

Workshops, courses, donations for Juniors

VILLA NOVA

Octoberfest — Women's Institute Style was Villa Nova JWI's first prize entry in the Norfolk County Fair last fall. Members were particularly proud of this accomplishment because the branch is only two years-old.

Villa Nova JWI and Villa Nova WI joined forces last summer for the annual community weiner roast and in June, the JWI members helped to celebrate Long Point WI's 33rd birthday.

To salute International Youth Year, Villa Nova JWI organized a skate and lasagna night for young people in the area. After an hour ice skating, everyone returned to the community centre for food and fun.

Earlier in the year, Villa Nova JWI donated \$50 to the Ronald McDonald House in London.

LUCKNOW

Hosting a Hallowe'en Party for local youth was the way Lucknow Junior Women's Institute celebrated International Youth Year. A haunted house, costume judging and cash prizes for various classes provided the highlights of the party. Although quite a bit of time had to be spent on

decorations and treats, Lucknow JWI members report it was all worth it!

In December, members were busy with other community work. Entertaining senior citizens with Christmas carols, readings and a skit provided some fun while a few days later, members prepared Christmas hampers for the needy.

HOWICK

Howick JWI organized four special activities in conjunction with International Youth Year.

At Christmas, each member was responsible for filling a stocking for a teenage boy or girl, to be distributed by the Salvation Army.

The branch sponsored a babysitting course in the fall and a family Hallowe'en Dance was held. At the November meeting, the topic was streetproofing your children and the meeting was open to everyone in the community.

NORTH GREY

A variety of activities and events have kept North Grey JWI members busy.

Last spring, the branch hosted the District #3 meeting, which featured

workshops on microwave cooking, sexuality in children, menopause, streetproofing your children, premenstrual tension and successful dressing.

In the summer, a representative of the Owen Sound Children's Aid Society showed the film *Loved, Honoured and Bruised* and talked about the battered home environment and shelters available.

For International Youth Year, the branch donated money to Rotary Camp, Boy Scout Camp, Girl Guide Camp, Junior Library, Bicycle Rodeo, Participation Lodge and Big Sisters.

HASTINGS

Members learned about autism from David Cody, director of a home for autistic children in Thomasburg. Mr. Cody explained what autistic means and talked about the program he offers to autistic children.

At the end of the meeting, the branch donated money for the continuation of the work at the home.

Hastings JWI members are preparing for the 1986 International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Show, to be held in Hastings County in September.

Karen enjoys being a Junior

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A Niagara Regional Police officer visited the branch in June 1985 to talk about the perils of drugs and alcohol in the schools. The Niagara District JWI also heard from insurance representatives and a lawyer during the fall. The lawyer discussed the importance of writing a will and property legislation. A session on organizing personal finances was also sponsored by the group. Several members also took advantage of an opportunity to learn about computers during a fall tour of Niagara College in Welland.

The last major project of 1985 was a Christmas party entitled "Santa's Late Summer Delight" which saw members barbecuing steaks in December!

Plans for 1986 include a program featuring the "Kids on the Block" puppet company, whose aim is to make children more aware of what it's like to be disabled. The Niagara

District JWI plans to make a donation to the performers to assist with their future work.

Indeed, a major focus of the branch during 1986-87 will be to raise funds for the handicapped.

Mrs. Lajeunesse says she's learned many things during her five-year affiliation with the Niagara District JWI. "One of the best things I've learned is Parliamentary Procedure.

I think I've also gained fund-raising and public relations experience and have developed organizational skills. I've gotten a lot of satisfaction out of my involvement with the JWI. I really enjoy being a member," she says.

The JWI group wasted no time in getting the ball rolling in 1985 as they sponsored a series of three wise money management courses during January and February. The courses were conducted by Carol Pupo, a Rural Organization Specialist with OMAF.

In May, 1985, the Niagara District JWI entertained five local FWIO and two JWIO branches. The guest speaker was Elsie Spear of "Color and You" in Fort Erie. Later in May, several of the Niagara District JWI members attended the annual spring meetings in Cayuga, hosted by Haldimand JWI.



Karen Lajeunesse looks through her JWI branch's scrapbook.