on Tuesday, November 12, 2013.

During the past year, in addition to the 34 birthday cards, 60 sympathy cards and twenty 'Thinking of You' cards were also sent out. In December, Christmas cards were sent out to **231** members who were 85 years and older. Thanks are extended to Trudy Sutton, a friend and District 24 member, who assisted with the writing of the 2013 Christmas cards.

When I am notified, Get Well, Thinking of You or Sympathy cards are sent to members or their families.

Please inform me if you know of anyone who should receive a card. **24**



Marilyn Hodge,
416.284.9984

E-mail: mjhodge@sympatico.ca
Use the subject: RTO - GOODWILL

HEALTH REPORT



Hello, and welcome to winter!

If you have not already done so, please register with our monthly E-News Editor, Annemarie McKee, to be added to her list in order to read about health issues and the latest news from RTO that cannot be presented in a timely fashion via our three printed newsletters each year. In November, I provided members with

information on how to avoid sleep problems associated with our Ontario time changes, Flu season reminders, as well as notification of a series of TVO presentations on Aging in Ontario.

Here's the latest information I've received from our Provincial Health Committee: The new 2014 Health Plans Booklet (including the Out-of-Province/Canada Travel Booklet) is produced every three years and will be mailed out in February. When you receive it, be sure to send the old 2011 booklet to your recycle bin to avoid any confusion, as the contents will be quite different after three years of enhancements. The Health Plan Enhancements have been finalized, and the effects of the enhancements, if any, on the participants' premiums required for 2014 were determined. The results of these discussions will be made known to you in the Group Benefits Update which will be mailed out at the end of November.

Once again District 24 was pleased to offer you a Health Seminar in October. Considerable thanks is extended to our executive member, Gloria Courtney, for not only informing me about the Agincourt Recreation Centre facility, a very suitable new venue, but also for the fact that she personally provided and set up the technical equipment required; without her, this seminar could not have taken place. I also wish to thank Donna Hubel for her thoughtful words of appreciation to our guest speaker. Finally, I thank Joan Varley for her detailed and comprehensive report as follows. **24**

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of Growing Old in Ontario

Once again, the members of RTO District 24 were treated to an interesting and informative seminar organized by our Health Rep, Marilyn Tregwin. On Thursday, October 10 at the Agincourt Recreation Centre, about 60 members enjoyed coffee and refreshments and listened to Monica Marquis.

Monica Marquis has a varied background. She is the Branch Manager of *Seniors for Seniors* for the Toronto Region. University-educated, she has a Science and Education degree. Her work experience includes both the private and public health fields. Monica presented an interesting perspective on how to age well. We have the power and the ability to orchestrate changes that would enhance the possibilities for comfortably growing old. These changes may be personal or governmental. As the "baby boomers"

continue to move along life's continuum there will be changes in how aging is perceived, and how society's attitudes evolve, just as there has been throughout their journey.

The fastest growing segment of our population is now 85 and older, and 70% of those people are women. By 2015, it is predicted that for the first time in Canadian history the over 65's will outnumber children. By 2016 there will be more over 65 than 25-40 year olds. Changes will definitely be required.

Monica challenged us to consider our future requirements and how to meet them. What would we like the future to be like for an aging population? Elder-friendly cities, with transportation and buildings that are developed with our needs in mind (lighting, mobility challenges, fall prevention).



THE GOOD:

The 3 E's: Eat well, Exercise, Entertain. Eat for health. Exercise to maintain health. Entertain involves being engaged with your family, your community or church. Maintain social interaction. It is good for your brain and your mental health. Define what your role is, what you want it to be and pursue it. Live life - the alternative is...

THE BAD:

Not expecting to live as long as you do, and not being prepared for that eventuality, are bad. Now is the time to consider what you want your future life to be like. Monica posed a number of questions. Do you have a Power of Attorney? Who will manage your affairs and health decisions if you are suddenly unable to do so, because of a sudden accident, illness or chronic disease? Do you have a will? Have you thought about how you want to die? Do you know the options? If you have a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate), tell all your family. Just telling one person is insufficient. If your whole family doesn't know, your wishes may not be carried out.



THE UGLY:

By age 65 most people will have a chronic disease; a condition that can be managed, but doesn't disappear. Our health care system is the biggest part of the ugly. Across the country and throughout the provinces there are disparities. In Ontario the system is fragmented. The services available depend not only on your needs, but what is available in your particular community. There are not enough geriatricians. Hospitals are overcrowded. Some areas have insufficient physicians. CCAC's (Community Care Access Centres) have limited funds and are not always able to carry out their responsibilities fully. In general, the needs of an aging population cannot be met adequately. Changes are happening.



The policy of the government is changing to focus on care in the home. Instead of Long Term Care facilities there will be an effort to provide more support and services through the community to enable people to remain in their homes. As always with change, particularly major change, there are hiccups, bottlenecks and problems, big and small. The purpose of the CCAC is navigation through the system. It is important to start early to seek assistance, i.e. when you first need care, not when care has become too onerous for family or friends. Don't refuse help, even if it is only a small amount. Be truthful when answering their questions. Don't be embarrassed to state that you need help with bathroom activities. The CCAC has a health line on the internet. They list services to tap into without calling CCAC.

Community Health Centres and Mental Health and Addiction Centres are other agencies that can provide assistance to seniors with special needs, assisting with depression or managing a chronic disease.

When you are seeking help, start with government agencies. Then approach not-for-profit organizations and finally, if able, private facilities that, for a sum, may be able to meet the remaining needs. It was evident from the personal anecdotes exchanged at the seminar that it is a time-consuming and difficult task to gain the needed assistance.

Changes are going to happen. Research is on-going. Policies are slowly coming in place to meet the needs of the older generation. There is the promotion of elder-friendly cities with transportation and building codes that are consistent with an aging society who have special needs (e.g.: lighting, mobility issues, fall prevention strategies). Primary care availability is being strengthened. Promotion of home and community care is occurring. Long term care facilities are being investigated more frequently and regulations are being increased. Elder abuse and the specific needs of aging aboriginals are receiving increased consideration and policy development.

The specific care needs of seniors are being addressed. Consideration is being given to the needs of caregivers as well, providing respite to allow a break for them. Since seniors metabolize drugs differently than younger adults, anyone who regularly takes 4 or more medications can have a pharmacist provide a Medscheck free of charge. Consider what might be your future needs and how you would like them to be met. Do you have suggestions for your MPP? What modifications do you need to make to your home so you can remain in it as you age? What the future has in store for us is unknown. Now is the time to think about how we would like it to unfold. Act now to manage those aspects you can control to come as close as possible to having the future you would like.

♦ **Seniors for Seniors** is a non-medical homecare agency employing Junior Seniors (50 years plus) to serve and assist Senior Seniors (60 years plus). It was founded in 1985 by Peter Cook on the advice of his mother who had friends who were bored at home and older friends who needed assistance to stay in their homes. **24**

~ Joan Varley
~ Marilyn Tregwin, DHR

~ our guest speaker,
Monica Marquis ➤



~ photos by Hal McCullough



Brother Isidore Wasylenchuk

Brother Isidore was born into a homesteading family of Ukrainian immigrants nearby the village of Hyas north of Yorkton, Saskatchewan. He was the youngest of three children having two older sisters. Now 88 years young, Brother Isidore tells his story.

Working as homesteaders was hard work and everyone in the family had to help. For Brother Isidore that meant mostly work in the barn and in the fields where he would drive the team of horses, feed the animals and milk the cows. He even helped a bit inside the house, an area left mostly to the females of the home. At age 7 he began grade one in a one room country school. The school starting age was 7 because of the distance to the school and the harsh Saskatchewan climate. The school year went from September to the end of July with the month of January off to accommodate the weather. Isidore walked the 2½ miles each day to school and back home again. There were no buses or parents to drive him. After he finished grade 8 in this school, Isidore ventured into Yorkton where he enrolled as a boarding student at St. Joseph's College, an all boys' school run by the Institute of Brothers of the Christian Schools, where he completed grades 9, 10 and 11 in just 2 years. It was here that he decided he wanted to become a teaching brother, and he moved to the Brothers' headquarters just south of Aurora in Ontario where he finished grade 13 and his training as a brother.



After WWII there was a shortage of trained teachers. Saskatchewan had established a two summer teacher training programme granting a teaching permit after the first summer and a temporary certificate after the second. A permanent certificate was granted on the completion of 3 university courses. Brother Isidore attended this programme and began his teaching career in 1945 in Yorkton at St. Joseph's College where he taught all subjects to grade 9 boys. He moved on to teach older students and eventually became the principal. The boarding school status changed in 1978 when the school amalgamated with Sacred Heart Academy, the girls' school nearby, and the nuns ran the combined schools as Sacred Heart, a co-ed institution. While at St. Joseph's Brother Isidore established off-campus classes for the University of Saskatchewan where he taught Ukrainian language and literature. Soon he was travelling twice a week to the University of Regina where he also taught Ukrainian language and literature. This was a successful venture and he was asked to continue, but he was moved to La Salle

Manor, a retirement home for brothers in Toronto, in 1980 where he became the administrator for the next 6 years of the Toronto District which included Quebec.

