

On Your Behalf

By Dianne Orr



Another season has gone by all too quickly! Where did the summer go? Summer never seems to last long, especially to those who enjoy gardening and various outdoor activities. But for many of us autumn holds a special time of year in our hearts. It is a time to reflect on our lives and enjoy those rare warm sunny days that begin with a hint of frost in the early morning air.

I wish to extend a sincere thank you to FWIO President-Elect Elsie Stephenson for representing me at the National Convention in Lennoxville, Quebec, in June. And a "huge hug" to members in Ontario for participating in the second phase of the "Focus High for WI" project. The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) were both surprised and pleased with your generous donation to the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. Elsie Stephenson presented the cheque to

FWIC President Faye Mayberry during the national Convention.

The 100th Anniversary of the Macdonald Institute at the University of Guelph was also celebrated in June. A Victorian Tea was held throughout the afternoon of June 21, with tea and cake being served by Women's Institute members dressed in period costumes.

At the same time, FWIO Board Directors served punch in the newly created Adelaide Hoodless Garden. In spite of the hot day, "Mac Hall" alumni and many others enjoyed the light refreshments and garden tour. A special thank you to Guelph Area President Cindi Rabstein who chaired the committee for this event.

The FWIO Provincial Board of Directors held their summer meeting from August 18 - 21, 2003. On the 17th we had the pleasure of attending the closing performance of the 4th Line Theatre production of *For Home and Country*. Each Board Director paid for her ticket and felt it was well worth the price of admission. This trip was a great introduction to our two-day budget meet-

ing that was followed by a two-day board meeting. Members can be proud of their Board Directors for the well-informed representation that comes to these meetings.

As I write this message, it is raining, again! The farmers are having a difficult time with their annual harvest. But they are thankful for their many blessings when they read about the difficulties in other parts of the world. A heartfelt thank you to those who sent best wishes during my recovery from my recent accident. People tend to take things for granted until something like that happens in one's life. Never underestimate the true sense of caring and friendship in our "circle bright." I am eager to meet many of you once again as I attend the annual Area Conventions this fall.

"Remember, life is like a bank. You can't take out what you haven't put in."

On your behalf,
Dianne Orr

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Macdonald Institute Centenary Celebrations



Anniversary Tea

This year the Macdonald Institute at the University of Guelph celebrated its centennial. The Women's Institute has had a close association with the Macdonald Institute as they share a common founder in Adelaide Hoodless. At the request of the University's committee planning the 100th anniversary activities, the FWIO organized a Heritage Tea for June 21, 2003. Tea and coffee was served from silver tea services and urns by WI members dressed in period costumes. In addition to a cup of tea, visitors and guests enjoyed a tour of the newly created Adelaide Hoodless Garden.

On behalf of FWIO, President Dianne Orr received an award from the University in recognition of Adelaide's efforts in gathering the funding that helped build the Macdonald Institute. Many thanks were extended to the Heritage Tea Planning Committee members Myrtle Reid, Mildred Lang,

Eve Robson, Lili Lockhart and Chair Cindi Rabstein.
Submitted by Cindi Rabstein,
President, Guelph Area.



FWIO Board Director Joy Trimble, Glenna Ladell and Joan Folkard (standing, left to right) are shown with Heritage Tea Planning Committee member Eve Robson (far right) and Chair Cindi Rabstein (seated).

"Remembering the Past - Embracing the Future"



To honour the 100th Anniversary of the Macdonald Institute at the University of Guelph, Halton District WI member Peggy Knapp wrote and directed a pageant. "The Story of Macdonald Institute," beginning with the instrumental role Adelaide played in its formation. The pageant was presented at the Gala Celebration Dinner on June 21, 2003. Eight members from the Halton District WI and one from Wellington South acted out various roles illustrating the past 100 years. Standing from left to right are Mary Jane Wingfield, Elisabeth Treviranus, Annemarie McDonald, Eve Martin, Gwen Brander, Emma Hasson and Marion McPhail. Seated, left to right, are Joan Matheson and Verna Bird.

Submitted by Annemarie McDonald, Tweedsmuir Curator, Halton District, Guelph Area.