

110 years and counting



You're Invited!

The Kemble Women's Institute, now one of the oldest active Women's Institutes in the world is celebrating the 110th birthday on Tuesday September 11, 2007 and all WI Members across the province are invited!

A commemorative, one -of -a -kind cairn will be constructed in honour of the founder Mrs. Clara Gardner, the pioneer members and all Members who have passed on. A tree will also be planted in loving memory of all those members.

Mrs. Gardner served as President for the first ten years and went on to assist other communities in Grey County organize WI Branches. Gardner was one of the eminent women in Grey County - cut from the same cloth as two famous Grey County Women - Agnes MacPhail, Canada's first woman Member of Parliament and Nellie McClung, noted Canadian Women's rights activist.

The cairn will be placed on a one-acre piece of land at the corner of Grey Road 1 and the start of Island View Drive (a half mile south of Kemble and 10 miles north of Owen Sound). It's to be named "The Women's Institute Lookout/Parkette".

There is an absolutely beautiful view from the site looking down across the green farm fields down onto Sutherlands old farmhouse and red barn. Then out to the panoramic view of the blue waters of Georgian Bay and the escarpment across on the East Bayshore and out to Vails Point. Visitors and locals alike will enjoy pulling their car into the site, parking in one of the six parking spots to enjoy the view, sitting on the bench nearby or having a picnic at the picnic table. It will be a special site - a little gem in the County and the Township's co-ordinated roadside park system.

The Governor General of Canada, Michaëlle Jean, has been invited to officiate at the Cairn Dedication and to attend the luncheon ceremonies at the breathtaking new Clubhouse Inn at the new Cobble Beach Golf Links development, half a mile down the road from the Lookout/Parkette.

The project is a co-operative venture between the Kemble Women's Institute, the Municipality of Georgian Bluffs and The County of Grey. The Trillium Foundation of Ontario has kindly granted \$15,000 towards the cairn and the bronze plaque(s).

Members of the Organizing Committee are WI President Marie Lamont, Vice President Freda Henry, Secretary Beth Graham, Treasurer Cory McQuigge, member-at-large Sandy Houlgrave and Keith Davidson, friend of the Kemble WI.

If you would like to attend the luncheon and dedication ceremonies please call Beth Graham at 519-376-6840 no later than August 31st. Luncheon tickets are \$20.

Lakelet WI, Guelph Area

The Lakelet WI hosted a celebration of the 110th Birthday of Women's Institutes in Fordwich in February. Participants enjoyed a light lunch, a guest speaker and a skit performed by WI Members. Photo from L-R Irene Judge - ROSE Coordinator, Patty Pizziola - ROSE Program Manager, Andrea Morrison - ROSE Program Assistant and Isabella Hislop - Lakelet WI President.



Fun and Festivities

Windemere WI (Northern, Area) had a fantastic 110th birthday party in February celebrating, meeting former WI Members, eating, playing games, having many laughs and simply enjoying themselves. According to Member Dianne Annette, "it really helped to wash away the February blahs". The Bracebridge Examiner sent a photographer to take some photos and interview some of the longest serving Members in the Branch.