It was while in Yorkton that Brother Isidore was awarded a 15 month fellowship by UNESCO to study Ukrainian language and literature at the University of Ottawa towards his PhD degree. On his way home to Toronto, he met with his superior in Montreal. While driving through Lachine his superior told him of the Brother Principal there who was asked to go to St Vincent in the Caribbean, but the parents were reluctant to let him go. The job fell to Brother Isidore, and off he went to St. Vincent for a 2 year stint sponsored by Canadian International Development Agency. From here he travelled on a "banana boat" to Wales where he had a holiday, and then on to Ireland before he flew home. He spent one additional year in St. Vincent filling in for a colleague on sabbatical leave.

Brother Isidore also spent some time in Nigeria where he was part of a team that was able to bring water not only to the school but to the village from a pond nearby. The people had depended on water from unreliable wells up to this time.



After De la Salle College discontinued the boarding programme, space became available for the many applicants from Hong Kong who wanted to come to Canada to learn and improve their English language skills. For 4 summers Brother Isidore

travelled to Hong Kong to select students for this programme. He would "work" for one week and then travel to places such as Malaysia, Japan, the Philippines and Singapore for his own education and pleasure.

Because of his knowledge of Ukrainian he accompanied Brothers from Poland who wanted to establish the Brothers in Ukraine. While there from 1992 to 1996 he began teaching English mostly to adult professionals in the parish hall. Soon he was moved into a school to a real classroom where he taught night classes to his students. Before long he was also teaching daytime English classes twice a week to staff in the local hospital. In Ukraine he was joined for one year by a young American volunteer who helped him in his duties. They became fast friends.

Brother Isidore has celebrated 70 years as a Brother of the Christian Schools, and until June of 2013 he still did the banking for the De la Salle cafeteria, the School Shoppe and the arena. He says he has had a great life and has no regrets. His advice to young people is to be honest and outgoing. Do not live in a shell, but share your life with friends and family. Brother Isidore's life is a fine example of a life well lived.

♦ The **Institute of Brothers of the Christian Schools** is an international organization founded in Rheims, France in 1679 by St. Jean-Baptiste de la Salle. Today there are over 900,000 students in over 80 countries in schools run by the Christian Brothers. **24**

~ as told to Gloria Courtney, Political Advocacy Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We are certainly enjoying some beautiful autumn weather, taking pleasure in crisp mornings, perfect for the beginning of a day walk. The sun comes out bright, beautiful, and still hot. The leaves have already turned their exciting yellows, oranges, reds, and artistic combinations of those fall colours and have now fallen. A hint of frost is in the air. What an exciting time of the year - no bugs, warm days, no humidity. We are blessed to be retired and to live in this great country.

A tidbit of early 2014 pension information from the OTPP website: There will be an increase of 0.9% in our pension; admittedly, not a large increase but still an increase.

There will be an increase of 0.9% in our pension...

Congratulations are extended to our Past President and 1st Vice-president, Donna Hubel, for her appointment to the RTO/ERO Provincial Service to Others committee. Donna is one of a small number of D24 members who have served on provincial committees over the years.

Three very enjoyable events have taken place in September and October. The B4K 16th annual golf tournament was very successful on September 10th. Many thanks to Lothar Maier and his team for organizing this worthwhile day. Thanks are due as well to the numerous sponsors and contributors of money and gifts. A total of \$8150.00 will be distributed among five recipients: The Hope Centre, Malvern; West Hill PS, Scarborough; St Ursula CS, Scarborough; Eastview PS, Scarborough; and O'Connor PS, East York.

Our annual Champagne Brunch took place on September 18th at the beautiful Cathedral Bluffs Yacht Club. A number of recent retirees were in attendance and introduced to RTO/ERO and to members of District 24. Helpful information, including details of RTO/ERO's indispensable health plans available to RTO/ERO members, was provided. Thanks are extended to Donna Hubel who brought greetings from the provincial office and to Elaine Aprile and her "crew" who organized this event.

The Fall 2013 session of RTO/ERO Senate was held in Toronto from October 21 to October 23. District 24 was represented by George Denny, Donna Hubel, Peter Vanderyagt, and Bonnie Clarke. Some interesting items were presented and debated, including a motion to grant three million dollars to the Charitable Foundation from the RTO/ERO reserves. Although this motion passed on the floor of the Senate, the margin was so small that there were some mixed sentiments about this resolution. A decision to reduce the new Executive Director's overlap with that of the existing Director, Harold Brathwaite, from ten months to three, was approved.

An interesting look at the cost of health care per person across the country according to age bands was included in

the report from ACER-CART (Canadian Association of Retired Teachers). Per person costs by age group are:

< 1 year:	\$9264	1-14:	\$1341
15-64:	\$2479	65-69:	\$6223
70-74:	\$8721	75-79:	\$12,050
80+:	\$20,113		

The Fall luncheon on Thursday, October 24th at QSSIS Banquet Hall was well attended. The many craft tables were a testament to the creativity of the individuals who displayed their wares. The lunch served by QSSIS staff was delicious and plentiful. This annual event was planned this year by D24's new social convener, Susan Watson. She, Alison Chase, Carmela Gaudet, Marilyn Hodge, and the rest of the Social team worked very hard to ensure that the day would be successful. It certainly was! Thank you, Susan.

Our Programme Chair of many years, Judy-Anne Tumber has tendered her resignation. A new retiree, Paula Chambers, has accepted the position of Programme Chair. Paula is looking forward to working with the trip facilitators in 2014. A huge thank you is extended to Judy-Anne for all her work in the past as well as for pre-planning many of the 2014 trips in order to assist Paula in her transition to the position of Programme Chair. Be sure to check out the events we have lined up for 2014 on pages 10 and 11 in this newsletter, and the coupons that need to be filled out to register on page 12.

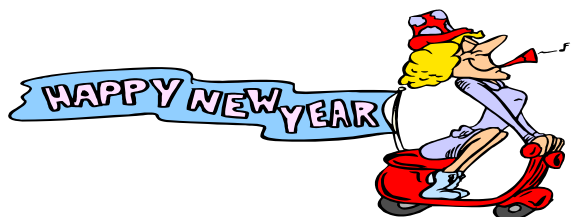
Peter Vanderyagt, our 2nd VP, is Chair of the Awards Committee. He has some interesting ideas for presenting awards from D24 for outstanding volunteer service to the community. If you know of someone whom you feel deserves to be recognized by our district for community service, please let Peter know. Peter's contact information can be found on page 17.

Our final Executive Meeting for the year was held on Thursday, November 7. We are all looking forward to the annual Christmas Lunch at Scarboro Golf and Country Club on December 4th.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at McCowan Retirement Residence, beginning at 9:30AM. Light refreshments are served at 9:00AM and all RTO members of D24 are welcome. Current members of the executive of District 24 are listed on page 17.

A very Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous New Year to all members of RTO District 24. **24**

MERRY CHRISTMAS



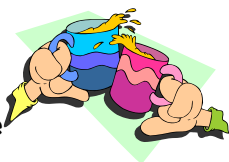
WELCOME TO DISTRICT 24 !

To all our new members, we offer you a warm welcome! Whether you are a new retiree or have moved here from another district, we hope that you find District 24 ~ Scarborough and East York a comfortable and happy fit.

Our District motto is: "Where Old and New Friends Meet".
We count you among our friends.

Welcome

Catherine Abbott
Marguerite Allen
Maria Anastasiades
L. Baya Arts
Patricia Barnet
Carmela Benacem-Benhadj
Donna Benson
Andre Berns
A. Robin Bethke
Dorothy Bolusmjak
Susan Briggs
Marilyn Brimcombe
Cynthia Browne
Elizabeth Bruzzese
David Burton
Diane Byers



Anne E. Cahill
Carol Callingham
Elizabeth P. Carruthers
Valerie Chatland
Angelina Chow
Leonard Corsini
Kathleen Cowan
Brenda Craig
Sally (Sarah Rose) Dabrowski
Madeline Dennis
James De Rasmio
Edith Di Pede
Gino Di Pede
Joyce Dolmer
Susan Dwinnell
K. Sharon Elder
Denise Elliott
Monica Enright-Fardis

Peter Finch
Janet Fitzpatrick
Marilyn Fox
Bohumila Frame
Shirley Frame



Anne Gabbott-Stewart
Vivian Gault
Hanna Hadden
Sara Haigh
Jane Hawkins
Barbara M. Hodgins
Anne Jenkinson
Mary-Ellen Johnson
Josephina Karunungan-Macgale
Elaine Kimmel
Georgia Koumarela
Howard Laderman
Christine Langley
David C. LaRochele
Monika Lewis

Alexander MacKinnon
Catherine Macrae
James F. McAndless
David Marcotte
Erma Martin
Lloyd Martin
Mary-Lou Mills
Elizabeth Mitchell
Janette Mitchell

Michelle L. Oatway
Thomas O'Hanley
Anne Oliver

Anne Marie Paananen
Shawn Persaud
Jane Pettinger
Norma A. Phin
Leone Plumb
Christine Pryde

Diane Quick
Doris H. Reader
Ronald J. Rilley
Laura Roach
Patricia Roy
Maureen Ryan



Catherine Sanderson
Catherine Scharge
Maureen Shearham
Lillian Shery
Margaret Shields
Brenda Short
Anne Silliker
Deborah Smith
Phyllis Somers
Shirley Stadnyk
Catherine Stewart



Angela Talbot
Rocchina Tella Visconti
Catherine M. Thompson
Mei-Ling Tong

Alice Valley
Mary Elizabeth VanHouten
Patrick Vincent

Jennifer Weidmark
Nancy Weir
Christine Williams

Beatriz Yamal
Sandra Yen

- to 31.10.13

District 24, Scarborough and East York, now has **2,715** members. Keep yourself up-to-date with everything RTO...

