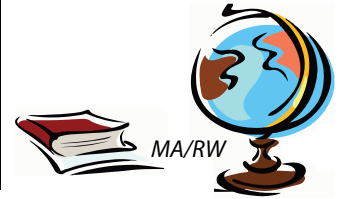


# ***BEYOND THE BLACKBOARD***



**DISTRICT 24 – SCARBOROUGH AND EAST YORK**



Volume 34 - Number 1

Spring 2015

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

## **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** Festive Fun and Fellowship

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Get Involved with District 24

## **D-24 BOOK CLUB NEW READS**

Fun and Conversation with Good Friends

## **RTO 2015 DAY TRIPS**

Destinations and Diversions

## **Help Us Find Newly Retired Educational Professionals**

Do you know any teachers, school and board administrators, educational assistants, administrative professionals, custodians, university and college faculty and support staff retiring in June? If you do, let us know so that they can be invited to District 24's New Members' Brunch in September!

### **What is RTO/ERO?**

Founded in 1968, we are a full-service voluntary organization providing a strong voice for retired teachers, principals, vice-principals, educational support staff and college and university faculty and support staff.

### **What benefits do I receive?**

- Access to superior group insurance plans
- Bilingual services
- Active peer community
- Group travel plan
- Pension support
- Member discounts and opportunities
- Advocacy on social and political issues
- Connection with member activities and initiatives

### **Who belongs to RTO/ERO?**

We have over 71,000 members, from age 45 to 109, from every facet of education.

### **Can I join RTO/ERO?**

Yes, if you had a full career in education as a teacher, school or board administrator receiving a pension from the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, you will be a full member. If you are a college and university faculty, and support staff from school and school boards, you will be an associate member.

### **What do Districts do?**

At the District level, members participate in social, travel and leisure opportunities, political advocacy and District Executive Leadership.

## ***DISTRICT 24 SCARBOROUGH AND EAST YORK*** **THE RETIRED TEACHERS OF ONTARIO DISTRICT 24 SCARBOROUGH AND EAST YORK** ***Welcomes New Members and New Retirees to a Complimentary*** ***Hot and Cold Deluxe Breakfast Buffet***

Come along and meet the members of the Executive and find out more about the many benefits of being a member of RTO/ERO.

### **Wednesday September 16, 2015**

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Juice

10:15 a.m. Brunch Served

11:30 a.m. Cash Bar

### **Bluffers' Restaurant**

7 Brimley Road South, Scarborough, Ontario  
(Brimley Road South - at the lake)



*To reserve a seat – contact Elaine Aprile at (416) 267-2670, or by email: [elaineapril6@hotmail.com](mailto:elaineapril6@hotmail.com) by July 31, 2015.*

# Beyond the Blackboard

## EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Scott Baker

## EDITORIAL BOARD

Bonnie Clarke

Donna Hubel

Annemarie McKee

## CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Marilyn Tregwin

*Beyond the Blackboard* is published as a members' newsletter by RTO/ERO District 24. 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 material contained in this newsletter providing appropriate attribution is made regarding source.

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**ON OUR COVER:** *Members taking advantage of a photo opportunity in front of the Christmas Tree at the 2014 Christmas Luncheon. Story on page 22.*

**Beyond the Blackboard** welcomes submissions from members of RTO/ERO District 24. We accept letters to the editor, article proposals, photos, and artwork. Do you have a story to tell, an experience to share, or a poem that you have written? Consider contributing your work for publication. Articles should be between 400 and 1200 words, and photographs and scanned images should be at least 300 dpi at 5"x7" size (please send photos/images as email attachments and do not reduce size when attaching).

Send submissions to: **d24.newsletter@rto-ero.org**

We cannot guarantee that submissions will be published or published as received. The editors reserve the right to edit, condense, or reject letters or submissions.

Deadline for submissions for the next edition of **Beyond the Blackboard** is **June 1, 2015**.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# DISTRICT 24 HIGHLIGHTS

**DONNA HUBEL - DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT**

*Your District 24 executive members have been busy during the year, putting together programs that we hope that our members will enjoy. These volunteers work very diligently and often help on more than one committee.*

### VOLUNTEERS

Every organization needs new members to join the group to bring inspiration and ideas forward and if you or anyone that you know might be interested, please come to our executive meeting on March 5 and see what goes on. Every member is welcome. Just call our secretary, Wendy Hooker and let her know that you are coming so that we will know how much food to order.

At present, the need for volunteers to chair the Recruitment and Archives positions is desperately needed. If any member can help by volunteering for either of these positions, please contact any member of the executive. The job descriptions can be found on page 5. The names and contact information of the current executive are listed on page 6.

We have a few people who volunteer on several committees and have excellent computer skills but at times are over-burdened with too many duties, therefore, we would like someone to volunteer to do various little computer jobs such as printing invitations or name tags, etc. and be listed as a Member-at-Large.

District 24 now has 2,815 members – 2,591 full members and 224 associate members - and there must be someone, two or more who could volunteer to join our executive.

If you should volunteer for any of these positions, there are many members who can provide guidance and assistance for you until you get to know the job. Each of these positions usually has one or more volunteer members on the committee.

### ART CLASS OPPORTUNITY

If you would like to learn how to create a unique portrait of a loved one and integrate personalized annotations celebrating their life contributions then this Creative Portrait Abstract Class could be for you. The only cost would be for materials - Art pencils, watercolour and mixed media - at a cost of approximately \$10.00. Wendy Hooker has volunteered to instruct this class if enough people are interested. She has had her artwork displayed on many occasions and has a Masters in Arts Education. If interested, contact her (see Executive list).

### RTO SENATE

The Senate, the governing body of RTO, meets on May 11-13 and Bonnie Clarke (first vice-president) and Donna Hubel (president) will be attending as Senators. Annemarie McKee and Marilyn Tregwin will be attending as Observers.

May 21st is our AGM and our Spring Luncheon. If you wish to self nominate yourself for a position, please contact George Denny, chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Once again, we will be honouring our 90-year olds and those 100 and over. Of those celebrating birthdays in 2015, one person will be 104, two will be 103, two will be 102, two will be 101 and 26 will be 90 years young.

On September 16th, District 24 executive members will host a free New Members' Brunch at Bluffers Restaurant to introduce new and perspective members to the benefits of belonging to the Retired Teachers of Ontario. If you know anyone in education who is retiring, please contact Elaine Aprile (see page 6 for her contact information).

