

100 Years to Celebrate!

Durham West District WI



One hundred years ago on October 6, 1900, at a gathering of women in the Royal Templar's Hall in Bowmanville the Durham West District Women's Institute was formed. In Solina on October 25, 2000, members of five remaining Branches - Blackstock, Bowmanville, Maple Grove, Providence Shaw and Solina - celebrated this historic occasion with a potluck luncheon. Guests included Central Area President Bernice Andrews and Provincial Advisory Councillor Paula Williamson. A highlight of the occasion was the presentation of a 100th Anniversary Pin to members of the Bowmanville WI, who celebrated its 100th birthday last June. From left to right are District members Pat Sleep, Vera Downey, Brenda Metcalfe, President Barbara Kapteyn, Bernice Watson, Viola Ashton, Marjorie Prescott, Betty Lou Locke, Shirley Brown and Lois Yellowlees.

Submitted by Shirley Brown, PRO, Durham West.

Mountsberg WI Warms Heads and Hearts



Members and friends of the Mountsberg Branch knitted 300 toques to be distributed at the Salvation Army's Christmas Dinner in Hamilton. From left to right are Julie Fielding, Muriel Carr, Audrey Galloway, Mary Chapman, Sue Restivo (Project Chair), Katie Ellis and Mary McLean. The project was enrolled in the "Our Millennium" initiative. The challenge has been great, with some members struggling to knit one, while others turned them out like a machine! The group has indeed warmed head and hearts in Hamilton!

Submitted by Jane Croft, Mountsberg WI, Wentworth.

Huron West District WI

"Angels" is how Jane Muegge of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs describes the dedicated members of the Women's Institute. Muegge was the guest speaker at the 100th anniversary of the Huron West District WI held last May at the Belgrave Institute Hall. This District includes 104 members in six Branches in Auburn, Belgrave, Dunganon, Londesborough, St. Helens and Maitland. Standing left to right are District Past President Jean Plaetzer, Public Relations Officer Audrey Fenton, London Area President Pauline Lindsay, Provincial Advisory Councillor Donna MacPherson, Provincial Board Director Donna Willows and guest speaker Jane Muegge. Seated left to right are District Secretary-Treasurer Reta Kelland, District President Lois Elliott and Second Vice President Mabel Jacklin.



Submitted by Reta Kelland, Secretary-Treasurer, Huron West.

Amherst Island WI



The Amherst Island Women's Institute celebrated its 100th anniversary with a party at the Community Centre on November 5, 2000, with a large crowd in attendance. Greetings and plaques were presented to the Amherst Branch by FWIO President Christine Reaburn, Kingston Area President Marie Thomson, Lennox-Addington District President Valerie Smith, MP Larry McCormick, MPP Leona Drombrowski, Loyalist Township Reeve Paul Gilmore and Township Councillor Duncan Ashley. From left to right in the back row are Nancy Dunn, Nancy Henshaw, Leslie Gavlas, Jackie Sylvester, Mirian Glenn, Mary Kay Steele and Diana Hieatt. In the front row from left to right are Bobbi Shaw, Anna Hitchins, Coralie Marshall, Joyce Haines, Helen Lamb and Helen Miller.



Lambton North WI Members Complete International Quilt

Lambton North District members recently completed a unique quilt for the 23rd Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). The quilt is made up of 28 Dresden Plate and Fan blocks submitted as part of the International Quilt Competition held in 2000. Leila Pettigrew, Chair of the Quilt Block Competition Committee from the Thunder Bay District, reported that 366 blocks were entered



from England, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, India, U.S., Finland, South Africa and Canada. Pettigrew stated that after deciding the winners, the greatest challenge was dividing the blocks artistically into 12 quilt tops and 9 cushions. These items were distributed across Ontario to be quilted by WI members and friends.

Three of the quilts will be raffled with the winners announced at the June Conference in Hamilton. The remaining quilts will be auctioned as part of the Ontario Day events on June 16 at The Farm Museum in Milton. All proceeds will go to assist approximately 30 society members from developing countries in covering their expenses.

Joining Betty Brush, Jane Bryce, Hazel Higgins and Doris Shea (left to right in the photo) during the quilting bee were Janet McPherson, Colleen Brush, Norma Steven, Betty Douglas, Margaret MacKinlay, Vera Miner, Maxine Miner, June Dunlop, Frances Matthews, Maria Janssens, Margaret Ramsay and Ruth Nichol.

Submitted by Mary Janes, President, Lambton North.