



Brant Forty

The Retired Teachers of Ontario
Here for you now ... Here for your future.

Winter 2012



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAVE HAYLOCK



As you read this report, I hope that you are able to look back on the Christmas season with fond memories and at the same time look forward to 2012 with anticipation of interaction with friends and family and enjoyment of travel and activities.

As I report on RTO activities, I would also like to start by looking backward before I look to the future. At the November Luncheon and Annual Meeting, a District Executive for 2012 was approved. This executive looks rather similar to the one that served you in 2011. There are, however, a few changes. Being last year's 1st Vice-President, as succession dictates, I move to the position of President. I am looking forward to working with this very dedicated and competent executive group in 2012. Anna Brady who has been luncheon and breakfast coordinator has stepped down. A big thank you goes to Anna for her organizational skills and hard work on behalf of Brant District 40 RTO over the years. We wish Anna all the best as she pursues other interests. Thank you to Jane Binkley who has volunteered to take on the responsibility for breakfasts and luncheons. Gord Osmond becomes Past President. In his year as President, Gord met every challenge of the office with a positive and collaborative approach. In a term which required a District Constitution review, he also put considerable time into a Service to Others project which is ongoing and focuses on the reduction of seniors fraud in our communities. For further information regarding this project see the Political Advocacy Committee report on page 3. Congratulations to Gord on a job well done in every way. Noel Beach becomes our 1st Vice President. We are presently lacking a 2nd Vice- President. If you are interested in joining our group in this capacity please contact me or any other executive member. Please see the list of executive members on page 2. Among the most important activities of RTO are the twice yearly Senate meetings. At the Fall Senate held in October, the Brant reps were June Szeman, Gord Osmond and David Haylock. The big news for us locally is that June Szeman ran for and was elected as one of the two Executive Member on this year's Provincial Executive. Congratulations to June as she was up against some very qualified opponents in the election. We will benefit locally from insights gained by June in her provincial work. Joining her on this year's Provincial Executive are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Past-President | Joanne Murphy |
| President | Jim Sparrow |
| 1 st Vice- President | Leo Normandeau |
| 2 nd Vice- President | Norbert Boudreau |
| Executive Officer | Margaret Clarke |

These people work very hard on our behalf and collectively we owe them a big thank you. Budget discussions are a big part of any Senate and this one was no exception. Budget highlights include:

- approval of expenditures for Health Services and Insurance Committee training and communication
- approval of expenditures for Retirement Planning Workshops
- approval of expenditures in a number of areas for training workshops, travel and recruitment

Here now and for the future of retired members of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan
and other education retirees

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.brant40rto.ca

President's Message cont.

- 29% of membership fees will be returned to the local districts in the form of grants. What this means to Brant District is a grant of \$14.58 per member for this budget year. Based on a membership of 939 members as of Dec. 31, 2012, that translates to a total grant of \$13 690 for this budget year.

As always, Senate was a stimulating and enjoyable experience.

The RTO/ERO Charitable Foundation which is now up and running is certain to receive considerable discussion at the local and provincial level throughout the year. At the 2010 Fall Senate, the first Object of the RTO/ERO Charitable Foundation was articulated as follows:

To establish, maintain and support the RTO/ERO Endowed Chair in Geriatrics at the University of Toronto with an emphasis on the promotion of interdisciplinary training among health care professionals, with the expectation that there will be collaboration with other medical schools in Ontario.

In order to fund the position described, three million dollars in donations must be raised over the next three years. This is obviously a substantial amount and fundraising strategies will be discussed locally and at the provincial level. At the 2011 Fall Senate, we were informed that Johnson Inc. the highly respected Canadian company (head offices in St. Johns NFLD) and administrator of the RTO health plan has made a commitment to donate one hundred thousand dollars a year for each of the next three years to the Charitable Foundation. If you wish to make an individual donation, the following options are available:

By phone : 1-800-361-9888

On line: www.rto/ero.org (see Quick Links)

It promises to be an interesting year. Please keep yourself informed about local RTO activities such as breakfasts, luncheons, golf tournaments, trips and travel etc. through the Newsletters. Website (www.brant40.ca) and attending functions supported by the organization.

RTO District 40 President

David Haylock

Brant District 40 Makes a Difference!



