

March, 2024

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Thank you to our District 11 members who took the time to respond to our Member Survey regarding Activities and Events, which was included in our February eNews bulletin.

A committee of District 11 Board members has carefully reviewed your ideas and suggestions and are committed to incorporating them into our program offerings. Suggestions such as hosting a Trivia Night, organizing a games afternoon, establishing a Breakfast club, and hosting painting or craft events showcase a diverse range of enjoyable activities for our members. While there are some activities and events planned for the upcoming months, we will certainly keep your suggestions in mind as we continue to develop our schedule. Additionally, topics such as cooking classes, workshops on cyber security, and movement classes have been considered, and we will prioritize them based on the expressed interest from our members.

We understand that not all activities will appeal to every member at all times. However, by offering a variety of activities, we aim to provide something that resonates with each member's interests. Sometimes, simply trying out a new idea or event can ignite a newfound passion!

As volunteers on the District 11 Board, we are enthusiastic about providing enriching activities for our members. Each activity requires careful planning and organization, often incurring associated costs. However, these costs are subsidized by our district budget to ensure that our members can participate either for free or at a reduced cost. This includes subsidizing activities such as theatre outings and luncheons, to maximize the benefits for our members.

District 11 belongs to you, our RTOERO members and we greatly appreciate your valuable suggestions. Please do not hesitate to reach out with further ideas or if you are interested in assisting with a specific activity. Your input and involvement are invaluable to us as we strive to create meaningful experiences for our community.

Terry Hamilton on behalf of your District 11 Volunteer Board

| **CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!****Don’t miss the Registration Forms included below:** |
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| **Event** | **Date** | **How To Register** |
| **Coffee and Conversation** | **Tuesday, March 12, 2024****9:30 a.m.** | **Registration is necessary each month.** [**Register here**](https://forms.gle/5rfA2obucFLrPFhw8) **by March 5.** |
| **Fresh Air Friday** | **Friday, March 15, 2024****10:30 a.m.** | [**Register here**](https://forms.gle/AQT4iuGk4XLgDs6x8) **for our walk**  |
| **Stitching With Friends** | **Monday, March 18, 2024****1:00 p.m.** | [**Register here**](https://forms.gle/thTBnW6QYUYstRRJ6) **if you have not done so yet this year.**  |
| **Book Club** | **Thursday, March 21, 2024****10:00 a.m.** | [**Use this form**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdSpo6kidaXFC5uTHfPswIeRsUFqoLhH9VdJtvcAprVfiy8NA/viewform) **to find out more information and to register.** |

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MONTH’S EVENTS**

We have just a few months left before the end of the “school” year. Why not participate in an activity that you have not yet participated in? There will be four more stitching events, four more coffee clubs, four more walks and four more books club meetings. Keep checking facebook and the eNews for more information.

**Fresh Air Friday, March 15** - On Friday, March 15, 2024, from 10:30 until approximately 11:30, we will be walking the Ayr Trail. This 3.2 km loop is considered a favourite local trail to hike along the shoreline of the Nith River. Much of the route is not well-maintained, so remember to wear appropriate footwear.. Parking is just off the Nith Valley Way in Ayr. For directions from hwy 401 and hwy 8 (Sportsworld Drive/Hwy 8 Park and Ride), click [here](https://maps.app.goo.gl/1TRN6ApifFnfLDjZA). If you're coming into Ayr and are on Northumberland St., turn onto the Nith River Way. You will find parking past the first curve.

**LOOKING AHEAD TO FUTURE MONTHS**

Look in future editions of the eNews, on our website, and subscribe to our Facebook page to find out more information about these events.

| **April 2024** |
| --- |
| 9 | Coffee and Conversation, 9:30 a.m. | 19 | Fresh Air Friday Walk, 10:30 a.m. |
| 11 | Jersey Boys Play **SOLD OUT** | 24 | Paint Night, 6:00 p.m. |
| 15 | Stitching with Friends, 1:00 p.m. | **TBD**   | Pool Afternoon, 2:00 (Perhaps April 29 or 30) |

| **May 2024** |
| --- |
| 9 | Retirement Planning Workshop | 17 | Fresh Air Friday Walk, 10:30 |
| 10 | Group Trip to Aga Khan Museum/Legislature | 20 | Stitching with Friends, 1:00 p.m. |
| 14 | Coffee and Conversation, 9:30 a.m. | 30 | Spring Luncheon, 11:00 a.m. |
| 16 | Book Club, 10:00 a.m. | **TBD**   | Pool Afternoon, 2:00 (Perhaps May 27 or 28) |