“

***With our trips and programs we are looking forward to a great spring and summer!***

”

## **VOLUNTEERS POSITIONS WITH RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24 SCARBOROUGH AND EAST YORK**

***District 24 has the immediate need for the following volunteer positions:***

### **Recruitment:**

- To investigate and recommend to the Executive, ways and means of increasing Provincial and District membership
- To Communicate with Provincial Member Services Committee through the Committee liaison person
- To Attend planning meetings of Toronto Districts RPW Committee
- To Attend and help in the presentation of Toronto Districts Retirement Planning Workshops
- To Report to our District Executive the details of the Toronto Districts RPW Meetings and workshops
- To Organize the annual “Brunch” for new retirees
- To supply up to date RTO/ERO Enrolment Kit for perspective new members and order kits from Provincial Office when required
- To Be constantly on the lookout for opportunities to share with potential new members the advantages of being a member of RTO/ERO

### **Archivist:**

- To retain, store and catalogue past copies of minutes, newsletters, constitutions and other historical data of District 24, and so maintain a complete record of the organization.

### **Associated duties**

- To respond to members requests for information or copies of material from the Archives.
- To receive and maintain copies of communications received from members of the executive and from RTO/ERO Provincial office
- To examine alternative methods of maintaining records in an age of technology which provides for an increasing degree of sophistication.
- To report to the Members at Executive Meetings and at the Annual General Meeting

**IF YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD ENJOY EITHER OF THESE POSITIONS, PLEASE CONTACT ANY MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE**

# DISTRICT 24 EXECUTIVE 2014 – 2015

## TABLE OFFICERS:

**PAST PRESIDENT:** George Denny  
havendayle@rogers.com (905) 420-1435

**FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:** Bonnie Clarke  
blblclarke@gmail.com (416) 609-3635

**SECRETARY:** Wendy Hooker  
wendyhooker@rogers.com (416) 266-4682

**PRESIDENT** Donna Hubel  
dhub@sympatico.ca (416) 490-1861

**SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:** Bill Sparks  
wgasparks88@gmail.com (416) 293-7477

**TREASURER:** Bonnie Clarke  
blblclarke@gmail.com (416) 609-3635

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

**AWARDS:** Bill Sparks  
wgasparks88@gmail.com (416) 293-7477

**GOODWILL CARDS:** Marilyn Hodge  
mjhodge@sympatico.ca (416) 284-9984

**WEBMASTER:** Annemarie McKee  
amckee.rto@gmail.com (416) 282-4096

**HEALTH:** Marilyn Tregwin  
m.tregwin@rogers.com (416) 493-3757

**PROGRAM:** Paula Chambers  
paula.chambers@rogers.com (416) 208-0202

**RWTO REP:** Linda Jarvis  
linjar@rogers.com (416) 293-8689

**FOUNDATION LIASON:** Bonnie Clarke  
blblclarke@gmail.com (416) 609-3635

## PENSIONS/RETIREMENT

**CONCERNS:** Terry Smith  
chooch120@hotmail.com (416) 438-0430

**ARCHIVIST:** Vacant

**GOLF CONVENER:** Les Coombs  
esonriviera@gmail.com (416) 261-0568

**GOODWILL PHONES:** Lynne Horvath  
lynneh@i-zoom.net (705) 738-4557

**NEWSLETTER:** Scott Baker  
ksbaker547@gmail.com (905) 655-5547

**MEMBERSHIP:** Les Coombs  
esonriviera@gmail.com (416) 261-0568

**POLITICAL ADVOCACY:** George Denny  
havendayle@rogers.com (905) 420-1435

**SOCIAL CONVENOR:** Susan Watson  
siwatson@bell.net (416) 698-3030

**SERVICE TO OTHERS:** Bill Sparks  
wgasparks88@gmail.com (416) 293-7477

**BOOK CLUB:** Lee MacLeod  
macleodfam@sympatico.ca (416) 284-6626

**RECRUITMENT:** Vacant

## MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Elaine Aprile elaineapril6@gmail.com (416) 267-2670

Phyllis Hill hillphyllis@hotmail.com (416) 269-3226

Pat Westcott alicweat@rogers.com (416) 269-1145

Gloria Wilson-Forbes wilson-forbes@rogers.com (416) 293-5836

## NEW MEMBERS

*The executive welcomes all new members to RTO/ERO District 24 and invites them to become active participants in all of our activities.*

David W. Agg  
K. Scott Baker  
Veena Bhatia  
Vera Bent

Louise Gough  
Linda Groen

Lenna Kozovski  
Gretchen Kuntz

Marguerite Mosey  
Janet T. Murray  
Janina Tarnowski  
Brenda Tedesco  
Donald Truscello  
Winifred Therien  
Linda Thomson  
Edward Toyne  
John Vario  
Archie F. Veitch  
Vicki Woods

“

***Whether you are a new retiree or  
have moved from another district,  
we hope that you enjoy District 24.***

”

Helen Siu-Fun Chan  
Jacqueline Cheung  
Kathleen E. Clark  
Giuseppina Di Rezze  
Larry Eng  
Judith Fineberg  
Doreen Frankland  
Douglas Gough

Joan Hicks  
Nancy King

Jo-Ann Mandat  
Theresa Morrison

## E-NEWS

*About once a month e-mails are sent to all our District 24 members for whom we have a correct e-mail address and have requested the E-NEWS!*

These e-mails are in addition to our Spring, Summer and Fall District 24 Newsletters. The e-mails give reminders about district events and programs and provide news from district and provincial meetings. The communication e-mails are sent out by our webmaster Annemarie McKee. You can contact Annemarie regarding our E-NEWS at: amckee.rto@gmail.com.

At the end of May, 2014, we had over 700 members receiving a copy of our E-NEWS!! We are always looking to expand our use of online communication and to reduce the costs of printed Newsletters.

Reminder... All past Newsletters (beginning Summer 2003) are available on our website [ <http://district24.rto-ero.org/publications> ]. Check them out!