Brant District 40 recently donated \$1500 to the Brant Community Health Care System for the purchase of standard wheelchairs which are used daily for the benefit of patients. Pictured above are Gord Osmond- Past President District 40, Sherri Bocchini - President and CEO of Brant Community Health Care System, David Haylock - President Brant District 40, June Szeman- Treasurer Brant District 40.

2011 Executive

Past Pres: Gord Osmond 519 442-6092 osmond49@rogers.com
Pres: Dave Haylock 519 753-7066 david.haylock@hotmail.com
1st Vice: Noel Beach 519 759-7522 noel.beach@rogers.com
2nd Vice:
Sec: Gerry Fuss.....519 752-4929 jgfuss@hotmail.com
Treas: June Szeman.....519 753-9198 j.szeman@rogers.com
Travel: Bill Balian.....519 758-5304 es_hi_em@hotmail.com
Goodwill: Gail Merritt.....519 759-7655 merritt.brian@rogers.com
Donna Gravett.....519 754-1420 dagrav@hotmail.com
Health: Diane Morgan.....519-759-7511 dianemorgan@sympatico.ca
Pensions: Bob Taylor519 756 5072 rt00470@gmail.com
Memb: Mary Hrynkiw.....519 759-0467 mhrynkiw@cruiseshipcenters.com
Newsletter: Betty Anne Jackson..519 484-2742 bajackson25@rogers.com
Webmaster: George Fowlie519 442-6586 wellread@rogers.com
PAC: Gord Osmond 519 442-6092 osmond49@rogers.com
Bkfst / Lnchns Jane Binkley..... 519-752-0875 jane.binkley@rogers.com
Ms at Lge: Clair Ann Keodprom 519-751-0162 clair1162@rogers.com
Gerry Jackson 519 758-1576 jactoma@sympatico.ca

Membership Committee

~ Mary Hrynkiw ~

Correction to fall 2011 membership list.

The following are the retirees who joined RTO/ERO between our winter/spring newsletters:

<i>Karen Butters</i>	<i>Marilyn Einboden</i>
<i>Robert Halfback</i>	<i>Laurie Irwin</i>
<i>Sharon Ryan</i>	<i>John Caruana</i>
<i>Vernon Payne</i>	<i>Marianne Phibbs</i>
<i>Wayne Scobie</i>	

As of Nov 30 2012, we have 939 members--862 full and 77 associate members.

Our newest members who have joined since August are:

<i>Luisa Alonzo</i>	<i>Allan Brownridge</i>
<i>Karen Fox</i>	<i>Lee Ann Nikiforuk</i>
<i>Faith Bonfini</i>	<i>Douglas Collins</i>
<i>Florie Cowan</i>	<i>Joan Hexamer</i>
<i>Hermine Schroeder</i>	<i>L Carol William</i>
<i>Brendan Ryan</i>	<i>Susan Webster</i>
<i>Donald Beal</i>	<i>Lori Henderson</i>
<i>Audrey Meiklejohn</i>	<i>Gerald Rand</i>
<i>Joyce Young</i>	

We have a wide variety of new members, some are newly retired, others are not so recently retired and we are also gaining new members who are currently employed and may be retiring within the next few years. For those who are retired we wish you much happiness and good health and for those not yet retired, we hope to have you join our ranks soon.

Christmas Social

About 60 people dropped in for our social--although the numbers were small, there was good camaraderie and food. 105 pounds of food were collected and delivered to the Food Bank/Christmas Baskets and was much appreciated by the CRC. Thanks to Pat for delivering to the food bank, June Szeman for providing the venue and food and to Mary who assisted at the door.

Retirement Planning Workshop

On Oct 29 we hosted a Retirement Planning Workshop with Norfolk and Provincial RTO/ERO. There were about 60 attendees from our two districts as well other regions. The workshop was a success. Each time we host this workshop, we learn something new about our pensions, benefits and financial planning, so it is definitely beneficial to those anticipating retirement within five years.

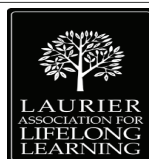
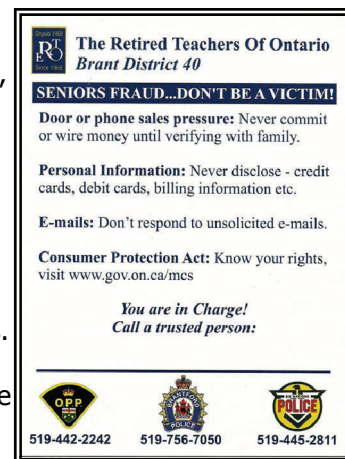
Again I would like to thank June Szeman and her staff for allowing us to host this workshop at the Sonnenhof German Canadian Club and for the great meal and snacks and a thank to Carol who helped at the door.

