



## Membership Message

~ By Membership Coordinator, Debbie Bauer



The Iris program continues to have challenges. Please be patient, as new wrinkles appear overnight and we're all doing our best. I believe fundamental changes will have to be implemented to ensure the survival of this incentive.

This summer, I revamped my workshop and believe I continue to offer a fresh, relevant and worthwhile product with an overwhelming majority of participants saying they now have solutions, and a plan to implement those solutions, which frankly is vital to any workshop.

Through the workshop, I have delivered a consistent, forward-thinking, enthusiastic and necessary message relevant to recruitment of new Members in several Areas or Districts. Unfortunately, some areas remain underserved.

One person cannot reach every Member, but every Member can reach one person. If you have questions or

specific barriers, please consider a 'think-tank' meeting and feel free to call or email me for suggestions.

My five easy steps to recruitment are: to identify a need, make a noise, get noticed, enlist others and make a difference. But remember, it is always about what we can do for "her", not the other way around. We have all been made stronger, more community-minded, active global-citizens or at the very least, we have friends and support we wouldn't otherwise have without WI. The same will be true for most other women living anywhere in Ontario.

I have had a lot of fun over the last three years and I thank each of you for your support. And remember, you are the new WI.

*Debbie Bauer can be reached at membershipcoordinator@fwio.on.ca or 519-529-7820.*



## National News

~ By FWIO Executive Officer to FWIC, Joy Trimble

**FWIC Website** ([www.fwic.ca](http://www.fwic.ca)) - check out President Marie Kenny's recent Web Post under "News and Views" as well as revised information on the Provincial WI's and FWIC

Board Members. There is also a section on Sales Items. The FWIC office is open three days a week - usually Monday, Wednesday and Thursday (8:30 am to 4:30 pm). You can call the office at 519-448-3873 or email [fwican@gmail.com](mailto:fwican@gmail.com)

**The new FWIC Executive** met November 9-11, 2012 in Ottawa. Plans will be made for the next triennium choosing a theme and a project. Watch for more news! The next triennium will be held in Fredericton, New Brunswick from June 9-13, 2015.

**Federated News** - is a newsletter for all WI Members across Canada. It proves to be an important communications link between the national organization and the membership. The cost is \$5.00 for two issues for 2013 - send your cheques to FWIC, PO Box 209, 359 Blue Lake Road, St. George, ON N0E 1N0.

**Friends of Adelaide** - Those who become a "Friend of Adelaide" will receive a quarterly newsletter, event announcements and a discount on gift shop purchases. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the Homestead and help continue programming and events at the Homestead. The cost is \$15.00 and the application form can be obtained off the FWIC website.

**Erland Lee Award of Appreciation** - This prestigious award is presented by FWIC to a man who most exemplifies those qualities of Erland Lee, which led to the founding of the Women's Institute. Nominations can come from the Branch, District, or Provincial level. Ontario is entitled to two nominations per year. Specifics of the nominee's contribution to WI must be included with the nomination letter and forwarded to the FWIO Provincial Office for selection by January 31st, along with a \$15.00 cheque payable to FWIO. Once selected, the gentleman's name will be forwarded to FWIC along with the nomination fee.

**FWIC Fundraiser** - The triennium fundraiser is the distribution and sale of bulbs by Branches across Canada. For information on the FWIC/Branch Fundraiser, call Vesey's Bulbs at 1-800-363-7333 or contact myself.

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