As Editor, may I suggest that you take advantage of signing up for our "monthly" **E-NEWS** by contacting Annemarie McKee at: amckee.rto@gmail.com.

And in the interests of helping us keep our newsletter costs down, and being a friend to the environment, sign up to get your newsletter from our website.

Contact Hal at: hal@powergate.ca. See pages 8 & 13 for details.



IN MEMORIAM

In understanding that each life is a miracle that changes the world, we remember and honour the lives of our departed colleagues and friends.

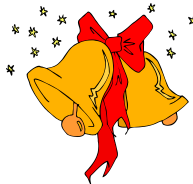
Margaret R. Allen
Helen W. Bennett
James J. Bissonnette
Sheila D. Bradley
Dorothy K. Brignall
Clarence Brown
Cynthia E. Brown
Emma Elise Brydon
Sibyl M. Castagner
Brian Chatland
Enid M. Coulter
Dora E. Dobson
Angela D'Souza
Danielle Dumais
Melnese Duncan
Joan Forge

Guadeloupe Gomez
David Green
Reginald Harvey
Elsie Hines
C. Roy Horney
Anthony Lumb
Shirley J. McAndless
William March
Thelma G. Peters
Hugh J. Phin
Herbert A. Rose
J. Allan Ross
Marylla Simpson
William E. White
Shirley E. Whitfield

~ to 31.10.13

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Hello everyone! I expect that many of us are extremely busy right now getting ready for the upcoming holiday season. While I was writing this it was very windy, and we were having a mix of rain and ice pellets and snow. A portent of things to come!



Just a couple of things I'd like to mention. The first, of course, is to try to encourage more of you to sign up to get the newsletter on-line instead of taking a paper copy. (Yes, I know - I sound like a broken record - and I think most of us are old enough to know what records were!!) Sending out the paper copy of our newsletter is expensive. By the time we total the printing costs, mailing costs and postage, each newsletter is costing us about \$2.25. If you sign up to get it on-line, fewer are printed, saving us those monies for other District activities. And, you're helping save the environment! And over **260** of you are doing just that!

If you have not as yet signed up for the newsletter on-line, please give it some serious thought. If you decide to give it a try, then please send an e-mail to your editor: hal@powergate.ca. Include your full address and phone number, and a brief note to say you'd like to get the newsletter on-line. Please use the subject line: **RTO - NO NEWSLETTER**. I know we're asking for a lot of information, but we want to be sure we are deleting the correct person from the mailing list (so you won't receive a paper copy).

I will send you an e-mail to let you know when the newsletter has been posted to our site - it will be a link that will take you directly to the page where you can click to download the newsletter. It will then be on your computer where you can read it and save it; or read it and delete it.



You will get your notification as soon as it has been posted and you will have the newsletter 1-2 weeks before the people who still rely on Post Office delivery!

Plus... you will find that when you have downloaded the newsletter that there are pages in it that did not appear in the paper version. In an effort to control our costs, we are trying to limit our paper newsletter to 20 pages - any material beyond that will not appear in the paper version, but it will be available to those who read it on their computer. For example, in this issue, 2 members wrote items about trips they had taken and wanted to share their experiences with you. You are also welcome to share with the District! Been on a trip? Written poetry or prose? Photos you'd like to share? Send your contribution to the editor: hal@powergate.ca.

However, having said that, I should point out that all important information will still be found in the paper version. No "vital" information has been left out. Remember - if you decide that you would rather have the paper copy after all, send me an e-mail to let me know and we can leave you on the mailing list. The choice is yours.

You may have noticed that we have a new web address for our District. This resulted when we moved our website to a new server - one that offers us much more security. You will find our new address in the footer of each page of this newsletter.

While you are on our website, you will notice that, in addition to our newsletter, there is a plethora of information available to you at the click of a mouse: - photos, all local activities, other RTO publications, benefits information, links to the 3 other Toronto districts plus links to ACER-CART, Allianz, Johnson Inc., RTO/ERO Travel, Harmony (our printer), Souvenir Canada, Merit Travel - even to get Adobe Acrobat Reader - and much more. Check us out!



Have you ever wondered why there are no names (except for guests) included to identify the people in our photos? The answer is simple: I take anywhere from 75-100 photos at an event (or upwards of 50 photos if I facilitate a trip). For various reasons, not all of those photos are usable. It would be a monumental job to keep track of the names of all the people in each photo - and then to be sure that the right names are matched with the right people. Unfortunately, the paperwork involved in trying to keep track of everyone makes such an undertaking all but impossible.

Please remember: If you are sending e-mail to an Executive member, the message in the subject line should begin with **RTO** - it helps us weed out junk and other unwanted e-mail!

Have a safe and happy holiday season!! 24

~ Hal McCullough, Newsletter Editor

☺ ECLIPSE: What an English barber does for a living

GOLDEN YEARS GROUP FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Meets monthly at the Birkdale Community Centre.

For more information contact Elaine Aprile by phone at: 416.267.2670 OR by e-mail at: elaineaprile@sympatico.ca



BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

The meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month, except December, at 7:30 PM at the McCowan Retirement Centre (formerly the Kingsway Arms), 2881 Eglinton Avenue East at McCowan Rd. in Scarborough. There is a bus stop at the corner of Eglinton Ave. and McCowan. Free parking is available on the south side of the building.

For more information, please call:
Marilyn: 416.284.9984
Peggy: 416.269.7575



ONTARIO VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Earlier this year, Gary Fick, District 24's Charitable Foundation Representative was eligible to receive his 10 year Volunteer Service Award. This award is sponsored by the Government of Canada.

Unfortunately, Gary (I) was not able to attend that award ceremony and was presented with his pin and certificate at our Executive Meeting on May 16, 2013 by our 2nd Vice-President, Peter Vanderyagt. (r)



OPSMTF

OPSTF is the former elementary (men) teachers' federation. We hold a reunion every two years. We are attempting to identify former members to invite them to our reunion and I am writing to ask if you could assist by placing the attached notice into your district newsletter. If you have any questions or require more information contact me at 416.638.2239, hmoscoe@gmail.com OR our chair, Dave Kendall, at 613.335.4319 davidckendall@yahoo.ca.

Louiseaewing@bell.net - Alumni Reunion Committee

CLUB 48



Club 48 is an association of retired teachers who meet socially nine times a year from October to June, usually the afternoon of the second Wednesday of the month.

For further information contact: Christine Newhouse at: 416.924.5226.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Second Elementary School in the Danforth/ Main St. area requires volunteers to work with grade 1 students to improve their reading skills.

We are looking for retired teachers who would be able to make a commitment of a morning, or an hour or more, on a regular basis. Many of our students do not have an adult who is able to listen to them read at home And without that support they are having difficulty keeping up.

Contact either our V.P.: Anastasia Poulis, or our Principal: Lisa Moser, at 416.396.2450.



RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Just as "Beer is not just a breakfast drink", likewise "RTO is not just a medical insurance plan".

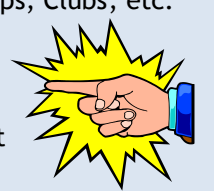
You do not have to be a member of the Insurance Plan to be a member of RTO/ERO, and enjoy the many benefits, such as Luncheons, Excursions, Theatre trips, Clubs, etc.

We are actively recruiting new Members for our district, and would appreciate your help in reaching retired members of the Educational Community who are not members.

REMEMBER... non-teachers are eligible to join RTO/ERO as associate members.

Have them contact any member of our District 24 Executive to discuss membership benefits.

~ Les Coombs, Membership and Recruitment Chair



Third party items are presented for information only and endorsement is neither intended nor implied.

On the lighter side...

