



By
Cindy
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TEAMwork: Gaining New Members

Being a member of the Women's Institute is being part of a TEAM. We are all working together toward one goal as part of the TEAM – Together Everyone Achieves More. Our organization needs new members to grow, and we need your help!

One way to achieve growth is by everyone taking the initiative and inviting potential new members to our Branch meetings. Keep your meetings educational and interesting. And have every member personally invite a guest, not once, not

twice, but on a continual basis. Think of the new friends you will make!

Do you care about your family and your community? I know you do, and so do others. So why not share what we have to offer. We need to share our thoughts, our experiences and our friendship. Our long-time members are a source of great knowledge and history. Just think about the changes they have seen and how others can benefit from their knowledge.

Times have changed, but so has the Women's Institute. They are no longer just a rural women's group. WI members have the same concerns as many other women from across the province, whether they live in an urban or rural setting. So let us all work together to address some of these concerns.

To kickoff the Membership Recruitment Campaign for the upcoming year, FWIO is offering the following incentives to Branches who gain new members in the period from April 1, 2001, to March 31, 2002.

- The Branch who gains the most new members during this period will win one paid registration to the Provincial Conference in June 2002 in Sault Ste. Marie, plus \$300 in cash.
- The Branch who is the first runner up will be presented with a gift basket full of Women's Institute sales items at their Area Convention.
- The top ten Branches in terms of membership gains will receive recognition on the FWIO Website and in the *Home & Country* newsletter.

So don't waste a moment! Get a jump on it and invite that neighbour, friend or relative you have always been meaning to ask to your meeting. You can do it! I know you can. And soon, you will see new members joining our team.

Be sure to keep in touch. Let me know how you are doing. I'm only a call, fax or email away!

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Taking Their Clean-up Duties On the Road



One of the many ways the Bolsover Women's Institute helps their community is through the Adopt-A-Road Program. Members are pictured here after one of their clean-up days. From left to right in the front are Marilyn Hiscox, Lillian Bond, Paula Williamson, Sharron Walker and Nan Feld. Standing from left to right are Eleanor Alsop, Donald Brown, Eva Larocque, Cora Wylie and Dorothy Marren. The Branch also entered a float in the 150th Anniversary Parade of Eldon Township.

ACWW Fundraiser an Overwhelming Success!

The initial idea of raising funds to augment the expenses for the delegates attending the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Pre-Conference Workshops was conceived in the fall of 1999. Using old jeans and recycling these into fashion strip-and-patch vests was a simple idea, but not a simple task to accomplish. Ruth Laking from the Arkell WI in Wellington South District was the team leader in this venture. Along with a few other dedicated members approximately 2000 volunteer hours were spent on this project over the past two years, but it was done with enthusiasm and heart, which is the bond that holds the WI together. The net amount contributed to the ACWW Pre-Conference Workshop Fund was \$4000. Expenses for such a project are minimal. The torch was passed on to the Trent Valley Area in March when Ruth and Glenna Smith gave a workshop in constructing the vests. Five vests were specially made by Ruth Laking and Jean Hume and delivered by the FWIO President Christine Reaburn to England. World President Hilda Stewart and her Executive are looking forward to wearing them at the ACWW Conference in June in Hamilton. Hope to see many of you there!

Submitted by Edith H. Eedy, Public Relations Officer, Wellington South.