Cross Country Happenings

Balsam Hill WI, Renfrew South, Eastern Area



Karen and Ray Pender were selected Citizens of the Year for the Township of Admaston-Bromley in 2004. The couple has been involved in the Renfrew County agricultural community for years. Karen, a member of the Balsam Hill Women's Institute Branch, has held all offices at the Branch level and is the Past President of Renfrew South District.

Submitted by Cheryl Barber.

Glen Gowrie WI, Perth South, London Area



Gwen Christie, a Charter Lifetime Member of the Glen Gowrie Women's Institute, is shown displaying some of the dolls and doll clothes she made for the London Children's Hospital. Submitted by Bonnie Harmer, Secretary

Minesing WI, Simcoe Centre, Simcoe Area



This group recently recognized many of their accomplishments over the years, as well as many of their dedicated members. Members were responsible for initiating a circulating library in their community in 1908 and establishing the Vespra Township Library in 1943. They have contributed financially to a number of causes, including the Minesing Library, Community Centre, pavilion, rink and cemetery, as well as the Royal Victoria Hospital and the Simcoe County Museum. The group has contributed to numerous village improvements and has provided leadership for 4-H Clubs for many years.

Numerous members were presented with 25 Year Pins. Shown from left to right are Heather Smeding. Helen Maynard, Phyllis Schaefer, Catherine Kennedy, Mary Downey, Joann Hubbert. Isabel Downey, Jean Adams, Linda Van Rassel, Grace Adams, Blanche Thew. Gladys Noble, Christa VanderVelden Connie Adams, Heather Dickson and Betty Lettelier.

Submitted by Phyllis Schaefer.

Allanburg WI, Niagara. Hamilton Area

Three members from the Allanburg Women's Institute received their 50 Year Pins. Congratulations to Jean Egerter, June Egerter and Caroline Yungblut for their years of dedication to the WI.

River Road WI, Elgin County, London Area



This Branch recently honoured two long-time members, Velma Campbell (left) and Lillian Ross (center). Branch President Cathy Cook (right) presented the women with 60 Year Pins. Velma was instrumental in helping to set an Auxiliary for the Elgin County Long Term Care Facility. Each year, Velma hosted a Summer Tea attended by both WI members and the community. Lillian was recognized for her involvement with the Elgin County Pioneer Museum. Her interest in history and her expertise at documenting has enabled her to write articles for presentations at special events and for publication locally. Both Velma and Lillian actively participated in the restoration of a local family cemetery three decades ago, which is still maintained by the River Road WI. Submitted by Geraldine Munro.

Tincap WI, Leeds, Kingston Area



This quilt created by members of the Tincap Women's Institute was the result of the group's efforts at learning appliqué. Once everyone had finished their individual squares, they were assembled into a quilt, which was then donated to a local nursing home. The group has since decided to make more quilts to give to other nursing homes. Holding the quilt are the Branch President Grace Leclaire (right) and the Secretary Francine Cottrell (left) Submitted by Francine Cottrell, Secretary