- ☺ AVOIDABLE: What a bullfighter tries to do
- ☺ EYEDROPPER: A clumsy ophthalmologist
- ☺ PARASITES: What you see from the top of the Eiffel Tower
- ☺ LEFTBANK: What the robber did when his bag was full of money
- ☺ CONTROL: A short, ugly inmate



PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES FOR 2014

- ◆ In this newsletter we have reverted back to the individual coupon for each activity.
- ◆ All the coupons for these events will be found on page 12.
- ◆ Please be sure you, and everyone in your party, have read and understood, the Waiver as printed on page 13 of this newsletter. Everyone participating in the activity must sign the coupon.
- ◆ When you have decided which activity or activities you wish to participate in, fill out the appropriate coupon(s) and send it/them to that activity's facilitator.
- ◆ Facilitators' names, and their contact information, will be found embedded in the write-up for each activity.
- ◆ For Kennedy Commons bus pick-up... please park your vehicle in the area of the Mr. Greek restaurant.
- ◆ Look for our coach – it's usually emblazoned with either Mary Morton Tours OR Pacific Western.



LONDON ROAD... Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at Bluma Appel Theatre, 27 Front Street East, Toronto (just east of Union Station)

LIMIT: 25 persons

COST: \$80.00

PROGRAMME:

10:30 - Social time in Bluma Appel Theatre lobby (complimentary tea and coffee)

11:00 - Backstage Tour led by the Director of Production or the Technical Director

12:00 - Lunch: Calabrese bread; choice of: Canadian Cheeseburger, Moroccan Chicken Sandwich, cheese capalletti, Lasagna al Forno, or Grilled Chicken Caesar. Sorbet for dessert plus tea or coffee

1:30 – LONDON ROAD - In 2006, the everyday life of the quiet town of Ipswich was shattered by the discovery of the bodies of five women. Playwright Alecky Blythe recorded extensive interviews with the residents of *London Road* and turned them into an intelligent, startling, and raw piece of theatre set to music by Tony Award-winning Adam Cork. Having captured the heart of England last year, this 5-star musical documentary reveals the ways in which even the darkest experiences can inspire a community.

Directed by: Jackie Maxwell **Starring:** Sean Arbuckle, Damien Atkins, Ben Carlson, Michelle Fisk, Deborah Hay, George Masswohl, Julain Molnar, Glynis Ranney, Fiona Reid and Shawn Wright.

POST SHOW: talkback with several cast members for 15 minutes

FACILITATOR: KEN DROPE ~ 604-1750 BAYVIEW AVE., TORONTO, ON M4G 4H6 PHONE: 416.485.9538

E-MAIL: kendrope@rogers.com COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: RTO—DISTRICT 24.

TRANSPORTATION: There is NO bus transportation. Use GO train, Bus, TTC, or car.

WAIVER: NO WAIVER NEED BE SIGNED.

DEADLINE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2013



LUNCHEON AND TRAVELOGUE... Thursday, April 24, 2014 at the Scarboro Golf and Country Club, 321 Scarborough Golf Club Road, Scarborough

COST: \$26.00

PROGRAMME: EGYPT: A Month Before the Revolution

SPEAKERS: Bonnie and Doug Clarke.

LUNCH: Chicken. Please note: This is NOT a buffet lunch.

FACILITATOR: ANNE-MARIE ELLIS-TAYLOR ~ ONE GUILDCREST DR., SCARBOROUGH, ON M1E 1E2. PHONE: 416.261.5190.

ANNE-MARIE DOES NOT HAVE E-MAIL. COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: RTO—DISTRICT 24.

WAIVER: NO WAIVER NEED BE SIGNED.

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014



CRAZY FOR YOU... Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at the Stratford Festival, Stratford

DEPART: KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; RETURN: 6:30PM

COST: \$155.00

PROGRAMME: Tony award winning *Crazy for You*, featuring the music of George and Ira Gershwin was written in 1992 and is based on their 1930 musical, *Girl Crazy*. If you enjoy a lively musical comedy with singing and dancing to great music, you are in for an enjoyable time celebrating love and mayhem.

LUNCH: Keystone Alley in Stratford. Make your entrée choice from the group menu at the restaurant.

FACILITATOR: PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

E-MAIL: paula.chambers@rogers.com. COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: RTO—DISTRICT 24.

WAIVER: ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 13.

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2014



SOUTH PACIFIC... Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at the Drayton Festival Theatre, Drayton

DEPART: KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; **RETURN:** APPROX. 6:30PM

COST: \$125.00

LUNCH: Benjamin's in St. Jacob's. Make your choice at the restaurant.

PROGRAMME: In a South Pacific Island paradise, a love story between a spunky Navy nurse and mysterious French planter is put to the test when faced with the stark realities of prejudice and a world at war. The legendary score features such classics as "Some Enchanted Evening", "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair", "Bali Ha'i" and "This Nearly was Mine". A riveting musical theatrical experience that covers the spectrum of human emotion, South Pacific became only the second musical to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

LUNCH: Benjamin's in St. Jacob's.

FACILITATOR: PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

E-MAIL: paula.chambers@rogers.com. COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO-DISTRICT 24.**

WAIVER: ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 13.

DEADLINE: **FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014**



AGM/SPRING LUNCHEON... Thursday, May 22, 2014 at Q-SSIS, 3474 Kingston Road, Scarborough

COST: \$20.00

PROGRAMME: We begin the day with our Annual General Meeting - on the second floor. (An elevator is available for your use.) There will be reports from our Committee Chairs followed by the election of the Table Officers for 2014. Members attending the **AGM** will have their \$20.00 cheque returned to them.

9:30: Doors open **10:00:** Coffee available, including decaf **10:30-11:30:** AGM **11:30:** Bar opens

12:15: Luncheon

LOCATION: Q-SSIS at Kingston and Markham Roads (north-west corner) - there's lots of parking!

LUNCH: You will have your choice of chicken or salmon. Please indicate your choice on the coupon.

ENTERTAINMENT: Look for entertainment to "tickle your funnybone"!

CONTACT: SUSAN WATSON ~ 18 Springbank Ave., Scarborough, ON M1N 1G3. PHONE: 416.698.3030

E-MAIL: siwatson5@bell.net COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO-DISTRICT 24.**

WAIVER: NO WAIVER NEED BE SIGNED.

DEADLINE: **Friday, May 9, 2014**



MYSTERY PRODUCTION... Thursday, June 19, 2014 at the Dunfield Theatre, Cambridge

DEPART: KENNEDY COMMONS AT 8:30AM ; **RETURN:** APPROX. 6:30PM

COST: \$134.00

PROGRAMME: You will be in your seats for a mystery production. Alex Mustakas, Artistic Director has unveiled an ambitious 2014 season but due to strict licensing agreement, it can't be disclosed until the New Year. He states that we must add this show to our bookings and we won't be disappointed. He also states that we will be as excited and thrilled by this production as he is!

LUNCH: Cambridge Mill. Salad, spice-crusted NY striploin, charred onions, red wine jus, and apple crisp.

ADDITIONAL EVENT: Refreshments at the Cambridge Tourism Centre followed by a one hour guided coach tour of Cambridge.

FACILITATOR: PAULA CHAMBERS ~ 6 COLINROY STREET, SCARBOROUGH, ON M1C 5G6 PHONE: 416.208.0202

E-MAIL: paula.chambers@rogers.com. COUPON IS ON PAGE 12. MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: **RTO-DISTRICT 24.**

WAIVER: ALL IN YOUR PARTY MUST HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND SIGNED THE WAIVER. THE WAIVER IS ON PAGE 13.

DEADLINE: **FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014**

SO FAR, THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN LINED UP FOR YOU FOR THE BALANCE OF 2014.

WATCH FOR DETAILS AND COUPONS IN OUR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS.

EVENT	FACILITATOR	LOCATION	DATE
Cirque du Soleil	Harolyn Panetta	Portlands (Toronto waterfront)	September 7, 2014
Golf Tournament	Lothar Maier	Mill Run (Siloam - Uxbridge)	September 9, 2014
1000 Islands Cruise	Hal McCullough	Gananoque	September 11, 2014
Man of La Mancha	Marilyn Tregwin	Stratford ~ Avon Theatre	September 30, 2014
Cabaret	Donna Hubel	Shaw Festival	October 17, 2014
Fall Luncheon/Craft Sale	Susan Watson	Q-SSIS	October 23, 2014
Christmas Luncheon	Marilyn Hodge	Scarboro G&CC	December 3, 2014

COUPON: LONDON ROAD
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2014

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME (PRINT):
PHONE #:
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT):



OF TICKETS: @ **\$80.00 EA** =
E-MAIL:
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES NO
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

* **DEADLINE: TUESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2013** HM

COUPON: LUNCHEON & TRAVLOGUE
THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME (PRINT):
PHONE #:
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT):



OF TICKETS: @ **\$26.00 EA** =
 * A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014 HM

COUPON: CRAZY FOR YOU
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2014

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME (PRINT):
PHONE #:
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT):



OF TICKETS: @ **\$155.00 EA** =
E-MAIL:
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES NO
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16:

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2014 HM

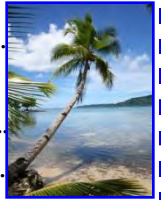
- ✓ Please cut your coupon(s) with scissors.
- ✓ When filling out your coupon, be sure to check your food choice (where applicable).
- ✓ Make all cheques payable to **RTO-District 24**.
- ✓ Post-date your cheque to the activity's deadline!
- ✓ Friends, relatives and neighbours are welcome to join us on our excursions.
- ✓ Please plan to arrive early. Traffic can be unpredictable.



