



By Cindy Lockhart

Spring has sprung! There is new growth everywhere. What better time for renewal and growth in your Branch. I hope you have all worked together to make May the best Membership Month ever. Congratulations to all those Branches who increased their membership in the past year.

Some of the key ideas that came out of the Membership Questionnaire that may help your Branch gain new members include:

- holding current, educational and interesting programs;
- offering specific services to your community (i.e. reaching out to shut-ins, etc.);
- advertising and promoting Branch activities and events;
- and most importantly, personally inviting potential new members on a continual basis.

Keep up the good work! And keep on inviting! By working together as a TEAM we will succeed and continue to grow.

Note: For complete results of the Membership Questionnaire, write to Cindy Lockhart at 736 Algonquin Dr., Midland ON L4R 4Z9, Phone: 705-527-7768, Fax: 705-527-1671, Email: lockhart@csolve.net

'Once A Year, Country Comes to the City!'

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this year's Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, November 8-17 at the National Trade Centre, Toronto!

Once again, FWIO will be participating with a new and interactive booth! We will be recruiting new members, promoting our quality education programs and selling our unique WI merchandise. We will also be presenting our Award of Excellence to a deserving woman, recognizing her dedication and contributions to the Royal. To nominate, please contact FWIO's Provincial Office for more information at 519-836-3078.

If you would like to assist at our booth this year, please contact Kelly Marshall-Rutherford for more information at 519-836-3078 or email kellymr@fwio.on.ca

It would be a great opportunity to share your personal experiences and promote your Branch contributions and accomplishments to potential members!



How Harwood WI Gained New Members



What do you hope to gain by inviting a local quilter to speak at one of your monthly WI meetings? Well, in Harwood we gained two members and it did not end there! In October 2001, we hosted our first annual quilt show with amazing results. We had over 50 quilts of every shape, size, colour and age on display.

One of our many local quilters were invited to set up a corner in the hall where people could ask questions or sign up for future classes. We also had an information table on local quilting groups and suppliers. Admission was free and we had a fabulous turnout, with many requests for another show. We not only realized a financial profit from our country store table and afternoon tea, we learned enough about quilting to want to know more about the age-old craft. Our two new members are showing us how to quilt lap covers for a local nursing home and plans are underway for our second annual show.

Harwood WI President Jan Stapleton (left) is shown doing a last minute check on the quilts with one of our new members Cindy Trew (right).

Submitted by Donna Hooley, Harwood WI, Northumberland West.