## IN MEMORIAM

*It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of the following members of District 24. We extend our heartfelt sympathy.*

Phyllis Agg  
Robert J. Ballen  
Mary H. Billinghamurst  
Irene Bowie  
David Clark  
Albert Clayton  
Carmelita Dela Paz  
Mildred A. Fortune  
Shirley Frame  
Margaret J. Graham

Hilare Harwood  
Margaret J. Hayes  
Robert N.D. Hicks  
Mary M. Horney  
Arlene M. Ide  
K. Joyce Izukawa  
Edith Komisar  
Stella Lake  
Marv Lichtenfeld  
Lorenzo Liscio

Margaret Logan  
Shirley D.M. MacAllister  
S. M. MacKenzie  
Janet F. Main  
Charles R. Mason  
Lawrence A. Murphy  
Thomas M. Murray  
Patricia Normandeau  
Margaret E. Shapiro  
Patricia Sparks

Gertrude Spatafora  
Gerry Steinhouse  
Stanley Taggart  
David M. Thomas  
Mary Veitch  
Joseph James Watt  
Flora Wesley

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET 2015

Retired Teachers of Ontario – District 24 as of December 31, 2014

**BONNIE CLARKE – DISTRICT 24 TREASURER**

	Budget – 2014	Dec. 31, 2014	Budget - 2015
<b><u>Bank Balance</u></b>	\$5,128.47	\$5,128.47	11,638.24
<b>Investments</b>			
GIC Face Value - Matures 19/12/17	\$5,131.72 (GIC)		\$5,131.72 (GIC)
GIC Face Value - Matures 20/01/17	\$4,000.00 (GIC)		\$4,000.00 (GIC)
GIC Face Value - Matures 20/01/16	\$3,000.00 (GIC)		\$3,000.00 (GIC)
<b>Income</b>			
Provincial Grant	\$37,000.00	\$37,624.39	\$38,000.00
Breakfast for Kids Tournament	\$0.00	\$7,213.59	\$0.00
Interest Income (GIC)	\$0.00	\$175.16	\$0.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$42,328.47</b>	<b>\$50,141.61</b>	<b>\$49,638.24</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
<b>Disbursements - Administration</b>			
Bank - GIC		\$3,000.00	
Bank Charges	\$200.00	\$186.74	\$200.00
Executive Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$2,315.42	\$3,000.00
President's Discretionary Fund	\$500.00	\$307.50	\$500.00
District A.G.M.	\$500.00	\$258.68	\$500.00
Office Expenses	\$400.00	\$542.63	\$500.00
Senate Meeting	\$3,000.00	\$2,005.00	\$3,000.00
Archives	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Election Expenses (Provincial)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Member Services - Communications</b>			
Goodwill (Cards)	\$1,200.00	\$806.92	\$1,000.00
Goodwill (Phoning)	\$200.00	\$258.77	\$400.00
Membership	\$1,000.00	\$570.10	\$1,000.00
Recruitment, District 24	\$2,000.00	\$1,603.18	\$2,000.00
Newsletter (Printing, mailing, postage)	\$18,000.00	\$11,293.58	\$20,000.00
Toronto District (Levy)	\$800.00	\$794.70	\$820.00
Political Advocacy	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<b>Member Services - Programs</b>			
Day Trips	\$1,000.00	\$1,402.28	\$1,000.00
Spring Luncheon	\$3,000.00	\$4,485.18	\$4,000.00
Fall Luncheon	\$500.00	-\$737.96	\$0.00
Christmas Luncheon	\$200.00	\$14.00	\$100.00
Health Seminar	\$500.00	\$392.87	\$500.00
Bridge Club	\$500.00	\$565.61	\$600.00
District Awards / Gifts	\$500.00	\$208.38	\$400.00
Book Club		\$100.00	\$200.00
<b>Service to Others</b>			
Breakfast for Kids	\$0.00	\$8,225.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$37,150.00</b>	<b>\$38,599.37</b>	<b>\$39,870.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$42,328.47</b>	<b>\$50,141.61</b>	<b>\$49,638.24</b>
<b>Current Bank Balance / Anticipated Balance</b>	<b>\$5,178.47</b>	<b>\$11,524.24</b>	<b>\$9,768.24</b>



# HEALTH MATTERS

MARILYN TREGWIN – DISTRICT 24 HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE

Sign up to receive District 24's monthly E-News for timely health related information and resources not available in our printed newsletters.

## SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Effective February 1, 2015, Shoppers Drug Mart/Shoppers Home Health Care offerings to RTO/ERO members are no longer available as the arrangement has ended.

Note that Shoppers Drug Mart/Shoppers Home Health Care continue to offer a Seniors' Day discount of 20% every Thursday (some restrictions apply) for anyone aged 55 years of age or older.

The Shoppers Home Health Care stores' Return Policy is: 30 days after purchasing and client must have original packaging. Should you have any questions about your Shoppers Optimum Card, please call Shoppers Drug Mart directly at 1-800-746-7737.

## STABILITY CLAUSE

On page one of your *Out of Province/Canada Travel Booklet*, the Stability Clause in RTO's Extended Health Plan is defined as:

*Any medical condition or surgery that you contemplated or reasonably foresaw the need to seek or receive treatment or surgery in the 90 days prior to the date of:*

- *Departure*
- *Initial booking (applicable to trip cancellation)\**
- *Any payment (applicable to trip cancellation)\**

As you have been informed, effective January 1, 2014 that Stability Clause was expanded from cancer, heart or lung condition to any condition.

Why was this changed?

- Members should travel when they are healthy.
- Members with unstable, serious health conditions other than cancer, heart or lung were able to travel while someone that had cancer and was not stable did not have the same opportunity.
- Claims affect the plan rates for everyone.

With this in mind, here are three scenarios for you to consider:

\*Under Trip Cancellation, payments made when your condition was stable will be considered for reimbursement.

