

HOME & Country

A magazine for rural women

Home & Country is a publication for rural women's groups in Ontario. It is published by the Rural Organizations and Services Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Home & Country has two objectives.

1. To provide a communications link between rural women's groups in Ontario.

2. To provide educational material relating to organizational and individual leadership development.

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Front Cover

Women's Institute members of Norfolk North and South Districts participated in a train-the-trainer microwave course offered by the two districts this winter. A local microwave specialist was hired to write the course and then teach it to interested representatives from the branches.

Ten of a possible 20 branches each sent two representatives to the workshop to learn new techniques and how to make the most of their microwaves. Thirty dishes were prepared by the participants, then eaten for lunch. Later, the women received tips for teaching the course to their branches, as well as recipe books and other microwave ideas to pass on to members.

The course was well received by participants. More courses may be offered in the future.

Pictured on our cover (from left to right) are Vera Good, Ruth Vetz and course leader Muriel Mullins. (Photo courtesy of Helen Young)

Editorial

Two questions

By Carol Stewart-Kirkby

During the last month or so, I have received letters from several readers asking two very pertinent questions. I am sure many of you are asking yourselves these same two questions, so I will attempt to answer them here.

1. Why isn't Home & Country printed on recyclable paper?

We are currently at the end of a printing contract which stipulates paper stock. This summer, the contract will expire and it is my plan to seek a recyclable stock for the next printing contract. Readers should expect to see Home & Country on uncoated paper this fall.

Also, I would like to investigate the possibility of printing on paper made from recycled materials. I will be attending a workshop hosted by paper merchant Buntin Gillies later this spring, to find out more about these papers. Most of them are made from 50 to 60 per cent recycled material.

I would also like to add a special note of thanks here. There are always extra magazines for every issue. Two people at the Guelph Agriculture Centre have steadily been taking these extras to be recycled in Halton where coated paper is accepted in the recycling program. Thanks to Winnifred Notton and Carol Murphy for their help in this matter.

2. Why was the last issue of Home & Country so late?

From October to March, I was on maternity leave. During that time Janine Roelens-Grant worked two days a week editing Home & Country and our other quarterly magazine, The Enthusiast. Since I normally work five days a week, this created a backlog.

To address the situation, the Dec. Jan. issue of Home & Country was extended to include Feb., and this issue has been extended to include May. There will be a June and July issue. Then we will be caught up.

I appreciate the concern and frustration this situation causes. I am trying not to include information which will quickly be out-of-date. May I suggest if your branch has not received an issue of the magazine, please write to me at the address on this page. Sometimes, readers wait up to two years to contact us about missed magazines. Please write as soon as possible so we can get the magazines off to your group. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

This is the first Home & Country I have edited since I returned from my leave. I was struck by the number of interesting articles submitted by readers. You will notice as you read through this issue many bylines belonging to readers. Keep up the input!