

FWIO Executive Officer Report

By Arthena Hecker

FWIC Launches New Project

The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) are launching a new project early in 2005. After much discussion, including a workshop, a project was chosen - Adopt a Northern Community. The title of the project is "FWIC-Into the North." A community will be chosen and they are to provide input and a "wish list" of what is required in their community (i.e. supply child care center). A flyer or information sheet on the project is being prepared to distribute to provinces for them to forward to their Branches. Watch for further information about this exciting new venture for WI.

FWIC Life Memberships

Do you know of anyone who received a Life Membership from FWIC? The Life Membership records have been lost. Please send any information - i.e. name, Branch, date received, etc. to Arthena Hecker at the address below.

Watkins Products for Sale

Do you use Watkins Products? You can assist FWIC in raising funds by ordering from Watkins and quoting account #334237.

FWIC 25 Year Pins

FWIC has a number of 25 Year Pins. You may order these from their office for \$4. These are old stock but are quite attractive. If you are interested contact the FWIC office at P.O. Box 209, 359 Blue Lake Road, St. George ON N0E 1N0, Phone: 519-448-3873, Fax: 519-448-3506, Email: fwic@bellnet.ca

Arthena Hecker is the FWIO Executive Officer to FWIC. She can be reached at

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Past President's Competition

Essay - Title

Where are we going? Directions to the 21st Century

Guidelines

- 500 words minimum to 1000 words maximum
- double spaced on 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- typewritten

Content

- your vision for Women's Institutes
- outline the direction/course - how do we get there, including the methods to obtain your vision
- conclusion - what will happen when we get there

Presentation

- pages to be enclosed in a blue duo tang cover
- entrant's name, address and Branch are to be enclosed in an envelope and attached to the inside back cover

Category A - new members with less than 5 years of membership

Category B - members with over 5 years of membership

Essays will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. Essays will be judged in each of the provinces first. There will be one winner only from each province for each category that is sent on to the national level. The date and address for the national entry will be sent to the provincial offices at a later date. The final judging will be done prior to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) 2006 Convention. Cash prizes will be awarded.

International Report

By Christine Reaburn

Exchange Planned with Women's National Farm & Garden

The FWIO Board accepted an invitation from the New York Division of the Women's National Farm & Garden (WNFG) for ten Ontario members to visit them during the week of August 22 to 28, 2005. They have proposed a visit of three nights and four days. Members will be hosted in the homes of members in "Upstate" New York. The WNFG are planning activities that reflect the lifestyles of their general membership. The written submission deadline is March 30, 2005. The first ten submissions received at the Provincial Office will comprise the group of ten Ontario members who participate in this exchange. In 2006 Ontario will host members from New York and Ontario members would visit New York again in 2007, etc.

Host Families Wanted

Would you like to host a member of the Michigan Association for Family and Community Education (MAFCE) this summer? This International Exchange began in 1999 and this year Michigan members will be visiting Ontario. These visitors are interested in learning about the Women's Institute, your community and the province of Ontario. In return, they will tell you about their organization, community and state.

If you are interested in hosting a Michigan member, please contact the FWIO Provincial Office for an Application Form for Host Families for this International Exchange. Or watch for an upcoming Branch mailing. The application deadline is March 30, 2005.

Christine Reaburn is the outgoing FWIO International Officer. She can be reached at:

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