**Case Number 1:**

- Member spends Thursday night in the Emergency room at their local hospital. A very severe gallbladder attack is the diagnosis.
- Member and his spouse fly to Florida on Saturday. Tuesday night after much sun and fun he is experiencing severe pain and is rushed to the nearest hospital. He needs gallbladder surgery as he is not stable to return home.
- How much does this surgery and medical care cost?
  - A) \$25,000 - \$49,000
  - B) \$50,000 - \$74,000
  - C) \$75,000 - \$100,000

***The plan would have covered this incident in the past.***

Correct answer: C

**Case Number 2:**

- You see your doctor due to the severe back pain you have been experiencing for the last week.
- Doctor prescribes some muscle relaxants and does not schedule any follow-up, expecting the prescription to solve the problem.
- The pain has not subsided, so your Doctor changes your prescription.
- The pain does not subside but you still go on your trip to Thailand. Once the plane lands you are in contact with Allianz as you need medical treatment. You are diagnosed with a herniated disk. Allianz needs to return you by Air Ambulance.
  - A) \$50,000 - \$74,000
  - B) \$74,000 - \$99,000
  - C) \$100,000 - \$150,000

***This is no longer an eligible claim.***

Correct answer: C

**Case Number 3:**

- Your doctor has scheduled you for surgery sometime in August. Doctor's office will call when the date is confirmed.
- You want to get away for July and you book a golf trip to South Carolina.
- Doctor's office calls and says the surgery has been moved up to July, so now you need to cancel your non-refundable trip.
- You call Allianz and open a Trip Cancellation claim for \$3,400. Allianz pays the \$3,400 claim.

***These types of claims will no longer be paid.***

***As always, you are advised to call the Johnson Claims department to discuss your own health circumstances prior to making any travel arrangements.***

## NEW CANCER RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL

MyCancerIQ is a new government online tool that allows Ontarians to find out their risk for breast, cervical, colorectal and lung cancer. Users can determine their risk of developing one of these four cancers by completing a series of interactive questionnaires in less than 10 minutes.

Based on the individual's responses, the website provides personalized recommendations to help reduce the risk of cancer and identifies factors that increase a person's risk such as:

- People who eat more red meat are at a higher risk of developing colorectal cancer.
- Women who smoke are at a higher risk of developing cervical cancer.
- Workplace exposures may increase the risk of developing lung cancer.
- Women who consume alcohol are at a higher risk for developing breast cancer.

In addition to a personalized report, this Cancer Care Ontario website also has resources to help Ontarians better understand how their lifestyle choices might be putting them at risk for cancer and how to take action now to lessen their risk.

## QUICK FACTS

The government takes the privacy of personal health information seriously. People who use MyCancerIQ may choose to save, email or print their results, but to protect privacy this data will not be stored by Cancer Care Ontario.

- In 2014, an estimated 73,800 Ontarians were diagnosed with cancer and 28,000 died from the disease.
- As many as half of all cancers in Ontario can be prevented by eliminating known risk factors such as smoking, alcohol consumption, poor diet and lack of physical activity.
- MyCancerIQ was created specifically for Ontarians. It was developed using Ontario data, making it a unique tool for Ontarians to manage their cancer risk.
- Cancer Care Ontario is an Ontario government agency that drives quality and continuous improvement in disease prevention and screening, the delivery of care, and the patient experience for cancer and chronic kidney disease patients.

### ALERT:

**Please be aware that your green health card should not be used as a form of ID. The information included on your card is sensitive, and should only be shared with your health practitioner. If another organization requires you to show them your health card they are breaking the law and can be fined up to \$25,000.**

**For more information about valid forms of photo ID visit <https://www.ontario.ca/government/acceptable-identity-documents>**

Source: news.ontario.ca



## Celebrating LIFE and Our Coming of Age

### A Five-Part Healthy Aging Education Series

#### Dates and Seminars:

- February 28, 2015: Toronto's Coming of Age: How Ready is Our City to Meet the Needs of Ageing Torontonians? with Dr. Samir Sinha
- March 28, 2015: There is a Robot That Will Care for Me? How Technology Can Support our Ageing Population, with Dr. Geoff Fernie
- April 25, 2015: The Doctor Will See You Now... at Home, with Dr. Mark Nowaczynski
- May 9, 2015: You Could Live a Long Time, Are You Ready? with Lyndsay Green
- June 20, 2015: How, Where, and When Would YOU Like to Die? with Dr. Leah Steinberg

- Time:** Registration will open at 1:00 p.m.  
Seminars 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Location:** Library Theatre, LIB72,  
Ryerson University, 350 Victoria Street, Toronto, ON  
One block east of Dundas station
- Price:** \$10.00 per seminar  
Proceeds from our ticket sales will go to the LIFE Institute  
Jack Brown Award for Ryerson Students
- Register:** [ryerson.ca/ce/celebratinglife](http://ryerson.ca/ce/celebratinglife)

**GOODWILL**

# **GOODWILL** **CARDS**

**MARILYN HODGE – GOODWILL CARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR**

*If you know of anyone who should receive a get well or thinking of you card, or the family of a District 24 member who should receive a sympathy card, please contact Marilyn – Phone, (416) 284-9984, Email: [mjhodge@sympatico.ca](mailto:mjhodge@sympatico.ca)*

In December 2014, 245 Christmas cards were sent out to all District 24 members who were 85 years of age and older. District 24 members and friends Sheila Meyer, Susan Powell, Trudy Sutton and Judy-Anne Tumber assisted me by writing 49 cards each. It was certainly a much easier task to have so many helpers to assist me with the writing of the cards. Thank you ladies.

In 2014, 57 sympathy cards, 21 thinking of you and/or get well cards were sent out. Birthday cards were sent to fourteen 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrants, one to a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrant, three to 101<sup>st</sup> celebrants, one to a member who was celebrating a 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday, and one who was celebrating a 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

# **GOODWILL** **TELEPHONE**

**LYNNE HORVATH – GOODWILL TELEPHONE COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Each year we attempt to contact our senior members with phone calls or a card if they live outside of the GTA. Our lists this year will include members (approx. 900) who retired on or before 1999. We have 38 phone lists so far and we still need eight more volunteers to help us with our calls.

*If you are able to assist us and can spend a few hours, just once a year, please contact Lynne – Phone: (705) 738-4557, Email: [lynneh@i-zoom.net](mailto:lynneh@i-zoom.net)*

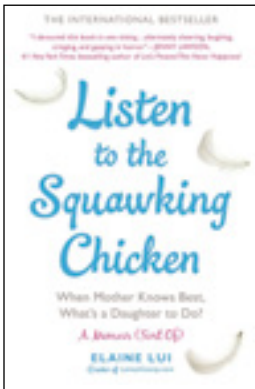
**YOUR HELP WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

## BOOK CLUB

# NEW READS FOR 2015

LEE MACLEOD – BOOK CLUB CONVENOR

The RTO Book Club now meets at the Agincourt Recreation Centre, 30 Glen Watford Road, on the last Wednesday of the month from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m., in the Craft Room. There is plenty of parking at no charge to you, and, to further entice you, we offer a free coffee or tea and an entertaining afternoon of thoughtful and often funny commentary on the book and life in general.