COUPON: SOUTH PACIFIC
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2014

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME (PRINT):
PHONE #:
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT):



OF TICKETS: @ **\$125.00 EA** =
E-MAIL:
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES NO
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16:

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014 HM

COUPON: AGM/SPRING LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME (PRINT):
PHONE #:
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT):



OF TICKETS: @ **\$20.00 EA** =
MEAL CHOICE: Chicken: or Salmon: Please check
E-MAIL:
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES NO
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2014 HM

COUPON: MYSTERY PRODUCTION
THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque.

NAME (PRINT):
PHONE #:
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME (PRINT):



OF TICKETS: @ **\$134.00 EA** =
E-MAIL:
 WOULD YOU LIKE AN E-MAIL CONFIRMATION? YES NO
 IF NO, A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS REQUIRED FOR CONFIRMATION!

★ I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE **RTO**
 WAIVER ON PAGE 16:

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014 HM

THE WAIVER:

Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release...

~ Provincial Executive, January 2010

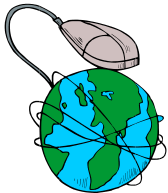


The participant in (the "Event") acknowledges and agrees that RTO/ERO, including District 24, will not be responsible for any loss, injury or damage of any nature, including death, howsoever arising in connection with this trip/excursion/event. Participants in the Event are therefore hereby advised to carry their own insurance in connection therewith.

By signing the activity coupon and in consideration of the participant's attendance at the Event, the participant hereby releases and forever discharges RTO/ERO, District 24, and their respective directors, officers, members, agents, employees and volunteers (collectively, the "Releasees") from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, and demands (collectively, the "Claims") from any loss, injury or damage of any nature, including death which has arisen or may arise from the participant's attendance at the Event, unless such loss, injury or damage has arisen as a result of the sole negligence of one or more of the Releasees.

Any claims arising out of the participant's attendance at the event will be governed by the laws of Ontario, Canada, and the participant consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts in Ontario, Canada in any such action.

SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWS



It's roughly 4 months between newsletters. A lot can happen in that time. Keep informed! Keep yourself up-to date with what's happening in District 24! It's easy to do just sign up to get our **E-NEWS**.

Would you like to contribute to our **E-NEWS**? Share a line to let our readers know what you are doing? Maybe write an article that may be of interest to your retired colleagues? Provide us with pictures to share perhaps? We currently have 680 members (almost 25% of our membership) receiving our **E-NEWS**! If you have friends who have just retired or who taught/worked in the legacy boards of Scarborough or East York that do not currently receive our **E-NEWS**, please encourage them to do so. Remember, all retired educational support workers may join RTO/ERO and receive our **E-NEWS**.

All you have to do is send me your name and your e-mail address, with a short line saying you would like to get our **E-NEWS**.

My e-mail address is: amckee.rto@gmail.com **24**

~ Annemarie McKee, E-NEWS and Webmaster

- ☺ PRIMATE: Removing your spouse from in front of the TV
- ☺ BURGLARIZE: What a crook sees with

THREE MUSKETEERS

What a great day! Great weather, great food, great setting, great production, great company - what more could one want? Once again District 24's programme convener put together a winner. The production of *The Three Musketeers* exhibited a "world of high romance, derring-do and adventure - comic in its extremity" (Ted McGee) and provided amusement for everyone. Luke Humphrey as the youthful and naive D'Artagnan and Deborah Hay, as the mysterious but cunning, alluring and beautiful Milady de Winter were outstanding among a stellar cast of performers. From our prime front-orchestra seats we were happy there were no miscues in the very active duelling scenes. Alexandre Dumas (1802-1870) wrote the novel to entertain and this Stratford production certainly delivered. The set, simple in its design and the costumes, elaborate in both fabric and detail, complete with sword-fighting scenes of speed and dexterity all came together to produce a wonderful result.

Altogether, a superior performance topped off a glorious October Fall day which began with a comfortable coach ride to Ingersoll and the very stately Elm Hurst Inn for lunch. Our delicious and bountiful buffet was served in one of the inn's lovely well-appointed rooms. The piece de resistance (with little resistance from any of us) was the 13-item dessert table. At our (st)age it really should be - dessert first!

Thanks to Marilyn Tregwin for facilitating this outing and to Judy-Anne Tumber for arranging yet another outstanding RTO trip. **24**

~ Bob Cook



YOU and YOUR HOME

A few interesting articles associated with **YOU and YOUR HOME** have passed my way recently and as your Pension and Retirement Representative I would like to share them with you. First of all: The **HEALTHY HOMES RENOVATION TAX CREDIT**.

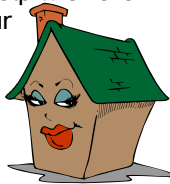
HEALTHY HOMES RENOVATION TAX CREDIT

As a senior 65 years or older in Ontario, you could qualify for a tax credit to help with the cost of making your home safer and more accessible. For more information about the Healthy Homes Renovation Tax Credit, call:
1.866.ONT.TAXS (668-8297)
1.800.263.7776 (for teletypewriter)

About the credit:

The Healthy Homes Renovation Tax Credit is a permanent, refundable personal income tax credit for seniors and family members who live with them. If you qualify, you can claim up to \$10,000 worth of eligible home improvements on your tax return. The amount of money you get back for these expenses is calculated as 15 per cent of the eligible expenses you claim. For example, if you spend and then claim \$10,000 worth of eligible expenses, you could get \$1,500 back.

The Healthy Homes Renovation Tax Credit can help with the costs of improving safety and accessibility in your home. Explore the interactive house below for examples of changes you could make.



Do I qualify?:

To qualify for the credit, you need to be:

- 65 years old or older by the end of the year for which you are claiming the credit; or
- living with a family member who is a senior

Your income doesn't matter – seniors and their family members at all income levels are eligible.

Family members:

If you are living with a senior relative in your home, you could qualify for a total tax credit of up to \$1,500 every year, regardless of income.

How do I get the credit?:

You have to claim your total expenses on your personal income tax return. To do this, you will have to complete Schedule ON(S12) of your tax return and put the amount you spent on eligible renovations next to box 6311 on form ON479.

FOR THE 2012 TAX YEAR: you can claim expenses related to work billed for between October 1, 2011 and December 31, 2012.

FOR TAX YEARS 2013 AND AFTER: each year, you can claim expenses related to work billed for in that year.

Maximum claim:

You can claim up to **\$10,000** worth of eligible expenses per year.

- ☺ COUNTERFEITERS: Workers who install kitchen counters.
- ☺ PARADOX: Two physicians!
- ☺ PHARMACIST: A helper on the farm

Receipts:

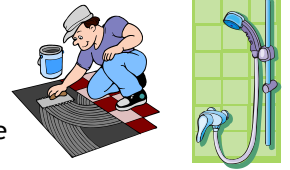
Save your receipts for any modifications you make. You will not have to submit them with your tax return. But you will have to keep them in case the Canada Revenue Agency asks you to verify your expenses.

Eligible renovation expenses:

Not all renovation work qualifies for this tax credit. Before you start any improvements, check to see that the work qualifies so you can claim the expense.

EXAMPLES OF WORK THAT QUALIFY:

- Non-slip flooring in the bathroom
- Installing a hand-held shower
- Door locks that are easy to operate



EXAMPLES OF WORK THAT DO NOT QUALIFY:

Renovations or repairs that simply improve the value of a home or are recurring repairs don't qualify, such as:

- Plumbing or electrical work
- Repairs to a roof
- Installing new windows

For further information please visit their website at:
www.ontario.ca/taxes-and-benefits.

ACCESSIBLE AND ADAPTABLE HOUSING

The second source addresses: **MAKING YOUR HOME ACCESSIBLE**. The following website provides this valuable information:
<http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/acho/index.cfm>

Accessible Housing:

CMHC provides information that you and your caregiver can use to make your housing accessible. Fact sheets, check lists and guides show you ways to adapt your home to meet your changing needs.

Accessible Housing by Design:

A series of fact sheets providing persons with disabilities with information on design considerations and choosing elements for the home:

- Appliances
- Bathrooms
- Fire Safety for You and Your Home
- Home Automation
- House Designs and Floor Plans
- Kitchens
- Lifts and Residential Elevators
- Living Spaces
- Ramps
- Residential Hoists and Ceiling Lifts



These fact sheets can be accessed from the CMHC website:
www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/

In addition, CMHC provides a wealth of information on the topics listed on page 15 - they can be accessed from the CMHC website above.

For those who have downloaded the newsletter from our website, the topics [in blue](#) on page 15 are an active link to that specific fact sheet. (Ctrl+click to follow the link)

Preventing Falls on Stairs:

This fact sheet tells you about some of the ways you can reduce the risk of falling on or from residential stairs.

