

## **Dorothy Friske, HAAO Vice President**



Dorothy Friske was an educator, working as a teacher, Special Education Co-ordinator and School Administrator. During her career, she volunteered on the executives of the Speech Arts/Music Festivals, and Minor Hockey as well as taking an active part in her church, singing in the Church choir. Dorothy took on a leadership role in the Federation of Women Teachers (FWTAO) at both the local and provincial levels. In 1993, when the education system was changing to one union, she was already in administration, so she chose to stay and become a member of the Ontario Principals' Council

(OPC). During school breaks, the family liked to travel to warmer climates during the winter and camping during the summer. When her son got into hockey, it meant juggling between volunteering, working and hockey tournaments and camps.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Geraldton District Hospital was a small, hard working group of women who raised money through a variety of activities, bake sales, Penny Auctions, fashion shows, membership drives and teas. Dorothy began volunteering with the Auxiliary in 1974. Today the renamed Geraldton District Hospital Auxiliary includes men, women and students.

Once she retired from the education system in 2005, Dorothy took on a more active role with HAAO in the region, becoming Region Chair from 2007 - 2009, then provincially as Director of Regions from 2011 – 2013, Provincial Secretary from 2013 – 2015, to the present as HAAO Vice President (2015 – 2017). During this time, she continued to serve her Auxiliary as President, Secretary, Membership Coordinator, and purchaser for the Sunshine Gift Shop in the hospital. At the present time, she is Secretary and shares the purchasing duties with the President.

Highlights of her service include Local Life Membership in April 2004 and Provincial Life Membership in November 2009.

During her 40+ years of service within the Auxiliary, Dorothy has always felt that volunteering is the gift you can give from the heart. It can be a lot of work, especially when preparing for an event, but the rewards are enormous. Rewards come in the way of smiles, comments, and a general warm feeling! Dorothy leads by example as a volunteer who believes people can make a difference – and is willing to prove it.

Join Dorothy and experience the joy of volunteering.