

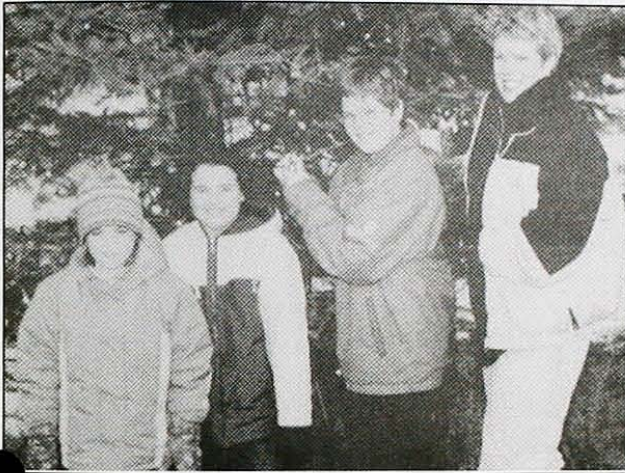
Spanish River WI, Sudbury

Spanish River members are shown with their Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes that are sent to developing countries and war-torn regions throughout the world. The boxes are filled with toys, hygiene products, school supplies, t-shirts, socks and small picture books (etc.). This group also contributes to the local food bank, knits mitts and slippers for the schools, sews turbans for cancer patients and creates teddy bears for the police to give to children who have been in an accident.

Submitted by Tina Ottokar, Tweedsmuir Curator, Spanish River WI, Sudbury.



Greenwood WI, Renfrew North



Each year, the Greenwood Women's Institute fires up its Christmas Tree, located on the corner of old Highway 17 and the Beachburg/Westmeath turnoff. Each light or bulb on the tree is purchased for \$5 and all proceeds go to help a needy family in the area. A bulb is purchased in the name of a friend or family, and then a Christmas card is sent to that party informing them of what has been done in their name. What a great fundraising idea for WI Branches to help those in need in their communities!

Photo courtesy of The Pembroke News.

Lily Dempsey WI, Perth Centre

In the company of family and friends, Lily Dempsey Women's Institute member Esther Harrow was presented with a 60 Year Pin. Congratulations Esther!

Roblin WI, Lennox & Addington

This Branch recently reviewed their numerous community activities: supplying local scholarships; donating handmade quilts to fire victims; maintaining the cemetery; participating in "Pitch In Week" by cleaning up the roadsides and park; supplying "Sunshine Boxes" to those in need; donating picnic tables, flags and flag poles to the new ball park; sponsoring a foster child in Bangladesh; and, participating in local fairs and other community events.

Pleasant View WI, Renfrew North

Several members from the Pleasant View Branch were presented with pins in honour of their years of dedication to the Women's Institute: Joan Belec - 10 Year Pin, Ora Jackson and Kathleen Goudie - 20 Year Pins, and Iris Biggs and Hildegard Fick - 30 Year Pins. Over the years this Branch has been involved in a wide range of worthy causes, including sending bales of clothing overseas, assisting senior citizens, knitting and canvassing for several organizations, placing a wreath at the Cenotaph in Pembroke, donating to the Festival of Lights, and helping in the community whenever there is a need.

Severn Bridge WI, Simcoe East



One of the highlights for this Branch this past year was their First Annual Community Tree Trimming party with Santa. Held at the Institute Hall, area children helped decorate the tree with their homemade crafts, and of course, Santa Claus was on hand to meet young and old alike.

Submitted by Heike Murdoch, Severn Bridge WI, Simcoe East.



All Aboard!



The Erland Lee Museum Home recently experienced its most successful March Break Program ever, setting a new record with more than 260 visitors. In fact, the Museum had more people during the March Break week than during the entire month of March in 2001, and a five-fold increase over the first March Break Program just three years ago. Most came to see the model train display, many for the first time. Museum Curator Michael Gemmill stands by the model railroad set up in the basement of the Lee Home.