Cross Country Happenings

Prescott District WIs, Eastern Area

The Branches in Prescott District – Cassburn, Green Lane, Hill View, Lookout Bay, Plantagenet, Sunshine and Stardale - enjoyed a year of varied educational programs. Some of their program topics included:

- twinning with Prince Edward Island
- touring a local horse and ostrich farm
- viewing and then discussing a video on wild edibles and a video on the "Famous Five"
- a discussion led by the area's Health Unit about water and rural wells
- author Bernice Gold speaking about her teaching experiences in northern Ontario
- a celebration of the Queen's Jubilee with a display of souvenirs and stories
- visiting a bed and breakfast
- a presentation about natural health, skin care and cosmetic products
- a discussion about the care and maintenance of Adelaide Hoodless rose bushes, which each member obtained
- a tour of the Lost Village, which consists of buildings and artifacts lost as a result of the flooding to create the St. Lawrence Seaway
- speakers from Ducks Unlimited, a local nature society about efforts to save the Alfred Bog and a volunteer firefighter about home security
- a trip to Upper Canada Playhouse in Morrisburg
- a potluck supper, which included family and friends

Woolwich Everfaithful WI, Waterloo, Guelph Area

Members of this Branch learned about the different levels of the Women's Institute organization. Several well-informed members were happy to discuss the role of FWIO, FWIC and ACWW to an eager young reporter, who seemed overwhelmed by the organization's accomplishments. Although the reporter and newspaper was mythical, the information relayed to her was true and enlightening.

Renfrew North District WIs, Eastern Area

The Branches in Renfrew North – Greenwood, Alice, Laurentian View, Queen's Line, Snake River and Beachburg - organized a variety of programs in the past several months, including:

- purchasing toys and clothing at Christmas for a needy family
- Bird Watching Education by retired school teacher Jim Ferguson
- education in a Christian school by headmaster Dave Feuber
- list of rights and responsibilities of all Canadians and the Oath of Citizenship
- compiling treat boxes at Christmas for shut-ins and the needy
- writing reports on how to do a craft for inclusion in the Tweedsmuir History
- formation of a new Food Bank in the community of Cobden
- Meath Hill Garlic farm in the Ottawa Valley
- menu preparation for Country Haven lodge

Dundas District WI, Eastern Area



The Dundas District WI donated \$1,000 to the "Renewing the Vision" Campaign at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital. The donation represented funds raised by seven Branches. Campaign representative Betty Vanden Bosch (left) accepted the cheque from Dundas District WI President Florence Hoople (centre) and District Public Relations Officer Cathy Groves.

Submitted by Cathy Groves, PRO, Dundas District WI.
Photo courtesy of The Chesterville Record.

Centennial WI, Lennox-Addington, Kingston Area

A Celebration Tea was held to honour this Branch's oldest member, Ellen Beaton-Lebrecque. Institute members catered the Tea at her



daughter's home and presented Ellen with a corsage in the blue and gold Institute colours. Guests who attended paid for their tea and, as a tribute to Ellen's lifetime of work in the Women's Institute, the money was sent to help offset the cost of operating the FWIO Provincial Office. At 92, Ellen remains an active member whose smiling face and warm manner is an example to all.

Submitted by Fredde Clarke, Treasurer, Centennial WI.

Glen Gowrie WI, Perth South, London Area



Glen Gowrie Women's Institute member Gwen Christie proudly displays 14 crib quilts she created for the Children's Hospital in London. The children thank you Gwen!

Submitted by Bonnie Harmer, Secretary, Glen Gowrie WI.



Bluevale WI, Huron East, Guelph Area

Bluevale WI honoured long-time member Jean Mathers for her 65 years of service to the organization. Jean joined the WI in 1937 at the age of 16. She has held all offices at the Branch level and was President twice. She was also District President twice and a Provincial Board Director of FWIO from 1983 to 1986. She is proud to be a Life Member and to have received a Certificate of Merit.

Submitted by Marg Trimm, Bluevale WI. Photo courtesy of the Wingham Advance Times.