

North Tarentorus WI

On October 18, 2011, Members and guests of North Tarentorus WI (North Central Area) visited the Martel Alpaca Farm north of Bruce Mines. Over 100 alpacas of all sizes and colours entertained the group with their friendly, funny ways. Back in the barn, the owner explained the shirring process and demonstrated the art of separating fibre according to colour, length and quality. In the farmhouse, participants viewed and purchased the many attractive and varied alpaca fibre products. It was a fun and informative day on the farm!



Pictured above: North Tarentorus WI Member, Ingrid Schmidt, looks at a variety of alpacas.

Beamsville WI

Every February, Beamsville WI (Hamilton Area) holds a Craft Day (ROSE Session) during WI Week to commemorate the founding of the Women's Institute. Last year, Members and guests were shown how to stitch together squares of a quilt and, this year, the Branch and community members joined together once again, learning how to tie surgical knots. On this day, they finished the tying stage of their quilt. It will soon be completed, with the intention of donating it to an injured soldier through the organization, Quilts of Valour. The names of those who have worked on it are noted on a piece sewn onto the back of the quilt.



Gowanstown Peace WI

Gowanstown Peace Women's Institute (Guelph Area) held a ROSE Session in October with a guest speaker from CNIB. She spoke about the work



done by the organization, common vision problems and how they can help clients. She also demonstrated many aids that are available. A time for questions and interaction with the guest speaker followed. Kim Lowry of Listowel entertained the Branch, singing two songs accompanied with her auto-harp. Kim, who is blind, was thanked by Ruth Nuhn and was presented with a gift. Diane Bender recognized International Day of Rural Women. Since the "World Conference on Women" in Beijing, China in 1995, every October 15th the Branch recognizes the critical role and contribution of rural and indigenous women in enhancing agriculture and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty. Thirty volunteer hours were devoted to this ROSE Session.

Pictured above: There were 9 WI Members and 11 non-Members present at this ROSE Session.



Pictured above: (L-R) tying the quilt, are Anne Stolys, Barbara Stones, Virginia Blackman, Margaret Romagnoli and Swadesh Sachdeva.