Maintaining Seniors' Independence Through Home Adaptations – A Self-Assessment Guide:

A simple guide to assessing the daily-living difficulties seniors experience and determining the types of home adaptations that can help.

Maintaining Seniors' Independence: A Guide to Home Adaptations:

This checklist-style reference for seniors, their caregivers and support providers illustrates that in many cases, small and inexpensive modifications can be done to enhance independent living

At Home With Alzheimer's Disease:

Tips for adapting a home to enhance the safety and security of someone living with Alzheimer's disease.

FlexHousing™ Pocket Planner:

By using this handy Pocket Planner, you'll be able to visualize, plan and create a FlexHouse that is adaptable, accessible and affordable. You'll learn about the details of FlexHousing™ and receive practical planning tips.

Housing for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities:

Housing needs and options for adults with intellectual disabilities were identified, and some of the issues examined included the availability of housing and support services, best practices, transitions between housing situations, and the role of parents of adults.

Adapting Your Home to Living with Dementia:

This study provides information about dementia, its symptoms, and common problems that impact every day activities of people with dementia and their caregivers. **24**

~ Terry Smith, Pension and Retirement Committee Chair

Pension Inflation Adjustment



0.9%

We will apply the 2014 adjustment to your pension in January. To see the impact the adjustment will have on your pension, sign in to [Access Web](#), our secure member website.

If you aren't registered for [Access Web](#), or if you have chosen to receive personal pension information by mail, details will appear on the direct deposit notice that you will receive in early February.

For more information, check out:

<http://www.otpp.com/Inflation2014>

☺ RUBBERNECK: What you do to relax your wife

☺ BURGLARIZE: What a crook sees with



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

As AT 7.11.13

	BUDGET 2013	ACTUAL 7.11.13
BANK BALANCE (AS OF JANUARY 2, 2013)	\$2,656.52	\$6,656.52
INVESTMENTS:		
GIC Face Value - matures 17/12/15	\$5,131.72	\$5,131.72
GIC Face Value - matures 16/01/14	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
INCOME:		
Provincial Grant	\$36,367.00	\$37,403.88
Bank Interest/Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00
Golf Tournament	\$150.00	\$7,150.00
Interest Income (GIC)	\$40.00	\$92.00
Provincial Grant - Service to Others	\$0.00	\$0.00
GIC Redeemed	\$4,000.00	
Donations Received (Gold)	\$0.00	\$150.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$43,213.52	\$51,452.40
EXPENSES:		
DISBURSEMENTS - ADMINISTRATION:		
Bank Charges	\$200.00	\$120.17
Executive Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$2,860.95
President's Discretionary Fund		
District AGM	\$250.00	\$493.71
Office Expenses	\$400.00	\$392.44
Senate Meeting	\$2,500.00	\$1,607.94
Archives	\$50.00	\$0.00
Election expenses (Provincial)	\$0.00	\$0.00
MEMBER SERVICES - COMMUNICATIONS:		
Goodwill, Cards	\$2,000.00	\$1,242.84
Goodwill, Phoning		
Membership	\$1,000.00	\$634.64
Recruitment, District	\$2,000.00	\$1,954.71
Newsletter (printing, mailing, postage)	\$18,000.00	\$16,027.97
Toronto District (Levy)	\$1,000.00	\$1,008.00
Political Advocacy	\$0.00	\$0.00
MEMBER SERVICES - PROGRAMME:		
Day Trips	\$1,000.00	-\$1,661.00
Spring Luncheon	\$4,000.00	\$3,200.00
Fall Luncheon	\$500.00	-\$330.43
Christmas Luncheon	\$125.00	
Health Seminar	\$500.00	\$355.67
Bridge Club	\$500.00	\$441.78
District Awards/Gifts	\$100.00	\$265.12
SERVICE TO OTHERS:		
Breakfast for Kids	\$150.00	\$8,150.00
Provincial Approved Project	\$0.00	
District 24 Projects	\$0.00	
TOTAL DEBITS	\$37,275.00	\$36,764.51
RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$43,213.52	
ANTICIPATED/CURRENT BANK BALANCE	\$5,938.52	\$14,687.89

Please direct any questions or concerns to our treasurer, Bonnie Clarke. Contact information for Bonnie can be found on page 19.

DISTRICT AWARDS COMMITTEE

Our District Awards Committee Chair is Peter Vanderyagt. Peter was to have appeared as our Executive Member "In the Spotlight" in this issue of *Beyond the Blackboard* but has given up his space in order to bring the following Awards Committee information to your attention. His biography will appear in our Spring issue.

Our District Awards committee is now seeking your support in recommending names of our RTO/ERO members who meet the following criteria to receive **AN OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**. A submitted name must be:

- ⌘ a member of District 24
- ⌘ an active volunteer during their career and continuing after retirement

Recommended names along with a description of such volunteer activities and length of time committed to them should accompany this submission - i.e. - a team leader for 15 years for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Please include your name and e-mail address so that the Awards Committee can contact you for clarification of your recommendation or more details about their volunteer experience.

All recommendations should be sent to the Chair of our District Awards committee by no later than **March 29, 2014**. The selected recipient(s) will be invited to our District AGM and recognized with: a certificate, a small token of appreciation and a photo opportunity for release to the media.



The **SERVICE TO OTHERS** award is sponsored by the RTO/ERO Provincial Executive. Our district committee is responsible for reviewing all submissions and recommending a group that we can nominate and send on to the Provincial Executive for consideration. If this application is successful, the group is eligible for a grant of up to \$4000.00 Details of this award and an application form are available on the RTO/ERO website at www.rto-ero.org. Click on *Project STO* for this information. Completed application forms must be submitted to our District 24 Awards Committee by **January 31, 2014**.

Submissions are to be sent to: Peter Vanderyagt, Chair of the District 24 Awards Committee at: 2van7844@bell.net.

~ Peter Vanderyagt, 2nd Vice-President; Awards Committee Chair; Service To Others Chair

FALL LUNCHEON Thursday, October 24, 2013

The Fall Luncheon and Craft Sale was a wonderful success, as the smiling faces and sounds of laughter, did attest to.



The 20 vendors gave us a wonderful variety of crafts from which to choose. The hand knitting, pottery, photography, hand designed and crafted blouses, as well as a poetry book, sculptures, jewellery, baking, seasonal goods, etc. helped to make our shopping intriguing and enjoyable.

The beautiful fall colours on the table and centre pieces set a tone of bountiful harvest. The food was delicious and the service commendable. The atmosphere was filled with anticipatory energy, as people hoped they might win one of the many door prizes that were offered by our crafters and some very generous anonymous donors.

As my first venture at organizing these luncheons, I know that I could not have done the job without the "behind the scenes" workers who were so integral to its success. I would like to make particular mention of the great job done by Carmela Gaudet in her role as Craft Convener. Her great organizational and people skills made it look easy.

Looking forward to seeing you all again at the AGM/Spring Luncheon on May 22, 2014. **24**

~ Susan Watson

~ photos on the front page and more on our website

DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU?...

- ☺ You're moving?
- ☺ Your address information is incorrect?



YOU NEED TO CONTACT **DIANNE VEZEAU AT RTO:**

IN WRITING:

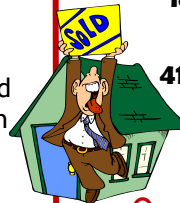
18 SPADINA ROAD, TORONTO, ON M5R 2S7

BY PHONE:

416.962.9463 OR 1.800.361.9888 (EXT 223)

BY E-MAIL:

dvezeau@rto-ero.org



Our thanks go to those members who remember to update their information with us.

In addition to what is in this newsletter, our on-line edition has the following items:

- ✓ a member trip: a Disney cruise (with photos)
- ✓ a member trip: a literary tour of southern England
- ✓ a page of key service contacts - with their websites
- ✓ all the photos that we couldn't fit in the paper copy

DISTRICT 24 EXECUTIVE 2013-2014:



TABLE OFFICERS:

PAST PRESIDENT AND FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:

Donna Hubel dhub@sympatico.ca 416.490.1861

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George Denny havendayle@rogers.com 905.420.1435

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT AND SERVICE TO OTHERS:

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RWTO REP:

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SOCIAL CONVENER:

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Carolyn Lockett cjflockett@gmail.com 647.260.2176

Margaret Nicolson marg.nicolson@rogers.com 416.759.5560

Pat Westcott alicwest@rogers.com 416.269.1145

EX-OFFICIO:

Bill Sparks wgasparks88@gmail.com 416.293.7477

Executive Meetings

All District 24 members are welcome to attend our Executive Meetings.

We'll be meeting on these Thursdays:



JANUARY 9, 2014
MARCH 6, 2014
MAY 1, 2014
MAY 22, 2014 (AGM)
JUNE 12, 2014
SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

Refreshments: 9 to 9:30AM

Business meetings: 9:30AM TO 12:00 NOON

We meet at the **McCOWAN RETIREMENT RESIDENCE** on the southwest corner of Eglinton and McCowan. Go south on McCowan and turn right on Landmark Blvd. Go straight across to the McCowan Retirement Residence —the 2nd red brick building on your right. Parking is available, in **designated areas**, at the back of the building.

