

a hotel with an unsavoury reputation. The Hotel was boycotted and the village was named for the Ramsays. Currently, Ramsayville donate to the public speaking competitions in Ramsayville Public School and actively support WI projects.

METCALFE

Established in 1929, Metcalfe WI were hostesses for an exciting visit by Lady Tweedsmuir in the summer of 1938. With her RCMP escort and lady-in-waiting, the Governor-General's wife was met by a huge crowd since all district branches were invited and schools closed for the day. Gracious and friendly, Lady Tweedsmuir encouraged institute members to preserve the history of their community and shook hands with everyone present.

Recently, Metcalfe WI with neighboring Kenmore WI, sponsored a microwave demonstration which was so successful that the hall was packed to the rafters. Members collect and send paperback books to a school in Zimbabwe. Until the Metcalfe ladies donated these books, none were available.

KENMORE

Organized on 18 April 1935, Kenmore WI provided socials, concerts, plays and music which were the important, and often only, cultural activities for village women. As well, members bought furniture, dishes, a piano and other necessities for Kenmore Village Hall which is a historical building. Built by the Ancient Order of Foresters, the hall was rented by the Institute for \$2 an evening.

When regional government came into existence the hall's future was threatened, but two members, along with a local attorney, were able to preserve it. Rented to the Institute for 99 years at \$1 a year, the hall continues to provide a home for local activities such as card parties, quilting and cooking courses.

In bicentennial year, the small but dynamic branch helped organize a very successful Kenmore Day celebration, including a parade, sports and entertainment. To raise funds for the Osgoode Township Care Centre



Here's the executive of Carleton East District. From left to right, Jennie Craig, immediate past president; Heather Bellinger, president; Win Chandler, secretary; Anna Mussell, past president; and Kay Johnston, first vice president.

(a much needed home for the sick and elderly), members presented an Irish evening with stew, entertainment by local people, jokes, songs and a story — all in their own hall.

VERNON

Founded in 1912, Vernon WI was one of the first branches formed in the district. This branch has always provided excellent leadership in the community and has had an average membership of 25 or more throughout, with a membership of both old and young women. They contributed to war efforts in both wars, sponsored 4-H and many short courses from the beginning and still do. They have sponsored one fosterchild in Bolivia and one in Indonesia for over ten years, and installed the first sidewalks in Vernon.

The Vernon ladies cater to many weddings and community functions. Every year they invite other branches and the general public to hear an interesting guest speaker. They try hard to keep up with the times and remember as institute members to be true to the heritage left by the great ladies of the past. Vernon WI has supplied several members to serve on district executives including the present district president, Mrs. Heather Bellinger.

KARS

One of the oldest branches, Kars WI was formed in 1912. A picturesque village on the Rideau River, Kars was settled in the 1820's.

Justifiably proud of their 12 volume Tweedsmuir History, Kars WI was responsible for the installation of street lights. But one villager was indignant because the newly-installed light shone in his bedroom window. The ladies had it removed. It is also recorded that members carried live chickens to a benefit to replace those lost in a fire.

A member of Kars WI, Mrs. Doris Craig served at all levels of WI up to provincial level. The death in 1985 of this admired and dedicated member was a loss to the district as well as to her branch.

OSGOODE

Osgoode Branch was organized on 27 Jan. 1932 after a class of ladies took a short course. So enthusiastic were the Osgoode ladies that the branch was chartered that evening and one life member was never late nor missed a meeting in 25 years.

The mainstay of the village in early years, the institute loaned out sick-room supplies, dishes and silverware, donated oil lamps to the library as

continued on page 16