**Upcoming Events**

**Coming in April** - **Our first paint night of the year!** On April 24, from 6:00 - 8:00, Wendy Philip, a local artist and art teacher, will take us through all the steps to make a blank canvas into a beautiful piece of art. This program, partially subsidized by your local District 11, will allow for a maximum of 15 participants. Make sure to sign up as soon as you receive notice of registration, so you can reserve your spot. We expect this activity to fill up fast. Check out Wendy’s website for information about her and her art classes. <https://colouroutsidethelines.ca/>

**The Aga Khan Museum and Victorian Tea at the Ontario Legislative Assembly** - **Friday May 10th, 2024**

Join your District 11 colleagues as we venture to the Aga Khan museum in Toronto, which offers visitors a window into worlds unknown or unfamiliar: the artistic, intellectual, and scientific heritage of Muslim civilizations across the centuries. Enrich your experience at the Aga Khan Museum by taking the Gallery Architectural tour which has been included. There is an intimate café for a light lunch on your own. Pending availability, there will be time to visit the Ismaili Centre. Afterwards, it’s off to the Ontario Legislative Assembly beginning with a 45-minute guided tour through the Legislative Buildings where we explore its history and traditions. Following that is an included Victorian- Style Afternoon Tea.

INCLUDED IN THIS TRIP: Motor Coach Transportation, Guided Tours of Aga Khan Museum and OLA, High Tea, Services of a Tour Director.

COST PER PERSON: $220 \*Day Trips are non-refundable, but name changes are allowed. We will take a maximum of 26 travelers on a 56-seat motorcoach.

BOOKING: Contact Kelly Fields at 519-894-8687 or on her website ( www.fieldstrips.ca)

Payment is made directly to Fields trips ( cheque, Visa or MasterCard, e-transfer, cash).

**RTOERO Travel Show - June 12, 2024** - Mark this date on your calendar! It is the date of our first ever RTOERO Waterloo Region Travel Show--Planes, Trains and Automobiles (Bikes, Buses and Feet Too)! We will have more than 20 travel companies that will be showcasing their UNIQUE products and services. Have you ever dreamed of:

* Going on an Antarctica Expedition?
* Hiking the Azores or the Swiss Alps?
* Going on a “Taste of Tuscany” Tour?
* Enjoying Yoga and Wellness in Thailand?
* Biking through Croatia?

That is just a taste of what you will find at our RTOERO Waterloo Region Travel Show! Admission is FREE for RTOERO Members AND you can bring a friend for free as well. The show runs on June 12th from Noon till 8:00 pm at The DoubleTree Hotel on Fairway Road.

**Theatre News -** "Jersey Boys", on April 11th, 2024 @ 2 pm. Ticket Sales started January 25, 2024 and in three days, we were SOLD OUT. District 11 was able to offer a discount to our members on the price of the tickets. Because we sold out so quickly, be sure to purchase your tickets early for our next performance. out and enjoy this excellent theatre experience.

**Beer and Billiards, April Edition -** Our February Billiards afternoon was a success in Waterloo. We plan on having another afternoon activity at the end of April in Kitchener or Cambridge. Check Facebook or your inbox for information as it becomes available at the beginning of April.

**Spring Luncheon - May 30th, 2024 at 11 am at Golf’s** - The theme is Reflections on the places that you have been, the travel that you have done in your lifetime with an internationally-themed menu. Our method of registering will be a little different this time. We will be asking you to pay through the RTOERO securite site with your credit card first. When District 11 receives confirmation of payment, we will send you a registration form for you to choose your meal. Please look for more information in the April eNews and on Facebook.

**Scholarship News**

They have received 230 applications for scholarship consideration! They will select approx 30 to be awarded. Decision expected at the end of April or beginning of May. The applicants can be grandchildren, nieces or nephews of our retired members .

**Follow District 11 News and Events on Facebook and our Website:**

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