

Marion Harries

Marion Baker was born in Ingersoll but soon thereafter came to Elgin County residing in St. Thomas and then since her marriage in the Iona Station area. She was educated at Locke's School, St. Thomas Collegiate Institute, London Normal School and finally at the University of Western Ontario. The last part of this process was done the hard way -- correspondence and summer courses.

Her teaching career began at the tender age of seventeen and spanned a total of over thirty-five years. In 1967, she decided to specialize in the area of Special Education working with handicapped children in the classroom and as a Special Education Resource teacher with the Middlesex County Board of Education. She would continue in the area until her retirement. Her comment about these years -- 'What a challenge but so rewarding!!'

Marion now enjoys her retirement babysitting, doing crafts, volunteering at the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital and being involved in community organizations. Her greatest passion is travelling from coast to coast with her husband, Murray, in their motor home. These travels include frequent visits to Red Deer, Alberta, where a son and daughter reside. In addition, a part of the winter in Florida is a must. Their philosophy is 'Go while you can and enjoy it!' They surely do enjoy you can be sure.

She has also found the time to make a commitment to the S.T.O. executive. She became Goodwill Convenor in 1988 - 1989, when it was a one person job and was instrumental in establishing a Committee. She spent two years as first Vice-President and enjoyed her year as President in 1993 - 1994. She also enjoyed representing District 41 at the Provincial Senate. As President she brought her creative handiwork (do you have a S.T.O. fridge magnet?) and her penchant for story telling to add a little spice to meetings.

*Marion will continue to support and uphold S.T.O's
motto of - SERVICE TO OTHERS*