

# Volunteer Appreciation 2022-2023—Bernice Whalen

During the pre-covid period, the Executive Board had a dream that we would recognize the generosity of our members who volunteered their time to serve RTOERO in some capacity, thus enhancing and strengthening our organization. We fiscally envisioned this might be possible every second year opposite to the Super Senior luncheon.

In June 2022 the dream was re-awakened and our team was established as a subcommittee with **Rick Wark, Sherrill Dewar, Rich Prophet, Marie Dellavedova, Folgo Dellavedova** and yours truly as chair. Prior to 2022, we did not have a solid database with names of volunteers. Thus, we had to have a concrete benchmark from which we could operate. June the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 began our database going to May 21<sup>st</sup> 2022. **Rick Wark** became our data coordinator, gathering names from chairs of various committees that had operated throughout this time period under the umbrella of RTOERO District 3. Now that we have started a database, we trust we will aim to keep it updated each year in our official filing cabinet.

**Folgo, Marie and Rich** visited various sites and established that Grand Gardens North was recommended as best suiting our needs. As I write this news item, today is the day the anticipated event will finally take place after many months of work. *Special thanks to the Executive Board for all your support and kudos to the team who diligently worked to make this happen.* Hopefully we will be able to celebrate our RTOERO District 3 volunteers in some special way every second year. This is the vision that was originally created.

Looking forward this afternoon to gathering with our cohorts who are the driving force behind District 3. As a team, we will reflect upon recommendations to consider for similar future events. We will miss those away or unable to attend this afternoon due to appointments, illnesses or preplanned get aways. **Please know your contributions are valued!**

