

Erland Lee Home



Gift for Historic Home

As the 25th Anniversary project, the Perth Centre District Women's Institute donated a candle table holder, snuffer and beeswax candle to the Erland Lee Home at Stoney Creek, where the original Constitution was written. Admiring the candle set are two officers re-elected to the District executive at the annual meeting in Brodhagen. (L) Mrs. Hamilton Sebben, Stratford, first vice-president and Mrs. Stewart Anderson, Tavistock, President.



Flags and Flag poles gift of the 2nd Lakeshore Boy Scouts

This donation of flags and flag poles all came about because of the interest Mr. Sid Harvey has for Women's Institutes.

The 2nd Lakeshore Boy Scout Group, hearing of a need for flags and poles set about the task and on Saturday, June 29, 1974, took an outing to Stoney Creek and under the direction of assistant leader Mr. John Adams proceeded to dig holes, mix concrete and set up the flag poles in a position designated by the committee in charge of the Home. Later the Canadian and Ontario flags were raised by Scouts, Stewart Bateman and Guy Durmeyer. The Troop Leader Bob O'Brien presented them to Mr. Victor Beachin, host of the Erland Lee Home.

The Cubs, not to be outdone by their big brothers, presented two oil lamps to the Home. This presentation was made by Cub Jeffrey Lennox.

Mrs. Chas. J. Agnew



Constitution and original minutes bound in Red Oasis leather, gift of Mrs. Chas. J. Agnew for the Erland Lee Home. Presentation of book to President, Mrs. H. L. Noblitt, accepted on behalf of the Committee.

A Women's Institute member who has many talents, but the one best known to the majority is her work with leather.

In the 1950's Jean took a diploma course in "leather" from Robert Muma, (now Canada's top handbook binder.) She taught in her own home and around the community. During her term as Provincial Board Director, she carried a shoulder bag and matching overnight case which was admired by everyone on the Board. Word "got around" of this talent and in 1960 Miss Helen McKercher, Director of the Home Economics Branch, asked "if she would be interested in teaching a course?" For the next twelve years, Women's Institute members learned to make handbags in the advanced course and the key cases and book marks in the beginners. Some, too, will remember her, in the copper tooling, as well.

The late Mrs. J. W. Dalziel opened her home for the organizational meeting of the Edgeley Women's Institute, York County, in 1913, so it was of interest to all to celebrate the sixtieth Anniversary in the same home in which her daughter Mrs. Chas. Agnew now lives. Mrs. Agnew who has held many offices over the years in the Branch, District and Provincial levels, presently is Convener of Citizenship and World Affairs.

When a little girl, Jean's Grandmother taught her to knit on four needles; their interest in crafts continued and in Gramma's later years they used to work on quilts together.

Weaving, embroidery, and crewel have filled many hours of leisure for Mrs. Agnew, but nothing has been as rewarding as working with leather.