



BEYOND THE BELL

District #46 Muskoka — Retired Teachers of Ontario

www.rtomuskoka.org

Volume 4 Issue 2

Spring 2010

President's Message

It was quite a surprise to arrive home from our trip to Africa and find crocuses blooming in our green lawn, as I had been out snowshoeing on the lake the day before we departed on March 5th. It looks like Spring is really here!

We had many wonderful, unforgettable experiences in Kenya and Tanzania. The three Kenyan schools we visited were so welcoming, and the children were delightfully eager to sing and dance for us. Can you imagine having a class of 70, 80, or even 90 elementary school students, sitting three to a bench at rough-hewn wooden desks in an oven-like, corrugated tin building? Speaking to the teachers, we learned that behaviour problems are virtually non-existent in their schools, as the children are all motivated to attend and learn. Throughout the nation, education is highly valued, and it was truly an honour for our group to represent the retired teachers of Muskoka as we presented each school with an RTO/ERO gift bag of learning materials and sports equipment from District 46-Muskoka. I hope that you will come to our Spring General Meeting and Luncheon on Friday, April 30th at the Turner Centre, and enjoy our verbal and DVD presentations about the amazing experiences we had in Africa. This is also the meeting where we will elect our new executive for the coming year, so perhaps you would consider the role of Secretary or 2nd Vice-President, or you may know of a member you would like to nominate for an executive position. For more information about the meeting, see the Social Events section at the end of the newsletter. April, May and June will be busy months for the District 46 executive, with our Retirement Planning Workshop planned for April 28th, the provincial RTO/ERO Spring Senate on May 17-19th in Toronto, and our annual pot luck BBQ at Walkling Farm on Friday, June 18th. I hope you will be able to join us at one of these events. It's a great way to keep in touch with colleagues from years past!

This newsletter will be a bit shorter than usual in order to get it out in time for you to be aware of Spring events. I look forward to seeing you soon! Lorna

Editor's Message

I trust everyone is enjoying the wonderful Spring weather in Muskoka and if you do not live in Muskoka, may the weather be as grand where you are. We have a somewhat shorter newsletter this time. Our main items are the social events where we can meet other retired teachers and enjoy catching up and making new friends. If you are able to attend some the events that District 46 sponsors, we'd love to see you.

Looking forward to a fun filled Spring and Summer, Mary



RTO/ERO Spring Meeting and Luncheon

Turner Center, Bracebridge

Registration at 9:00 am, Meeting 9 am

Call Lee Shea at 705-645-8677 by April 23rd to confirm.

Retirement Planning Workshop

District 46 RTO/ETO is planning a Retirement Planning Workshop for all education workers. If you know of a teacher, principal, school secretary, educational assistant, custodian or anyone working in education who will retire in the next 5 -10 years, please share this information with them.

If you would like updated information on pension and health benefits, please feel free to join us.

This workshop will be held on Wed. April 28 at 4:30 pm at the Turner Center, Bracebridge.

To confirm attendance and dinner (\$10 per person and \$15 per couple) call Bob Harris at 705-678-5478 or rsharris@sympatico.ca



Upcoming Events

Summer BBQ (potluck: salad or dessert)
Friday, June 18 11:30 am

Please reply by June 11th to Lorna at
705- 385-2948

Location: Walkling Farm, Raymond lorna.walkling@sympatico.ca
1131 Three Mile Lake Road, off Hwy #141, just south of the Raymond General Store.
Red brick house, black barn, first farm on the left (about 1 km from Hwy #141)
Bring your favorite beverage and a lawn chair

Hell with The Bell Breakfast
Tuesday, September 14, 9 am
Location: to be announced

Annual Fall Meeting with Speaker
Wednesday, November 3, 2010
Location: to be announced

Stratford Festival Theatre Tuesday, September 28, 2010 Kiss Me, Kate



Day's Agenda

- 9:00 Pit Stop at Cookstown Service Ctr.
- 11:00 Dinner at Annas, Millbank
- 2:00 Performance of Kiss Me, Kate
- 5:00 – 6:00 Stop for light supper
- 9:20-10:00 arrival in Gravenhurst

Departure times from:

- Huntsville (Walmart Parking) 7:00 am
- Bracebridge (Train Station) 7:30 am
- Gravenhurst (McDonalds) 7:50 am

Price: All Inclusive (Bus, Dinner, Theatre)
\$100.00 per person

NOTE: A "Trip Waiver Form" must be completed and received from each participant upon registration.



Mail reply slip to: Lee Shea, 120 Front Street.
Bracebridge, ON, P1L 1J7.
705-645-8677

Cheques payable to RTO Muskoka

Name(s) _____

Phone No. _____

Payment Enclosed: _____ for _____ person(s) @ \$100.00

Please reply by Sept. 1, 2010

If you change your email address please contact Membership Chair,
Laurie Fountain at laurfount@mac.com
to continue to receive your newsletters and notices of all events.