NOTE: Signing **IN** and **OUT** is a requirement of the residence!



RTO/ERO

Since 1968, The Retired Teachers of Ontario/les enseignantes et enseignants retraités de l'Ontario — commonly referred to as RTO/ERO — has been a full-service voluntary organization, providing a strong voice for retired teachers, principals, vice-principals, education support staff and college and university faculty.

RTO/ERO is the best organizational friend you can have... dedicated to the needs of Ontario's retirees in the educational field, promoting and protecting your interests, particularly in the area of pensions, health care and insurance.

RTO/ERO has maintained this unwavering commitment for over 45 years.



www.rto-ero.org

Teachers plant seeds of knowledge that bloom forever.

BREAKFAST FOR KIDS GOLF TOURNAMENT Tuesday, September 10, 2013

Players and volunteers, at the RTO-District 24 Golf Tournament, experienced a very hot and humid September 10th day on the Highland Course. However, the 92 fun-loving golfers and a group of industrious, creative volunteers, helped make the 2013 "Breakfast for Kids" Tournament a huge success. We had 23 generous sponsorships this year.

Our District 24 Executive was well represented. George Denny, Bonnie Clarke and Donna Hubel joined us for lunch and helped with the draw. Peter Vanderyagt, 2nd Vice-President, played in the tournament. Our District would also like to thank Kevin Greenwood of the Mill Run Golf Club and their kitchen and serving staff for another satisfying meal.

Along with a cart 'goodie bag' and a choice of prizes from the prize table, each person was invited to participate in a draw and make bids at the Silent Auction. Individual and team awards were presented after lunch. Thank you for all your generosity.

Most Accurate Drive Ladies: Lorraine Ciccarelli

Most Accurate Drive Men: Al Wolch

Closest to the Pin Ladies: Lilly Kadoguchi

Closest to the Pin Men: John Ricciardelli

Most Accurate Putter Ladies: Anne Ryan

Most Accurate Putter Men: Gary Fick

Low Score Ladies Team: Karen Gravitis, Leslie Rogers, Jody Raffensperger, Irene Pollard

Low Score Men's Team: Bob Annis, Bill Kemp, Dave Reid, Dave Corless

Low 'Mixed' Team: Faye Griffiths, Dave Racine, Cathy Harrison, Bryan Rosa

Most Honest Team: Les Pierce, John Ricciardelli, Jim Lyon, Stan Farrow



A huge **THANK YOU** to the following volunteers for contributing in so many different ways to help make the tournament a success: Jerry Chadwick, Noreen Coombs, David Fick, Inge Hermann, Yolanda and Bill Hindle, and Doris Maier.

Once all the monies were counted and the bills were paid, I am proud to announce that we raised **\$8,150.00 !!!** Congratulations everyone!

District 24 Executive members Lothar Maier, Marilyn Hodge and Hal McCullough distributed the **\$1,630.00** cheques to each of the 5 recipients on November 12. Recipients were extremely pleased to have received our donation. Two of the schools had student assemblies to thank us for the contribution we were making to their programmes.

Fiona Bowser, Student Nutrition Community Development Senior Manager-Food Share, with the assistance of Lothar Maier, chose the sites and accompanied the group.

This year the school/community sites were:

TDSB EAST YORK — O'Connor P.S.:

- long-standing morning meal programme: JK - Gr. 5 for 225 students

TDSB SCARBOROUGH — Eastview P.S.:

- breakfast programme: JK - Gr. 8 for 90 students and morning meal programme: for 450 students

TDSB SCARBOROUGH — West Hill P.S.:

- long-standing morning meal programme: JK - Gr.8 for 225 students

TCDSB SCARBOROUGH — St. Ursula C.S.:

- new morning meal programme: JK -Gr. 8 for 250 students that has started this fall

COMMUNITY — The Hope Centre - Malvern

- long-time community breakfast programme: JK - Gr. 12 for 100 students
- students from all neighbouring schools attend



On behalf of all the children and young adults who will benefit from our support, I want to send out a huge **THANK YOU**. You continue to make a difference in the lives of children! I encourage and invite you to support the 17th Annual "Breakfast for Kids" Golf Tournament on **September 9, 2014**. Please look for details in the Spring Issue of *Beyond the Blackboard*. **24**

WE NEED YOUR HELP to continue a great cause

The District 24 "Breakfast for Kids" Golf Tournament has been making a positive impact in kids' lives for many years. Our golf tournament will be looking for a new Convener for 2015. Lothar Maier, our current convener, committed to serve in that role until 2014. A couple of members have already expressed interest in serving on a committee to organize this event in 2015. We are asking you to please consider taking on the role of the convener.



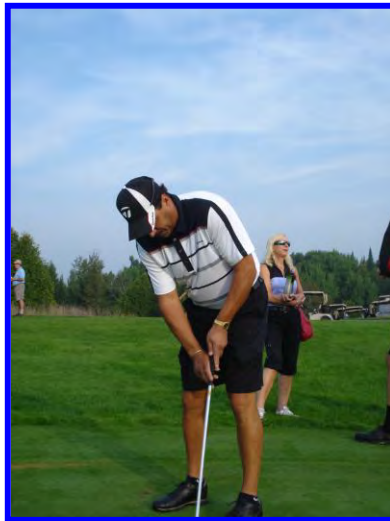
The District 24 golf tournament has been a 16 year tradition and a valuable supporter of the nutrition programmes in both East York and Scarborough schools. If you, or a couple of people, would like to head up this wonderful tournament, please contact Lothar at: lothar.maier@yahoo.ca.

Organization files and contact lists from past tournaments are available to help the new organizers, along with support from the previous conveners. Kevin Greenwood, Manager of tournaments at Mill Run also continues to be very supportive and helpful in all aspects of organizing a tournament. **24**

Please... help keep this RTO-District 24 event going by accepting a leadership role!

- ☺ Golf is a game in which you yell "fore," you score a six, and you write down "five."
- ☺ A good golf partner is one who's always a little bit worse than you are.

OUR GOLF TOURNAMENT:



Photos from the school presentations will appear in our Spring newsletter.

~ photos by Lothar Maier

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH:

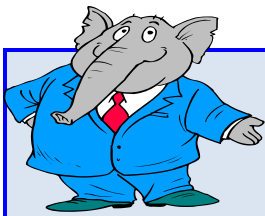


- 🌸 Good food...
- 🌸 Meeting and greeting old friends...
- 🌸 Making new friends...
- 🌸 Spectacular location by the water...
- 🌸 A beautiful sunny warm day...
- 🌸 Executive members sharing the advantages of belonging to RTO...
- 🌸 Encouraging new retirees to join us...
- 🌸 And a good time was had by all...

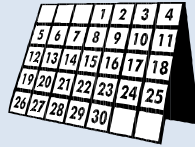


~ photos by Hal McCullough

- 😊 I love golf. I live golf. I dream golf. If only I could play golf!
- 😊 MISTY: How golfers create divots.



DATES To REMEMBER



EVERY TUESDAY BRIDGE CLUB (STARTING AT 12:30 PM)
 DECEMBER 1: FALL NEWSLETTER DELIVERY (APPROX.)
 DECEMBER 4: SG&CC: CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

2014:
 JANUARY 9: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME
 JANUARY 29: BLUMA APPEL THEATRE: LONDON ROAD
 MARCH 6: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME
 APRIL 10: LUNCHEON & TRAVELOGUE: EGYPT - A MONTH BEFORE THE REVOLUTION
 APRIL 30: STRATFORD: CRAZY FOR YOU
 MAY 1: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME
 MAY 14: DRAYTON FESTIVAL THEATRE: SOUTH PACIFIC
 MAY 19-21: SPRING SENATE
 MAY 22: QSSIS: AGM/ SPRING LUNCHEON
 JUNE 12: EXECUTIVE MEETING - EVERYONE WELCOME
 JUNE 19: DUNFIELD THEATRE: MYSTERY PRODUCTION
 SEPTEMBER 7: TORONTO: CIRQUE DU SOLEIL
 SEPTEMBER 9: B4K GOLF TOURNAMENT
 SEPTEMBER 10: GANANOQUE: 1000 ISLANDS CRUISE
 SEPTEMBER 30: STRATFORD: MAN OF LA MANCHA

1ST DAY OF THE MONTH: E-NEWS E-MAILED
 5TH LAST DAY OF THE MONTH: DEADLINE FOR NEXT E-NEWS

SEASONS CHANGE ON: DEC 21; MAR 20; JUNE 21; SEPT 23
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: BEGINS MAR 9; ENDS NOVEMBER 2

➤ EXECUTIVE MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE MCCOWAN RETIREMENT RESIDENCE (FORMERLY KINGSWAY ARMS) ON SOUTHWEST CORNER OF MCCOWAN AND EGLINTON. REFRESHMENTS AT 9AM; OUR MEETING BEGINS AT 9:30AM.

