

WI volunteers at ag museum

1987 marks the second season that Women's Institute members have participated in a volunteer program at the Ontario Agricultural Museum, Milton. In 1986 about 25 volunteers participated, while over 35 are registered this year.

A WI Hall committee was struck in 1985 with members coming from within the WI and the museum. This committee, chaired by FWIO Public Relations Officer Rena Cunningham, is responsible for co-ordinating the volunteer project.

Women's Institute members from branches located near the museum site were encouraged to participate in the program. 1987 volunteers are members from Halton and Wellington.

Volunteers act as interpreters in the 1928 WI Hall during special events and on days when bus groups are scheduled to tour the site. Their responsibilities involve informing the public of the role of the Women's Institute organization as well as the function of the restored hall. Since the hall is refurbished to represent a 1928 community hall in which a De-

Dorene Collins



partment of Agriculture sewing class has taken place, the volunteers are encouraged to demonstrate the treadle sewing machines to visitors.

On May 15, a training session was held at the museum for the volunteers. In addition to a historical review

of the WI, background information regarding the museum and a site tour, the highlight of the day was a panel discussion between WI members and summer staff.

In conclusion, the Women's Institute will continue to play a major role in the positive development of both rural and urban community life. We at the museum are proud of our WI volunteers!

Dorene Collins is the promotions and public relations co-ordinator at the Ontario Agricultural Museum.



The Volunteers

Two emergency resolutions

Two emergency resolutions were sustained at the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) semi-annual board meeting.

WHEREAS the Government of Canada plans to close many rural post offices; and

WHEREAS increased distances to post offices for supplies and mailing will create hardships particularly for the elderly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Prime Minister and the Postmaster General be informed that the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario oppose the proposed closing of post offices in rural areas.

WHEREAS waste disposal is becoming an increasingly important problem across Ontario; and

WHEREAS there are several existing landfill sites being filled to capacity, and prime agricultural lands are being considered as alternate sites;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario oppose the use of agricultural lands classed I — IV as waste disposal sites and that this opposition be voiced to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the

Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

As a result of the discussion regarding the above resolution on waste disposal, members were encouraged to investigate recycling depots in their communities.

FWIO resolutions...

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CONCERN OVER THE PRINCIPLE OF RATE RE-BALANCING FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE

In response to our letter and resolution to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), informing them that our organization disagrees with the principle of rate rebalancing, Andrew Durocher, Director of Applications and Telecommunications assured us

our comments would be included on the public record and will be taken into consideration by the commission during the process of evaluating Bell Canada's rate rebalancing submissions. Furthermore, our name will be added to the list of people who will receive a copy of the minister's decision. The final hearing will be held starting Oct. 27, 1987.

Charlotte Johnson in FWIO Past President and Ontario Resolutions Convener.