

By Rosemary Moran

Looking at the geography of our province, it is very difficult to say that we had a mild winter, but in my corner of the province, it was a mild one. I'm sure there are people who won't agree, but that's what makes our province so exciting. Today, the robins are here and the sun is shining, bringing new growth and hope to all.

Since my election in January, I have had to get used to the idea that a Member of our small Mapleview Branch in Northumberland East District is the new Provincial President. It is a stimulating thought and I will serve FWIO to the best of my ability.

The Spring season is a busy time with the April Provincial Board meeting and the District Annuals, as well as other exciting events.

To keep this in perspective, I would like to remind everyone that our organization consists of dedicated volunteers, and like the "energizer bunny" we never quit working for our WI. The dictionary describes a volunteer as a person who performs or gives services of his or her own free will. That certainly describes WI Members. In my term of office, I will give my services to WI even though time restraints may guide my commitments.

Our ROSE Program is one of our strong initiatives in our organization, and we are noticing that ROSE is becoming more



Northumberland East District hosted a Congratulatory Tea for Rosemary at the Codrington Community Hall. About 125 people attended including many WI Members, community members and local dignitaries. Everyone enjoyed the sandwiches and sweets provided by the 9 Branches in the District. There was a lot of hard work and enthusiasm put into organizing this event and every one who participated should be applauded on a wonderful job!

exciting each year, with addition of new partners. Patty and her team are constantly developing new contacts and programs. It is of utmost importance that the information that the Branches receive, concerning the ROSE Program or any other WI information, is read at your meetings. The Provincial Office and the ROSE Program are working together to keep the ideals of WI fresh and inviting to encourage new membership.

I will be attending the FWIC conference in Red Deer, Alberta, in June and hope to see many FWIO members in attendance.

Our Provincial Conference in London in August is a great opportunity to support our FWIO and have an exciting and learning experience. Hope to see you in London.

As you read this issue of our provincial newsletter, I hope that new growth has arrived in your gardens as well as your WI Branches and you have a successful year in WI.

Yours in WI,  
Rosemary