RTO/ERO: Here for you now... Here for your future
DISTRICT 24: WHERE OLD AND NEW FRIENDS MEET.



CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013



~ photos by Hal McCullough
 ~ additional photos inside and more on our website

THE CONTENT OF THIS NEWSLETTER MAY OR MAY NOT REFLECT THE POSITION OF RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24 OR THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF RTO/ERO. OTHER RTO/ERO DISTRICTS ARE WELCOME TO USE ANY OF THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS NEWSLETTER PROVIDING APPROPRIATE ATTRIBUTION IS MADE REGARDING SOURCE.
ARE YOU MOVING? YOU NEED TO CONTACT DIANNE VEZEAU AT RTO. PLEASE SEE PAGE 16 FOR HER CONTACT INFORMATION.

RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24
c/o HAL MCCULLOUGH
62 CHESTER CRES
PORT PERRY, ON L9L 1K8

PRINTED BY HARMONY PRINTING LTD., TORONTO, ON



**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR SPRING'S BEYOND THE BLACKBOARD IS:
 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014**



The (Disney) Magic of Christmas



Last year my two daughters, their husbands and children decided to celebrate Christmas with me aboard the cruise ship *Disney Magic*. As I embarked on this Christmas cruise, I expected to celebrate a different kind of Christmas.

I expected to pine for the wonderful world of snow, the social get-togethers, and the decorations and lights which line our streets at that time of year. I had a feeling some of the magic of Christmas would be lost. But, to the contrary, the Christmas cruise left us all with a magic of its own.

The Disney adventure began in Galveston, Texas where we arrived a day early so there would be no chance of missing the boat. Here, we walked along the breezy boardwalk, visiting many shops and meeting local people. I found the locals both relaxed and friendly. The next morning we took a taxi ride to the ship. The driver, while babysitting his toddler, entertained us with his harmonica, and his stories of the many hurricanes which had such a devastating effect on the shoreline. My three-year-old grandson was much impressed with the entertainment, and the adults were impressed with multitasking that did not involve electronics!

We were welcomed aboard the Disney Magic with such friendly faces. As we stepped into the main hall, each family was introduced by name. We found ourselves under an enormous decoration of bells (a Disney mistletoe, I suppose) which would become the central meeting place and a beautiful backdrop for photos. It could be seen from all floors of the ship in the midst of a tunnel of staircases. We were finally aboard the Disney Magic.



The first stop was the Port of Key West, which is a popular port for yacht owners, with its diverse shops, pristine rooftops and its clear turquoise waters. The grandchildren always enjoy Ernest Hemmingway's home, especially the six-toed cats which wander freely around the property. The next two days found us at sea, which was a really relaxing time as the holidays approached. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day brought gingerbread houses, Mass in the theatre, relaxing around the ship, and turkey dinner. We followed our usual tradition and opened our presents Christmas Eve, and stockings Christmas morning.



In Costa Maya, our first Mexican port, we had a great time swimming with the dolphins. The following day we docked at Cozumel, where we toured the island. The first stop on the tour was the site of the Maya Ruins at

San Gervasio. Its history dates back to 300 A.D. when the Acropolis was built. By 1650 it was an important center for pilgrimages, for trade, and the seat of the government for the whole island. The Small House was used for ceremonial offerings. The height of the door is an indication of the height of the Maya. There were underground roads which ran for miles, thought to be protection from the weather, as well as for transportation. At the tequila factory at Cava Antigua, my 3-year-old grandson left with a bagful of candy from the pinata, and I left with some tasty coffee creme tequila. We drove along the shoreline with beaches unspoiled by any structures, other than the odd beach club. At El Mirador Beach, we had time to admire the soft white sand. I stood, watching the ocean waves as they broke on the shore, and I marvelled at the rock formations that resulted. There was shopping for black coral souvenirs in El Cedral, a historic town where the Spanish are said to have first landed in 1518.

Dining room themes included international day, and a pirate night. We enjoyed delicious dinners, and personalized service. Our waiters accompanied us as we ate in different dining rooms. There were many strange and exciting characters wandering around the ship, and even a very special event where a small group of families could meet their favourite characters. Peter Pan was a hit with the 3-year-old as he demonstrated how to fly. Here he met his first love, Cinderella.

As we sailed through the Gulf of Mexico, and saw the port of Galveston approaching, we said goodbye to all our new friends and the looks of awe frozen on the children's faces reminded me that we will take a bit of Disney Magic with us. **24**

~ Jean Clarke, D24 member



~ Christmas bells?



~ "Disney Magic"

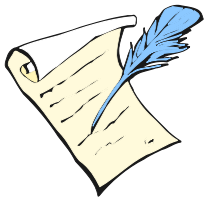
LITERARY TOUR OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND



Twenty-two RTO members, together with spouses and friends, relived our high school English classes when we enjoyed a most interesting and informative trip entitled *Literary Tour of Southern England* in May, 2013. In Stratford, England we toured

Shakespeare's home by candle light. Later in the Royal Shakespearean Theatre, watching *Hamlet* performed on stage, memories rushed back as we listened to Polonius' advice to his son which we had memorized either as students or had had students in our English classes memorize.

At Agatha Christie's home, Greenway, which she called the "loveliest spot on earth", we viewed memorabilia which had been collected over five generations in her family dating back to her great-great grandparents. The grounds as Greenway were truly lovely and she must have enjoyed her daily walks in the garden. At Kipling's home we remembered the poem *If* and quoted it when we got back on the bus. We saw desks where Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, and Thomas Hardy sat and penned the novels we



have enjoyed over the years. We wrote notes to loved ones back home using quill pens such as Shakespeare must have used. These were just a few of the homes we enjoyed; we visited area after area which inspired many British authors.

Most afternoons we stopped for an English tea with scones, jam and clotted cream. In the spirit of good fellowship, may I tell you that in Cornwall you put the jam on first and then the cream; in Devon it is the reverse with the cream first and then the jam. The reason I mention this is that to err and do it in reverse in either of these places you may receive a mild reprimand.

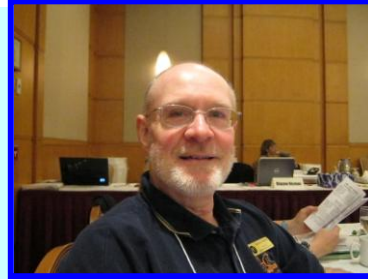


In the homes there were many of the original chairs where the tourist could sit and rest. If memory serves, in many castles throughout Europe there was a rope across all original chairs and sofas. When we got to London we thanked Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's consort, for declaring most museums and art galleries should have free admission for the people.

Many of us on this tour were retired English teachers, but even those of us who taught in other disciplines thoroughly enjoyed each day as it unfolded. **24**

~ Harolyn Panetta, D24 member

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AT SENATE October 21-23, 2013



President:
George Denny



Vice-Presidents:
1st – Donna Hubel
and
2nd – Peter
Vanderyagt



Treasurer:
Bonnie Clarke
(a prize winner!)



"Mr. Speaker":
Bill Sparks



Bill Menagh, D16:
"Distinguished Member
Award" recipient



Valerie Mah, D16:
Charitable Foundation Chair

KEY SERVICE CONTACTS

Sources of Information:	Phone:	Website:
RTO Group Benefits Program	Plan Benefits Claim 1.800.638.4753 Plan Benefits Service 416.920.7248 OR 1.800.406.9007	Available on the Johnson Inc. Members Only website at www.johnson.ca or the RTO/ERO website at www.rto-ero.org
Telus Health	1.888.709.8759	www.telushealth.com/solutions-for-consumers
Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program	416.503.4586 OR 1.888.405.0405	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/odb/odb.aspx
Trillium Drug Program	416.642.3038 OR 1.800.575.5368	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/odb/opdp_trillium.aspx
Special Drugs Program	416.314.5518 OR 1.866.532.3161	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/sdp.aspx
New Drug Funding Program For Cancer Care	416.971.9800 Cancer Care Ontario	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/ndf.aspx www.cancercare.on.ca/toolbox/drugs
Exceptional Access Program	416.327.8109 OR 1.866.811.9893	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/odb/opdp_eap.aspx
Telehealth Ontario	1.866.797.0000	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/telehealth
Service Ontario	416.326.1234 OR 1.800.267.8097	www.ontario.ca/serviceontario
Assistive Devices Program	416.327.8804 OR 1.800.268.6021	www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/program/adp/adp_mn.html
Ministry of Health and Long Term Care	416.314.5518 OR 1.866.532.3161	www.health.gov.on.ca/en
Ontario Seniors Secretariat	1.888.910.1999	www.seniors.gov.on.ca/en/index.php
Seniors' Care: Home Community and Residential Care Services for Seniors	416.314.5518 OR 1.866.532.3161	www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/ltc/default.aspx
Service Canada	1.800.OCANADA	www.servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/about/index.shtml

- ⊙ The 800 phone numbers are toll free.
- ⊙ The websites should be an active link you can click on. (Or Ctrl+click)