Political Action Committee

~ Gord Osmond ~

We are in the midst of distributing the "Seniors Fraud...Don't Be A Victim" magnets. The response in the community has been excellent.

If you know of a group that may wish to have some of the magnets, please contact Gord or Dave and we will gladly provide them. RTO/ERO is a non-partisan, issue-based organization. RTO/ERO does not support any particular political party, but will meet with members of all political parties to promote its issues and positions. At our spring luncheon, we will survey our membership to prioritize our issues to guide us in our work for the year. Gord and his team will have magnets available for you at the Luncheon Meeting on May 2nd.



Laurier Association for Lifelong Learning

Courses for the 50+ in Waterloo & Brantford

The Spring brochure can be found at
website <http://www.wlu.ca/lall>
Phone: 519.884.0710 x 6036

If you are new to LALL and would like to receive course information, please contact LALL at lall@wlu.ca / 519-884-0710 ext. 4628.

Registrations will continue to be accepted, pending course availability, until the start of classes

Volunteers Needed

YMCA Immigrant Settlement Services is seeking volunteer teachers to help newcomers achieve success in their studies. Newcomers range in age from elementary to secondary school and adult learners, and are from various diverse backgrounds and countries. Some require help with senior level secondary school courses. Come tutor our future!

To volunteer please call Azra at 519-752-4568 ext. # 45.

Give the Gift of Life: Be an Organ Donor

Go to [Online Organ and Tissue Donor Registration](http://www.onlineorganandtissuedonorregistration.org) — [Ontario.ca](http://www.ontario.ca) and follow directions or visit your local Service Ontario office at the Brantford Post Office

Don't forget to sign and carry your Organ Donor Card.
Lives depend on it!

GOOD WILL COMMITTEE REPORT

Gail Merritt 519 759-7655 Donna Gravett 519-754-1420

Celebrations

June and John Szeman - 50th

In Memoriam



Audrey Duck
Kenneth Kraft
Don Molloy (spouse of Betty)
Muriel Parsons
Marjory Wood

Please contact the Goodwill Committee if you know of anyone who needs to hear from us. Don't assume someone else has called.

"Wanted: Teachers"

Are you a History, Geography, Art, Tech, Science, Music or English TEACHER and have taken students on field trips? Then consider sharing your expertise on a day trip with the perfect class of students—your fellow retirees. Interested?

Contact Bill Balian 519-758-5304
es_hi_em@hotmail.com



HEALTH AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE

~ Diane Morgan ~

Contact **Diane** to discuss any issues re our benefits plans
~ 519-759-7511~ dianemorgan@sympatico.ca



Reminder: Before You Go

Many of us will be travelling over the winter months. Before you go:

Be sure you have no pre-existing conditions that would negate your health insurance. (If in doubt check your Out of Province/ Canada Travel Booklet or with Johnson Inc.)

Know what you are covered for by checking your Travel Booklet and taking it with you, along with your OHIP card and Johnson health insurance card.

Leave your health insurance, OHIP and passport information at home with a family member or friend.

Relax and enjoy your trip.



why go *anywhere* ELSE
than to the

**BRANTFORD
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

519-759-8781
www.brantfordsymphony.ca
administrator@brantfordsymphony.ca

Hmmm!

- Maybe it's true that life begins at sixty .. But everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out. Phyllis Diller
- By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere. Billy Crystal
- Santa Clause had the right idea. Visit people only once a year.

PENSION & RETIREMENT CONCERNS COMMITTEE (P&RCC)

~Bob Taylor~

If you have questions or issues about your pension, please contact **Bob**

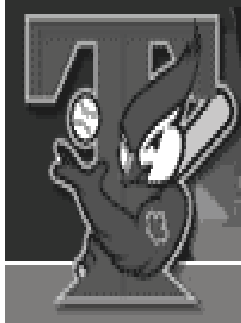
~ 519 756-5072 ~ robertthora@hotmail.com



The Ol' Ballgame!