In April the new RTO Book Club will be discussing the humorous memoir, *Listen to the Squawking Chicken*, by Elaine Lui.

As the 800,000+ U.S. fans of Elaine Lui's blog site know, her mother, aka *The Squawking Chicken*, is a huge factor in Elaine's life. She pulls no punches, especially with her only child. "Where's my money?" she asks every time she sees Elaine. "You'll never be Miss Hong Kong," she informed her daughter when she was a girl. *Listen to the Squawking Chicken* lays bare the playbook of unusual advice, warnings, and unwavering love that has guided Elaine throughout her life. Using the nine principles that her mother used to raise her, Elaine tells us the story of the Squawking Chicken's life—in which she walked an unusual path to parent with tough love, humor, and, through it all, a mother's unyielding devotion to her daughter. This is a love letter to mothers everywhere.

### Future Reads:

- April 29: *Listen to the Squawking Chicken*, by Elaine Lui
- May 27: *The Girl Who Was Saturday Night*, by Heather O'Neill
- June 24: *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr

***No meetings in July and August – We are too busy!***

### ***EXECUTIVE MEETINGS***

All District 24 members are welcome to attend Executive Meetings. We will be meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2015, at the McCowan Retirement Residence, 2881 Eglinton Avenue East, Scarborough. Refreshments are at 9:00 a.m., with the meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. and ending around 12 noon.

The McCowan Retirement Residence is located on the south-west corner of Eglinton Ave. E. and McCowan Road. Go south on McCowan Road from Eglinton Ave. and turn right onto Landmark Blvd.; the residence is the second red brick building on your right. Please use only the designated visitor parking spaces.

Sign IN and OUT at the desk— this is a requirement of McCowan Retirement Residence. Take the elevator down to the lower level & turn right.

## RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24

# BRIDGE CLUB

*Our district's bridge group continues to meet every Tuesday, 12:30-3:30, at Centenary Community Centre, 20 Canadian Rd., just opposite Costco near Warden and Ellesmere.*

We're friendly... always looking for new friends who have a working knowledge of the game! Bridge is a great comfort in our old age you know... it helps us get there faster!! (ps that's a joke.) No partner necessary; drop in or come every Tuesday!

Winners for the past few weeks up to the date of this submission were:

Jan. 27 - 1) Marie Singh, 2) Suzanne Cecchini,  
3) Jane Humphries, 4) Pauline Ireland

Feb. 3 - 1) Frank Slama, 2) Terry Smith,  
3) Brian Dorward, 4) Suzanne Cecchini

Feb. 10 - 1) Jane Humphries, 2) Mary Herrmann,  
3) Fred Argue, 4) Carlton DeRyck



**RTO District 24 BridgeClub**  
**- We enjoy eating too!**

Many of us are average players, always looking for something new to try. What can you communicate to a partner when discarding a card during play? There are many different ways... one is to discard a high card of a suit to encourage your partner to lead it to you when possible, and discard a low card to discourage your partner from leading that suit.



### ***Woodworking Enthusiasts***

Victoria Park C.I. has a full wood shop available from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. There is a cost of \$20.00 to cover the cost of insurance. For further information contact Terry Smith:

PHONE: (416) 438-0430      E-MAIL: chooch120@hotmail.com

### ***Support Group for the Visually Impaired***

Held at the Birkdale Community Centre, 1299 Ellesmere Rd, Toronto M1P 2Y2 (near Brimley Road).

For further information, contact Elaine Aprile at (416) 267-2670.

## PROGRAM

# RTO 2015 TRIPS AND EVENTS

PAULA CHAMBERS – PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR

*All cheques must be postdated to the Cut-Off date and made out according to the “Make Cheques Payable to” instructions for each event.*

Current legislation make it necessary to write cheques directly to the agency organizing each outing. Please read and follow carefully the “Make Cheques Payable to” portion of the coupon. Send your postdated cheque and coupon to the co-ordinator whose contact information is provided in the event description. ***Please note that the cut-off date is one month before each event — cancellations will only be possible before that date.*** All RTO members and spouse/guests must sign the coupon to acknowledge that they have read, understood, and accepted the ***RTO Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release*** printed below. In order to receive a receipt from the travel agency you must check off the “*Release of Contact Information*” part of the coupon. If you have provided an e-mail address on your coupon, this will be provided to the travel agency and you will receive an e-mail receipt. If you wish to receive a printed receipt you will need to provide a stamped, self- addressed envelope with your cheque and event coupon.

Most trips will still be leaving from Kennedy Commons unless otherwise noted in the event description. Please park in the north-west corner near Michael’s.

### ***WHEN FILLING OUT EVENT COUPONS PLEASE FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES BELOW:***

1. A separate cheque postdated to the Cut-Off date is required for each event. Be sure to carefully follow the “***Make Cheques Payable to***” portion of the event coupon.
2. The name of each person participating in the event must be included on the coupon.
3. When applicable, an RTO/ERO member may bring guests.
4. All participants must sign the event coupon to indicate that they have read and understood the ***RTO/ERO Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release***.
5. Ensure that an email address or stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided with your cheque and event coupon, and that “***Release of Contact Information***” box is checked in order to receive a receipt.
6. Ensure that your postdated cheque and event coupon are sent to the contact person indicated in the even description.

## **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.

## ***ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SPRING LUNCHEON***

Thursday, May 21, 2015 at Q-SSIS, 3474 Kingston Road, Scarborough (south-west corner of Kingston and Markham Roads)

**COST:** \$20.00

**PROGRAM:** We begin the day with our Annual General Meeting – on the second floor. There will be reports from our Committee Chairs followed by the election of the Table Officers for 2015. Members attending the full AGM meeting will have their \$20.00 cheque returned to them.

**[NOTE: If you are bringing a non-member, please remember to submit a separate cheque for their meal, as the luncheon cost cannot be refunded to non-RTO guests.]**

9:30 a.m., Doors open; 10:00 a.m. Coffee; 10:30-11:30 a.m. AGM; 11:30 a.m., Bar opens;  
12:15 p.m., Luncheon followed by entertainment.

