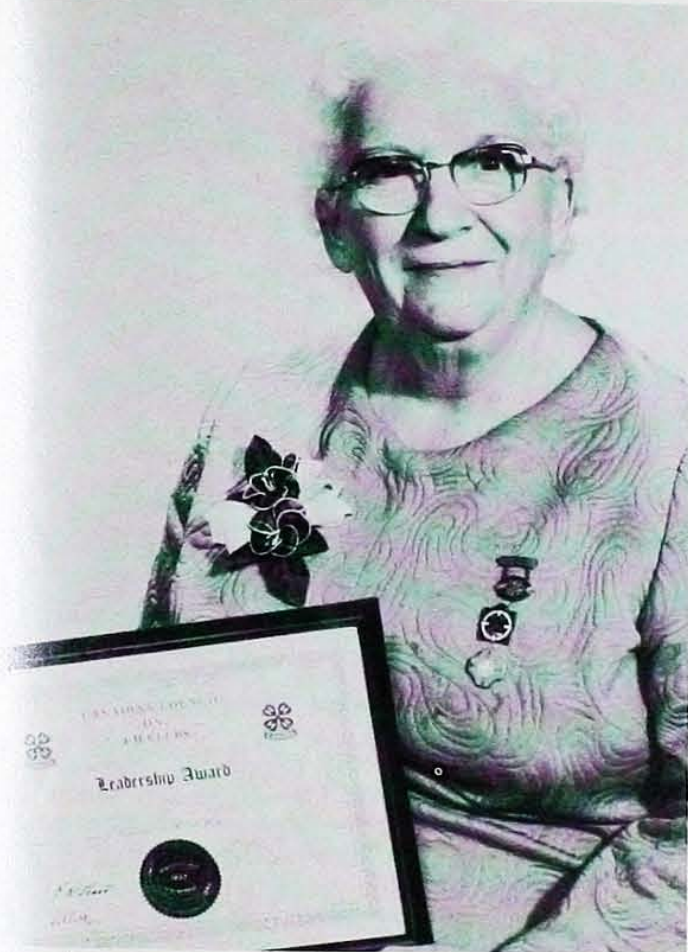


HURON COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP

Shirley Dougherty, Goderich, was the winner of Huron's scholarship.

Presently attending Centralia enrolled in the Food Service Management Course, Shirley admits her interest was aroused through the 4-H Homemaking and her part time work as kitchen aid at Maitland Manor Nursing Home in Goderich.

Junior Farmers' has also played an important role in her life. She was given the opportunity to serve in many capacities, such as President, Treasurer and County Director. This year Shirley was crowned Huron County Junior Farmer Queen. Through these two organizations she has been introduced to judging competitions, and exchange visits.



Mrs. Frances Middleton, Charter Member Gilles Hill Branch, Bruce E. and Board Director for Subdivision 17 received her 15 year leadership award from the Canadian Council of 4-H Clubs. Mrs. Middleton has lead or assisted with 27 4-H Homemaking Clubs.

DIANE PETRYNA

The 1977 winner of the Thunder Bay District Women's Institute Scholarship was Diane Petryna. Diane is currently studying Recreation in the Faculty of Human Kinetics & Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. Diane has been an active 4-H member, attaining 16 Homemaking projects, and 18 Agricultural projects. She has attended both the Regional 4-H Conference for Northwestern Ontario, and the Provincial Girls' Conference.

In addition to her 4-H participation, Diane has also been an active Junior Farmer member, holding several executive positions, and helping on various committees. In the community she played on a ladies fastball team. At school she was a member of the Ski Club, and a class representative on Student's Council.

LOOKING BACK OVER 70 YEARS

The North Gower WI, Carleton West members all received a scroll at the 70th celebration written by Mrs. R. Jago and Mrs. W. Hodgins.

Answering the need for better and more widely distributed health information to rural women, and through the efforts and cooperation of the Ontario Farmers Institute, a group of women was organized at Stoney Creek, Ontario, in 1897. These would avail themselves of the services of graduates of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario, in household management courses.

Known as the Women's Institute, and few in numbers at first, it gradually became province-wide. In February, 1907, North Gower Branch was formed through the efforts of a few local ladies—home-makers Mrs. Robert Allen Craig (nee Mary A. Bell) President; Mrs. Andrew Callander, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. John Seabrook and Mrs. Charles Arbuckle, Membership—fee 25¢.

The Department sent out household science graduates to teach the two-week courses to local members—a gentleman for the menfolk and a lady for the womenfolk.

The Women's Institute provided a training ground where members had to raise their usually timid voices to answer the monthly roll-call, maybe to conduct a meeting, to prepare a paper, and to think and talk on their feet. Here members enjoyed the hospitality of each others homes, exchanged recipes, learned better preservation of food by canning, etc., attended sewing courses, millinery and other helpful gatherings.

Membership grew and during the years of World War I ninety women belonged and combined the Institute with Red Cross work. Meetings had to be held in a hall, the old Temperance Hall, Town Hall or the dining room of the recently destroyed United Church Hall.

In 1932 the first Life Membership was conferred—Mrs. Frank Mather received it for 25 years unselfish service. North Gower was a Banner Branch in the year 1920 with Mrs. John Seabrook, President and Mrs. Wesley Montgomery, Secretary-Treasurer.

It is to be greatly regretted that the earliest records of the Branch disappeared when the Library moved from the old Temperance Hall but a splendid account written by Mrs. Wesley Seabrook is preserved in the Tweedsmuir History Book.

The Institute supported the Library with a \$50.00 donation for many years. The Library opened before 1900.

Life Memberships have since been given to Mrs. Fred Graham, Mrs. Ralph Jago, Mrs. Horace Seabrook, Mrs. H. A. Wallace, Mrs. William Hodgins and Mrs. Leonard Allen.

We have reached our 70th year of activity.

What will our Branch be like in another 70 years?

ROSENEATH 70TH Anniversary cake was cut by Mrs. Steward Atkinson, oldest living member and Mrs. Clifford Leach daughter of first President. Former members and friends enjoyed an historical sketch of the branch activities and history presented by Mrs. John Webb, District President. The first project undertaken by the Branch in 1907 was "cutting and fitting a pattern."