It soon will be baseball season! Last year we enjoyed five good games with one being a no hit game. We will travel with L & L Shuttle in air conditioned comfort. Your ticket price includes parking, driver tip & a good location for viewing . You are permitted to take food such as sandwiches, apples, grapes, peanuts, small drinking boxes & plastic containers 600 ml or smaller into Rogers Centre. Security will likely be very attentive again this year! For safety reasons, all metal or glass containers are forbidden as well as any alcoholic beverages. We are also permitted to bring a radio and tune in Jerry & crew on Fan 590 for the game play by play. Please remember that all sales are final. If you cannot attend the game, try selling you tickets, or try giving them to someone & make a friend



Once that is done, call your baseball hosts Dennis & Joan Foster ([519-756-6785](tel:519-756-6785)) and tell us who should receive your tickets on the coach/shuttle, or to ask for names on a possible waiting list. Our 2012 departure site will be the Best Western Brant Park Inn 19 Holiday Drive, Brantford. Tickets will be distribute on the coach as we depart. Please park your vehicles close to the Gretzky Parkway, on the west side of the Inn. This year, each passenger on each RTO trip will need to sign a waiver form similar to one you would sign if you travelled with a commercial travel/tour company. A parent's signature is needed for anyone under the age of 18. It will be distributed on the coach. Also bring appropriate identification such as a health card on the date of the event. We will continue to do our best, to provide a safe, comfortable, enjoyable day.

Please record your game dates and departure times on your calendar when you order

Game dates for 2012	Visitors	Seat info	Departure from Best Western	Game begins
Wednesday May 02.....	Texas Rangers.....	Aisle 137 Left Rows 2,3,4,5	10:15 a.m.....	12:37 p.m. EARLY!
Saturday June 16.....	Philadelphia Phillies ...	Aisle 137 Left Rows 3,4,5,6,7	10:45 a.m.	1:07 p.m.
Saturday July 28	Detroit Tigers	Aisle 136 Left Rows 2,3,4,5	10:45 a.m.	1:07 p.m.
Saturday August 11	New York Yankees	Aisle 137 Left Rows 3,4,5,6,7.....	10:45 a.m.	1:07 p.m.
Saturday September 15.....	Boston Red Sox.....	Aisle 136 Right Rows 3,4,5	10:45 a.m.	1:07 p.m.

***** Note the EARLY game!

Hosts: Dennis and Joan Foster, 12 Davern Road, Brantford ON N3T 1R5 Telephone [519-756-6785](tel:519-756-6785)

----- CUT ----- AND SAVE ----- INFO ABOVE -----

ORDER FORM (Those who order first get to sit in the front seats!!)

Game 1 WednesdayMay 02 Texas Rangers _____ tickets @ \$ 59.00 =\$ _____ Game 1
 Game 2 SaturdayJune 16 Philadelphia Phillies _____ tickets @ \$ 59.00 =\$ _____ Game 2
 Game 3 Saturday July 28 Detroit Tigers _____ tickets @ \$ 59.00 =\$ _____ Game 3
 Game 4 Saturday August 11 New York Yankees _____ tickets @ \$ 59.00 =\$ _____ Game 4
 Game 5 Saturday . . .September 15 Boston Red Sox _____ tickets @ \$59.00 = \$ _____ Game 5

Total \$ _____

**Please make your cheque to: Brant District 40 RTO/ERO and mail or deliver it with this form to:
 Dennis & Joan Foster, 12 Davern Rd. Brantford ON N3T 1R5**

You may postdate your cheque to March 31/10 for depositing on April 1, 2010

Ordered By: _____ Phone # _____
 Address _____ Postal Code _____
 Are you an RTO Member? _____ Is this your first time with RTO/ERO Baseball? _____

Golf News

'To Hell With The Bell' Results

Forty eight golfers attended the Hell with the Bell Golf tournament at Burford. Although the competition was tough, the wine tasting from Coyote Run and from Marynissan Estate Wineries from Niagara on the Lake eased the Tension.

The overall winner with a 4 under par was team of John Pacsutta, Jerry Vitiello, Gary Burns, and Tapio Suominen John scrambled to get a last minute entry into the tournament as a result of a cancelation.