**ENTERTAINMENT:** To Be Announced. Watch for further details on E-News.

**CONTACT:** Susan Watson – 18 Springbank Ave., Scarborough, ON M1N 1G3

PHONE: (416) 698-3030      E-MAIL: siwatson5@bell.net

**MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:** RTO — District 24

**DEADLINE:** Friday, May 8, 2015 *Please postdate your cheque(s) to this date.*

*It is not necessary to sign the waiver acknowledgement for this event*



## ***Sweet Charity***

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 – Shaw Festival Theatre, Niagara-on-the-Lake

**Departure:** 8:30 a.m. Kennedy Commons

**Cost:** \$147.00

**Lunch:** Lunch will be at *The Prince of Wales Restaurant*. Choice of either chicken or pork cutlet.

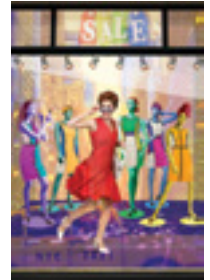
**Program:** Come experience the bold and colourful world of 1960s New York through the eyes of Charity Hope Valentine. The dance hall hostess dreams of a brighter future but she can't help but give her heart to all the wrong guys. Then she meets the meek but sweet Oscar Lindquist when they get trapped in an elevator. Could he be the man to change Charity's luck? Songs like "Big Spender," and "If My Friends Could See Me Now," paired with a book by Neil Simon made this a Broadway hit in 1966.

**Facilitator:** Paula Chambers – 6 Colinroy Street, Scarborough. ON M1C 5G6

Phone: (416) 208-0202 E-Mail: paula.chambers@rogers.com

**Make Cheque Payable to:** *MARY MORTON TOURS*. Send cheque and coupon to Paula Chambers.

**Deadline:** April 6, 2015 *Please postdate your cheque to this date.*



## ***Sweets, Treats and Rural Delights*** ***- Lilac Festival in Cold Creek***

Tuesday, May 26, 2015

**DEPARTURE:** 9:00 a.m. Kennedy Commons

**COST:** \$79.00

**PROGRAM:** This outing starts with a stroll along a trail following Cold Creek. At our location, we will be met by Peter Brotherhood, a historian and retired teacher. Peter dresses in 19th century clothing and is a fount of information which he humorously shares. When we are in the garden area we each are given a map of the location of the many different lilac plants so we can identify the various types. Our next stop is at St. Paul's Church for a tasty, all-you-care-to-eat buffet luncheon before we continue our country tour of discovery with visits (and samples!) at a Shortbread Cookie Factory, a Chocolate Outlet, and a Cheese House. Please note that this trip will include walking for some distance.

**FACILITATOR:** Paula Chambers – 6 Colinroy Street, Scarborough. ON M1C 5G6

Phone: (416) 208-0202 E-Mail: paula.chambers@rogers.com

**MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:** *TIME OF YOUR LIFE TOURS*. Send cheque and coupon to Paula Chambers.

**DEADLINE:** April 14, 2015 *Please postdate your cheque to this date.*



## ***Carousel***

Thursday, June 25, 2015 – Avon Theatre, Stratford

**DEPARTURE:** 8:30 a.m. Kennedy Commons

**COST:** \$152.00

**LUNCH:** Lunch (buffet) will be at Queen's Inn.

**PROGRAM:** Against the backdrop of a sun-drenched New England summer, a pair of star-crossed lovers, carnival barker Billy Bigelow and millworker Julie Jordan, discover the power of love to transcend turmoil and even time itself in a show graced by what is arguably Rodgers and Hammerstein's most luscious score, filled with soaring melodies and unforgettable lyrics.

**FACILITATOR:** Marilyn Tregwin – 41 Ravenscliff Cres., Toronto, ON M1T 1R7

Phone: (416) 493-3757 E-Mail: m.tregwin@rogers.com

**MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:** *MARY MORTON TOURS*. Send cheque and coupon to Marilyn Tregwin.

**DEADLINE:** May 25, 2015 *Please postdate your cheque to this date.*



## ***Hamlet***

Wednesday, October 7, 2015 – Festival Theatre, Stratford

**DEPART:** 8:30 a.m. Kennedy Commons

**COST:** \$168.00

**LUNCH:** Lunch will be at *The Waterlot Restaurant*

**PROGRAM:** Hamlet centres on the brooding Prince of Denmark, who is both mourning for his father and deeply disturbed by the speedy remarriage of his mother, Gertrude, to Claudius, her deceased husband's brother, whom Hamlet believes murdered his father. This performance is advertised as a highlight of the Stratford season.



**FACILITATOR:** Paula Chambers – 6 Colinroy Street, Scarborough. ON M1C 5G6

Phone: (416) 208-0202 E-Mail: paula.chambers@rogers.com

**MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO: MARY MORTON TOURS. Send cheque and coupon to Paula Chambers.**

**DEADLINE: September 7, 2015 Please postdate your cheque to this date.**

## ***The Pirates of Penzance***

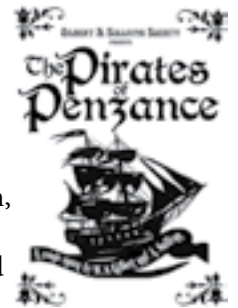
Wednesday, October 14, 2015 – St. Jacobs Country Playhouse, St. Jacobs (Waterloo)

**DEPARTURE:** 8:30 a.m. Kennedy Commons

**COST:** \$122.00

**LUNCH:** Lunch will be at the *Baton Rouge Restaurant*

**PROGRAM:** In honour of the 40th Anniversary of the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Waterloo Region, join us for a laugh-filled songfest full of zany puns and good-natured fun. This rollicking musical treasure tells the topsy-turvy tale of a young man named Frederick apprenticed to some soft-hearted pirates by mistake. When the dashing hero falls in love with the beautiful Mabel, he renounces his pirate heritage and swears to rid England of the scourge of bad guys. What follows is a spirited musical comedy filled with outrageous twists and turns. You'll be rolling in the aisles with laughter as the bumbling band of policemen, rapturous maidens, and "pirates of pizzas" weave their magical spell in this enduring, fun-filled musical romp! A visit to St. Jacobs Outlet Mall is included in the trip.



