

Giday, Giday from the Valley



By Christine Reaburn

October was a glorious month to travel the highways and byways of Ontario visiting with members at the Area Conventions. Thank you for your hospitality and warm welcome. No two agendas were the same, but the commitment to Women's Institute was as strong as ever. Listening to your reports provided me with an insight into the work of committees unique to your Area and the depth and variety of programs and projects offered in communities across Ontario. Thank you for inviting the two workshop facilitators to your conventions. They thoroughly enjoyed presenting information to you and they hope it will be helpful.

The Ontario Coordinating Committee (OCC) for the upcoming Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Conference thank you for supporting the Quilt Raffle, for supplying programs and post cards to be placed in registration bags

and for stamps and quilt blocks to be sold at the Conference. I hope you are planning to attend the 23rd Triennial Conference of ACWW in Hamilton next June. As a full-time participant or as a day visitor you will have the opportunity to meet and visit with members from around the world.

Anyone wishing to contribute stamps, quilt blocks, post cards or programs can send them to the following addresses. Stamps (with a 1/4 inch border and the post mark if legible) and quilt blocks (including the pattern) go to Donna Russett at RR 3, Stirling ON K0K 3E0. Post cards and programs go to Pat Ozvari, RR 3, Burford, NOE 1A0.

To all of you who supported the Amy Sky Benefit Concert, thank you. This first ever benefit concert not only raised a modest profit for the work of Women's Institute, but introduced WI to a new audience, which included sponsors and potential sponsors. The silent auction generously donated by event sponsors was a lot of fun as

members, friends and well wishers out bid each other.

What is in store for Women's Institute in 2001? You will be receiving program suggestions from the Education Committee in this issue of the *Home & Country*, a recruitment plan from the Membership Recruitment Chair and the opportunity to have a "Promoting Through Displays" Workshop at Area Conventions. For some Areas, the ROSE Health Program training sessions will continue and Branches will be organizing community information sessions to bring pertinent health information to their communities.

We are closing the chapter on another year. At the Annual Meeting we will say goodbye to two Board Directors, two Coordinators and twelve Provincial Advisory Councillors. I know you join me in thanking these members for sharing their time and their talents and wish them well in any future endeavours within the Women's Institute family.

May we all march into 2001 with a continued vigour for Women's Institutes and our communities.

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WI Unveils Time Capsule at the Lee

The plans for the time capsule, begun before the 1997 centennial of the Women's Institute, finally came to fruition on Sunday, November 19 when the stone cairn containing the capsule was unveiled on the grounds of the Erland Lee (Museum) Home. Three years ago, in November 1997, the Time Capsule Committee - Jerinne Porteous, Christine Reaburn and Betty Ann Mollard - presented a commemorative plaque and the time capsule to FWIO. This year, a talented stonemason, Mr. Marino Cecchini of Thorold, designed and built a truly unique edifice to house the capsule.

At the unveiling ceremony, FWIO President Christine Reaburn noted that when the capsule is opened in 2047 on the 150th anniversary of the WI, memorabilia about the current happenings in this vibrant organization, as well as items celebrating its past, will be revealed. Honoured guests included descendants of the Erland Lee family, including granddaughters Allison Schreiber and Janet Davis.

Submitted by Marion Egarter, Public Relations Officer, Hamilton Area.



From left to right are Jerinne Porteous, Christine Reaburn and Peggy Knapp, Co-chair, Convention '97.