The competition was very close as 4 other teams shooting a 3 under par 68. First place in the Ladies division was Ann Verth, Wendy Bethune, Jean Baldauf and Brenda Sawchuck.

In the mixed / couples division the winning team was Wayne and Linda Clarke, Darrol Salmon and Meagan Gurney . The Clarke team won, taking advantage of the RTO handicapping system.



The team of Les Carr, Don Ciotti, Bob Peever and Vic Gossman won the men's division with a score of 3 under par, 68.



Individual winners

Closest to the pin #2 Jim Grime and Karen Innis
Closest to the bucket George Wheatly and Karen Innis



SWING INTO SPRING GOLF SOCIAL 2012

Come and enjoy a fun afternoon at Fescue's Edge Golf Course.

The golf social event designed for golfers and non-golfers alike.

Play 9 holes of golf in a non-competitive environment - keeping score is not required.

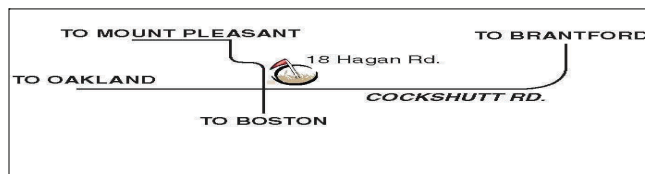
Enjoy socializing at the great clubhouse bar and restaurant.

Wed May 23 12:00pm

Green fees \$15 (extra with a cart).

**For more details, contact Sieg or Sue Baldauf
at suebaldauf@hotmail.com or 519-449-5993.**

**Fescue's Edge Golf Club,
Scotland, 519-484-2200**



Membership — Gatherings

Stay connected ... Stay informed ... stay involved



General Membership Meeting and Luncheon

Brant Park Inn

May 2, 2012

General Membership Meeting 11:00

Luncheon 12:00

Registration Form for Luncheons

Number attending: Spring Luncheon _____ Total @ \$15.00 each _____

Names

Address

Phone

Postal Code

Total Enclosed \$

All events are well subsidized by the Brant District 40 RTO

Note: Cancellations can be accepted up to the Friday before the event.

Reply to: Jane Binkley 519-752-0875 or e-mail jane.binkley@rogers.com.

Make cheque (not postdated, please!) payable to: *District 40 RTO* and send along with the registration form to:
Jane Binkley, **Att: RTO**, 21 Chestnut Avenue, Brantford ON, N3T 4B9

Mark your Calendar:

Breakfast — 8:30 September 4

Fall Luncheon - 11:00 November 7

Location to be determined.

Please Make Your Changes

The **Pension Board** needs to know of these changes:

Your name	Your address
Your spousal status	Your e-mail address
Your telephone number	Your beneficiary designation

If you are registered for iAccess, our secure member website, you can change most of this information online or call 1-800-668-0105

To change the same information for **RTO** and to receive any of the provincial or local **Brant District 40** news letters, mailings, emails or phone calls, you must make your changes at the RTO Office at 1-800-361-9888 or on the RTO website <http://www.ero-rto.org>

We cannot make these changes for you. Please also check with your friends who may not receive this information.

Need a Ride to an RTO Event?

Please call one of the executive members.
We will be glad to help you get to our events.
We want you to join us!

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Annually, RTO/ERO awards up to 25 individual scholarships of \$1,000 each through its Scholarship Program. These scholarships are intended to encourage and provide financial assistance to applicants who are pursuing full-time or part-time careers in teaching from an accredited teacher training facility. **If interested apply very soon.**

To be eligible, a student must be:

- enrolled in a full or part-time program which will lead directly to a career in teaching in Canada,
- a resident Canadian citizen or a landed immigrant,
- a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, grandniece, grandnephew, son-in-law, daughter-in-law or step-child of an RTO/ERO member.

This scholarship program is intended to only assist applicants pursuing a career in teaching from an accredited teacher training facility. Examples of eligible programs include concurrent BA/BEd university programs and programs leading to B.Ed. qualification.

For information go to <http://www.ero-rto.org/scholarship-program>



Brant Forty Is a quarterly publication of District 40 RTO/ERO. The editor wishes to thank the Executive Members, Committee Chairs and other contributors who wrote reports and provided information.

Comments, suggestions and pictures from RTO events and trips are always welcomed.

Send to bajackson25@rogers.com or call 519-484-2742.