

# DOWN THE *Garden Path*

## Calabogie WI

Each October is Women's History Month in Canada - an opportunity for Canadians to educate themselves about women's valuable contributions to our country's history – and to the quality of our lives in the 21st century. Women, history and education go hand-in-hand with FWIO and one Branch decided that a ROSE Session was a great way to celebrate women and their contribution to the area.

On October 11, 2012, the Calabogie WI of Renfrew South District (Eastern Area) held an evening with author Carol Bennett McCuaig. Carol is well known in the area, authoring over fifty books, many of which are regional histories that help people who are researching their roots in the Renfrew and Lanark counties.

About thirty guests from other Branches as well as the community came to hear Carol describe the hardships faced by the women as they settled in the Ottawa Valley. She also shared stories of real women pioneers from the Ottawa Valley that she researched for her book "Invisible Women". The evening ended with a quiz where guests determined how they would have fared as a pioneer in 1800's Ontario.

The evening ended with ROSE Program Coordinator for the Calabogie WI, Sara MacKenzie, thanking all the guests before they enjoyed tea, coffee and homemade desserts of pumpkin pie, carrot cake and other Fall goodies.

If you would like to find out more about the guest speaker and her books, please visit her website: [www.carolmccuaig.ca](http://www.carolmccuaig.ca).



*Pictured: Members of Calabogie, Burnstown, White Lake and Balsam Hill-Horton Branches and other community members gather for a photo with author Carol McCuaig (seated second from right), BRANCH ROSE Program Coordinator Sara MacKenzie (seated in centre) and Margie MacKenzie, President of Renfrew South District WI (seated second from left).*

## Bowen Road WI

In celebration of Niagara's Bicentennial, Bowen Road WI (Hamilton Area), together with the Fort Erie Historical Museum, hosted two 1812 Fashion Shows with WI Members, family and friends modeling the types of attire worn 200 years ago. The Fashion Shows were held on April 28, 2012 at People's Memorial United Church in Ridgeway. Over 100 people attended, including WI Members and the public.

Bowen Road WI Members also hosted an 1812 luncheon where they dressed in period clothes made by members of the Bertie Museum in Ridgeway.



*Pictured: Bowen Road WI Members take a step back in time, dressing in attire worn by the average person in 1812.*

## Cooper & Remington WI

At their Branch's October meeting, the Members of Cooper & Remington WI (Trent Valley Area) held an "Old Fashioned Afternoon Tea". To commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, the topic for the afternoon was the History of Tea Pots. Everyone wore fancy hats and gloves, and lunch consisted of scones, jam and, of course, tea!

*Pictured (L-R) in the back row: Sherry Neilson, Fran Dudgeon and Doris Rollins. Front row: Shirley McCoy, Kay Wilson and Ruth Holmes.*