**FACILITATOR:** Paula Chambers – 6 Colinroy Street, Scarborough. ON M1C 5G6

Phone: (416) 208-0202 E-Mail: paula.chambers@rogers.com

**MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO: MARY MORTON TOURS. Send cheque and coupon to Paula Chambers.**

**DEADLINE: September 14, 2015 Please postdate your cheque to this date.**

## ***Boat Cruise and Lunch on the Grand River***

In early September – *exact date and details to be announced.*

**PROGRAM:** Cruise down the Grand River while dining leisurely on board. The Grand River flows 300 km through the heartland of southern Ontario. Much of the river's charm lies in the sense of history along its shores, and it was declared a Canadian Heritage River in 1994. The area has a unique aboriginal heritage, picturesque scenery, and is scattered with quaint farming towns and communities.



***Watch for further details on E-News  
and in the Summer edition of Beyond the Blackboard***

Coupon: **Sweet Charity**  
Wednesday, May 6, 2015

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to:  
**Mary Morton Tours**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$147.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch: Chicken or Pork Cutlet  
 Member  Member  
 Spouse/Guest  Spouse/Guest

Would you like an e-mail confirmation:  YES  NO

If **NO**, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.

Please check the space following to give permission to share your contact information.

I give permission to share contact information with the travel agency organizing this trip.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the RTO waiver on page 16.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Spouse/Guest

**DEADLINE: APRIL 6, 2015. PLEASE USE THIS DATE ON YOUR CHEQUE**

Coupon: **AGM / Spring Luncheon**  
Thursday, May 21, 2015

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to:  
**RTO - District 24**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

(Please submit a separate cheque for non-RTO members.)

Would you like an e-mail confirmation:  YES  NO

If **NO**, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.

**DEADLINE: MAY 8, 2015. PLEASE USE THIS DATE ON YOUR CHEQUE**

Coupon: **Sweets, Treats and Rural Delights**  
- Lilac Festival in Cold Creek

Tuesday, May 26, 2015

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to:  
**Time of Your Life Tours**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$79.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like an e-mail confirmation:  YES  NO

If **NO**, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.

Please check the space following to give permission to share your contact information.

I give permission to share contact information with the travel agency organizing this trip.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the RTO waiver on page 16.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Spouse/Guest

**DEADLINE: APRIL 14, 2015. PLEASE USE THIS DATE ON YOUR CHEQUE**

Coupon: **Carousel**  
Thursday, June 25, 2015

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to:  
**Mary Morton Tours**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$152.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like an e-mail confirmation:  YES  NO

If **NO**, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.

Please check the space following to give permission to share your contact information.

I give permission to share contact information with the travel agency organizing this trip.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the RTO waiver on page 16.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Spouse/Guest

**DEADLINE: MAY 25, 2015. PLEASE USE THIS DATE ON YOUR CHEQUE**

Coupon: **Hamlet**

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to:  
**Mary Morton Tours**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$168.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like an e-mail confirmation:  YES  NO

If **NO**, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.

Please check the space following to give permission to share your contact information.

I give permission to share contact information with the travel agency organizing this trip.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the RTO waiver on page 16.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Spouse/Guest

**DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2015. PLEASE USE THIS DATE ON YOUR CHEQUE**

Coupon: **Pirates of Penzance**

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to:  
**Mary Morton Tours**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

No. of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$122.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like an e-mail confirmation:  YES  NO

If **NO**, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.

Please check the space following to give permission to share your contact information.

I give permission to share contact information with the travel agency organizing this trip.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the RTO waiver on page 16.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Spouse/Guest

**DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2015. PLEASE USE THIS DATE ON YOUR CHEQUE**

## PENSION AND RETIREMENT

# RTO/ERO

# FACT SHEETS

**TERRY SMITH – DISTRICT 24 PENSION AND RETIREMENT REPRESENTATIVE**

*Information on many topics is available to members from the RTO/ERO website.*

Have you ever wondered about things such as: tax issues, pension issues or even health issues? Well, the Retired Teachers of Ontario has assembled a number of documents dealing with just these concerns. They are presented on the RTO website under the title Fact Sheets.

The Provincial office produces Fact Sheets on a variety of social, health, legal, pension and financial issues. The Fact Sheets are a benefit provided to members and as such are frequently revised to include the most up-to-date information. Similarly, new Facts Sheets are added on an as-needed basis.

In that vein, several Fact Sheets have been updated and reposted on the RTO website while five more are in the process. About 24 will be addressed next year. You can look on the website for updates of:

- F1-Free Chartered Accountants Tax Clinics, F2 Tax Information, F7 Using Credit Cards
- B1-Canada Pension Plan, B2 Guaranteed Income Supplement, B4 Spouse's Allowance and allowance for Survivor
- C8- The trillium Drug Plan, C9 Community Access Care Centers, C11 LHINs, C12 Alzheimer's Disease,
- E2- Social Insurance Number

In September, 2015, I will be attending a meeting of District Representatives to discuss the nature of defined pension plans. The workshop will be based upon the OTPP specifically and other Ontario pension plans in general.

### **PENSION ADJUSTMENT**

As you no doubt know by now an annual cost of living increase is included in our pension. This increase helps us to maintain financial stability and to sustain buying power throughout our retirement years. The rate of adjustment for 2015 is 1.7% and took effect in January of this year. This adjustment is almost twice that of last year which was .9%. One factor that played a large role in this increase for 2015 was the 5.1 billion funding surplus reported in April 2014.

### ***CALL FOR MEMBER PHOTO SHOOT PARTICIPANTS***

Do you love having your photo taken? Do you want to be "RTO/ERO's next top model?" RTO/ERO's Provincial Office is looking for members in the GTA area to participate in its annual member photo shoot to take place late spring 2015. To reflect RTO/ERO's ever growing diversity, we are looking for members of all ethnicities. Photos taken will be used in RTO/ERO promotional materials, online on its website and social media, and for use by Districts. In return for participating, we will provide you with three of your best shots as digital images, an RTO/ERO gift as a token of our appreciation, and cover all transportation and parking costs. No experience required. Interested? Email Susannah Maxcy, [smaxcy@rto-ero.org](mailto:smaxcy@rto-ero.org) or call 416-962-9463, 1-800-361-9888 ext. 244 for more information.

