

Russell Village WI, Russell, Eastern Area

Russell Village WI member Florence McCaffery was presented a 50 Year Pin last year by District members Frankie Higginson, Mary Inglis and Ina Henry.

Severn Bridge WI, Simcoe East, Simcoe Area

This Branch has a full roster of activities planned each year, which include a Health Fair, a Christmas party with Santa and a Home Fair. They believe that these activities not only enrich their community, they keep the WI visible and encourage its membership to flourish.

Oakcrest WI, Norfolk, Hamilton Area

Last year, this group enjoyed a tour of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead in St. George. After a short meeting at the home, four members were presented with service pins - Helen Cattel - 60 years, Ruth Uetz - 50 years, Lorraine Chanda - 40 years and Corrie Slangen - 30 years. Others who were not present but received pins, included Mary Ludwig, Margaret Snowden and Aileen Blayney for 50 years and Elin Schuyler for 30 years.

Renfrew District WI, Eastern Area

Each year the Renfrew District organizes a Quilt and Craft Exhibition and Luncheon. Last year's event was held at the Orange Hall in Forester's Falls. The popular event was held in conjunction with the Ross Museum Country Garden Tour.

Waterloo District WI, Guelph Area

The gardens that surround the Mountview Women's Institute Hall at the Milton Heritage Museum were cared for last year by Waterloo District WI members. The soil was replenished, plants and shrubs were moved and draught resistant flowers were added. The gardeners were pleased with the season's efforts.

Bridgeport WI, Waterloo, Guelph Area

A local pharmacist, Paul Schaub, spoke to the Bridgeport WI last fall about the use of medication in the treatment of disease and the role of the pharmacist in dispensing medication. At a special Christmas gathering, members Beatrice Ziegler and Erma Drudge received their Life Memberships and Ruby Gillespie was presented a Certificate of Merit for 30 years of service.

Warwick WI, Lambton North, Southwestern Area

Members from this Branch organized a fun day in Paris, Ontario that is! Three vanloads toured the city and shopped and were then hosted by the Whiteman's Creek WI for lunch.

Bethesda-Reach WI, Ontario, Central Area

Bethesda-Reach WI members Barbara Evans and Corinne Croxall presented a copy of *Heart and Soul*, the story of the community of Bethesda in Reach Township, to Uxbridge Public Library's Chief Librarian Stephen Whelan. Member Edna Meyers presented the library with the microfilm records from the former Ontario North District WI.

Lambton North and South District WIs, Southwestern Area

For the past several years, the Lambton Districts have had a food booth at the Lambton Seniors' Information Fair, a two-day event sponsored by the Seniors' Association and the Bank of Nova Scotia. This past year, over \$700 in proceeds were donated to the Lambton County Women's Institute Scholarship Fund.

Aurora WI, York Central, Central Area

Last November, members of the Aurora Women's Institute presented their homemade hand puppets of firemen and Dalmation dogs to local firefighters to give to children hurt in fires. They also presented the puppets to the Pediatric Ward of the Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket.

Rosedene WI, Lincoln, Hamilton Area

This group held their Annual Christmas Bazaar at the Silverdale Hall last November. A great selection of handmade crafts, specialty gift baskets and baked goods and treats were available for early shoppers. Tickets were sold on a basket of gourmet items. Also, in celebration of Christmas, members and their spouses enjoyed a catered roast beef and chicken dinner, followed by a mystery of "Who Did It?"

Subdivision 11 WIs

The Districts of Wellington Centre, Wellington South and Halton, which comprise Subdivision 11, celebrated several Branch achievements in their area, some of which included erecting a sign in one community, helping with a Breakfast Program at a local school, gathering for a 100th anniversary celebration and planting a tree at a township office.

Central Ontario Area

Through the generosity of a benefactor, Bruce Milton Lloyd, the Central Ontario Area was able to present two bursaries last October. Each student - Courtney Peeters and Chantal Prasad - received a \$100 cheque and a copy of *For Home and Country: The Centennial History of the Women's Institutes in Ontario*.

Kent District WI, Southwestern Area

Kent District Women's Institute members and friends thoroughly enjoyed a time of fellowship at the Victoria Tea, Bring & Buy Sale held at the South Raleigh WI Hall. Through donations for tea and homemade scones and the sale of crafts, baked goods, preserves and fresh vegetables, the District's Scholarship Fund received more than a \$500 boost.

The District would like to report how proud they are of member Marg Eberle from the Palmyra Branch, who was elected to the Chatham/Kent Municipal Council. Currently, Marg is Chair of the Southwestern Area, Past President of the District and she completed her term as FWIO Executive Officer to FWIC last June.

Waters WI, Sudbury, North Central Area

Members of this Branch celebrated World Rural Women's Day by having a guest speaker attend their regular monthly meeting. Mrs. Horst, a Mennonite woman from Southern Ontario, answered many questions about her life. Now widowed, she and her husband raised six children on their farm near Waterloo. They kept a dairy herd and raised and sold horses. She made many quilts in a room over the barn and continues to do so. She still maintains a large garden, although there is no longer any livestock on the farm. Mrs. Horst also talked about her prayer hat and about her mode of dress. Following her presentation, members participated in an in-house sale with the proceeds going to the Alzheimer's Society.

Stormont District WI, Eastern Area

The Stormont District hosted a Christmas Workshop, with Allison Murray who demonstrated the various culinary delights of the season. Sharon



Duprau made the festive wreaths and table decorations. Allison is holding a Swedish tea ring which she donated along with the gingerbread house. The two items were raffled to raise money for the Stormont District Scholarship Fund.

Submitted by Sandra MacMillan, PRO.