## To access the Fact Sheets:

1. Go to [https://www.rto-ero.org/members\\_center](https://www.rto-ero.org/members_center)
2. Enter your Membership ID and Password \*
3. From the Members Centre web page, scroll down the menu on the left side of the page to the link for Fact Sheets under the Publications heading



\* If you are new to the RTO/ERO website you will need to create a new account and password. Simply follow the on-screen directions.

## Breakfast for Kids' Golf Tournament



RTO/ERO District 24

## Breakfast for Kids' Golf Tournament

On behalf of the Breakfast for Kids' Golf Tournament Committee, (Jerry Chadwick, Brian Hern, Les Coombs), I would like to take this opportunity to invite you and your friends to participate in the 18th Annual District 24 Charity Golf Tournament to be held again at Mill Run Golf Course on Tuesday, September 15, 2015.

Your support of this tournament, in the form of your participation, sponsorship of a hole, or a donation to our prize table or silent auction, will be greatly appreciated. Any member of our District 24 Executive or a member of the Golf Committee will be pleased to receive your donation.

Please contact Les Coombs at (416) 261-0568 or [lesonriviera@gmail.com](mailto:lesonriviera@gmail.com) for any further information.

Registration information will be posted on E-News in May and in the next edition of *Beyond the Blackboard*.

**Les Coombs - Breakfast for Kids' Golf Tournament Committee Member**

**RTO/ERO DISTRICT 24**

# **CHRISTMAS**

# **LUNCHEON 2014**

**MARILYN HODGE – DISTRICT 24 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON CONVENOR**

*On December 3, 2014, 205 members and guest attended the District 24 Christmas Luncheon held at the Scarborough Golf and Country Club.*

Once again, the Christmas Luncheon was a very successful event due to the assistance of several people. My sincere thanks are extended to Alan Burt, who printed all of the name tags, Judy-Anne Tumber for hand printing the place cards, Linda Jarvis and Elaine Aprile for helping to set up the name tags and place cards and for welcoming all of the guests as they arrived. Thanks are also extended to Marilyn Tregwin and Paula Chambers for giving everyone directions as they came up the stairs, President Donna Hubel for welcoming everyone, Past President George Denny for saying the Grace, and to Bonnie Clarke, our treasurer, for paying the bill.



Thanks are extended to Blaguna Evrovski, the Catering and Beverage Manager and her staff for everything that they did to make this event a success.

Look for the coupon for this event in the Summer 2015 newsletter. Please return it with your cheque as soon as possible after you receive the newsletter in order to insure that you will have the opportunity to attend the 2015 Christmas Luncheon, which will be held on Wednesday, December 2nd at the Scarboro Golf and

Country Club. *In 2014, this event was sold out by the middle of September.*



After 14 years of organizing the Christmas Luncheon, I have decided to give it up and concentrate on other events in which I am involved and that happen at the same time of the year. I wish to thank all of you who have assisted me and have attended the Christmas Luncheon over the years. I consider myself fortunate to have met so many wonderful people through organizing the Christmas Luncheon. It has been my pleasure to meet and assist you. The Christmas Luncheon will continue and I will be there. Thank you,

*Marilyn*

**SEE FRONT AND BACK COVERS FOR MORE PHOTOGRAPHS  
FROM THE 2014 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

*The Executive and membership of RTO/ERO District 24 would like to sincerely thank Marilyn for her many years of dedicated work organizing the Christmas Luncheon, and wish her every successes in her future endeavours.*

# CABARET EXCURSION

ANGELA TALBOT

*On October 17<sup>th</sup>, twenty-six members and friends of RTO met at Kennedy Commons for day of dining and theatre in the Niagara region.*



Cloudy skies couldn't dampen our spirits, and the fall colours were gorgeous as we rode in our big motor bus. We arrived at Betty's Restaurant in the town of Chippawa for an early lunch. All of us enjoyed being able to order our entree and dessert of choice, and the meal was very tasty and the staff attentive.



Most of us were impressed by the lead actress, Deborah Hay, who played Sally Bowles with insight and panache. In general, we found the set interesting, the cast powerful, and the message still relevant.

Our ride home was quiet, with congenial conversation and more great scenery.

We then set off for a lovely Niagara-on-the-Lake, where we had an hour to walk the picturesque town, window-shop the quaint stores, or else sit in comfort on the outdoor patio or in the café at the Festival Theatre.

Cabaret started at 2 p.m., and we had excellent seats for this rivetting and thought-provoking production.

Many thanks to Douglas, our considerate bus driver, for his safe driving and for taking the scenic Niagara Parkway, and especially our facilitator, Donna Hubel for being open to our wants and needs, and for providing good care and yummy snacks. What a great way to spend a beautiful autumn afternoon!

## 2014 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON – STORY ON PAGE 22



### ***Change of Address? Are you moving?***

**Is there a change in your contact information? Contact Dianne Vezeau at the RTO/ERO Provincial office:**

**In writing: 18 Spadina Road,  
Toronto ON M5R 2S7**

**By phone: 1 (800) 361-9888, ext. 223**

**By e-mail: [dvezzeau@rto-ero.org](mailto:dvezzeau@rto-ero.org)**

**The Provincial office does not accept notices of address or contact information from third parties, such as District Executive members. Changes must come directly from the member or from the member's Power of Attorney (accompanied by a Power of Attorney form if RTO does not have one currently on file).**

### ***Upcoming Events – Dates to Remember***

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| April 23      | The Last Resort – St. Jacobs Country Playhouse, Waterloo                    |
| May 6         | Sweet Charity – Shaw Festival Theatre, Niagara-on-the-lake                  |
| May 21        | District 21 Annual General Meeting and Spring Luncheon – Qssis Banquet Hall |
| May 26        | Sweet Treats and Rural Delights – Lilac Festival in Cold Creek              |
| June 11       | District 24 Executive Meeting – All Are Invited                             |
| June 25       | Carousel – Avon Theatre, Stratford  |
| September 16  | New Members'/Retirees' Brunch – Bluffers' Restaurant                        |
| September     | Grand River Boat Cruise and Lunch (Date to be announced)                    |
| October 7     | Hamlet – Festival Theatre, Stratford  |
| October 14    | The Pirates of Penzance – St. Jacobs Country Playhouse, Waterloo            |
| October 19-21 | RTO Fall Senate   |
| October 22    | Fall Luncheon and Craft Sale (Tentative date) – Qssis Banquet Hall          |
| December 2    | Christmas Luncheon (Tentative date)   |