

Board Briefings

September 16, 1999

TELECONFERENCE

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario Provincial Board linked up for an early morning teleconference on September 16, 1999. The teleconference cleared up a number of items carried over from the August Board agenda.

Conferences

ACWW 2001 Conference

Christine Reaburn, Co-Chair of the Ontario Coordinating Committee (OCC) for the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Triennial Conference, brought the Board up-to-date on conference plans. Reaburn said that the OCC had met with the recently hired FWIO Fundraiser, Mike Paquet. She reported that Paquet was already seeking funding and sponsorship for this world conference. The budget for the conference will be presented at the Triennial Conference Committee meeting in London, England, in October.

Reaburn relayed her enthusiasm about the promotion of the ACWW 2001 Conference. The Publicity Director for the OCC, Mary Janes, is distributing information throughout Canada and the United States, as well as worldwide through the ACWW publication *The Countrywoman*.

You can get involved now by:

- Becoming Individual (Category IVb) Members of ACWW by paying a fee of 15 pounds per year or 40 pounds for 3 years. (Only fully paid Individual Members may attend the full conference. Day visitors who attend only a portion of the proceedings do not have to pay an individual membership.)
- Renewing/paying ACWW membership in the latter half of the year 2000, WI members will be eligible to attend the conference.
- Collecting used stamps and sending them to Donna Russett at RR 3, Stirling ON K0K 3E0. Donna is in charge of Sales and Displays at ACWW 2001. These stamps will be sold in small packages at the conference. Please leave a 1/4 inch border on them, as well as the postmark if legible.

ACWW Pre-Conference Workshops

ACWW pays the travel expenses for a number of women from developing countries to attend the world conference. The host is responsible for offering these delegates pre-conference workshops. The workshops are to offer these women practical ideas applicable in their home country.

The cost of the workshops to FWIO is approximately \$25,000. On behalf of the membership, FWIO has allotted a gift of \$10,000 Canadian dollars to the ACWW 2001 Conference to go towards these pre-conference workshops.

If they wish, Branches, Districts and Areas may help raise funds to contribute to these pre-conference workshops. Send all contributions to the FWIO Provincial Office, payable to FWIO and with a notation on the memo line of the cheque to read "2001 Pre-Conference Workshops." **Please Note:** This was mistakenly reported as a loan in the motions on page 6 of the June Board Briefings (Fall newsletter, 1999).

Policies & Procedures

More policies were discussed in preparation for an updated FWIO Policy Manual.

Gifts to Hostesses

For a one night stay a thank you card to a hostess is appropriate. For more than one night, a hostess gift can be purchased from the FWIO Supply List (if appropriate and if it does not exceed \$25).

Flags

The FWIO, FWIC, ACWW and the Canadian Flag owned by FWIO may be borrowed by a Women's Institute at any time provided they are available and that the borrower makes arrangements to pick them up and return them at their cost after the completion of the function. Borrowers are responsible to replace the flags if they are damaged, lost or stolen.

Insurance

The FWIO Board Directors Liability and Provincial Liability Insurance will be reviewed annually.

Health Program Partners

Board agreed that a list of criteria for accepting Health Program Partners be developed, with input from Board Directors, the Health Program Committee and the Health Program Coordinator Kelly Marshall.

Motions

- That the \$10,000 Canadian dollars be allotted by FWIO as a gift to the ACWW Conference in 2001 to go towards pre-conference workshops.
- That FWIO Coordinators submit a report 30 days prior to on site Board meetings in order to allow time for distribution to the Provincial Board.
- That the Program/Project Preparation Committee be asked to prepare programming ideas and resources on the

November 4, 1999

TELECONFERENCE

A lot of ground was covered when the FWIO Provincial Board connected for a three-hour teleconference on the morning of November 4. The highlights of the meeting follow:

Information Items

FWIO to Participate in Focus Groups

FWIO has been asked to participate in focus groups to discuss strategies for women's regular participation in a cervical screening program. Eight focus groups are being planned, four of which will be with women living in rural communities in Ontario. Ten to twelve women in the Guelph area will be recruited in the near future for this study. Where possible, the groups will be held in a convenient location for the women participating. The involvement of all participants will be confidential.

The groups will be facilitated by a trained moderator. The project is being supervised by Dr. Fred Ashbury, President of Partners in Creative & Effective Program Solutions (PICEPS), and an Adjunct Professor from the Department of Medical Oncology at McGill University.

Hoodless Homestead Upkeep Project

Women's Institute members have generously supported the Hoodless Homestead Upkeep Project since it was launched in 1997. Each WI member across Canada is asked to contribute \$1 annually in support of the operation of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. The end of February is the suggested deadline for donations. Please forward all contributions directly to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada at 606-251 Bank St., Ottawa ON K2P 1X3. Make cheques payable to FWIC and specify the Homestead Upkeep Project.

chosen theme for the year 2000 - "The New Millennium." This material is to appear as a two-page spread in the Winter 1999-2000 issue of the *Home & Country*.

- That the June teleconference recommendation of the Marketing Committee to produce a poetry book using the poetry collected from WI members over the years be rescinded.

Note: Individual motions on the policies outlined above were approved by Board.

FWIO Provincial Conference Postponed

At the Northwest Area Convention members passed a motion recommending that Provincial Conference 2000 be postponed until 2002. As the hosting region, members felt that a venue would be difficult to find due to millennium celebrations and events throughout the year. The FWIO Provincial Board agreed and decided to postpone the provincial conference until 2002. The suggestion to hold the FWIO provincial conference every three years, to follow the FWIC convention and the ACWW conference years, was discussed.

Communications

Annual Report

Once again, FWIO will have an Annual Report produced. Watch for your copy to be mailed with the Branch mailing in January, 2000. Ask your Branch Secretary about it. Have someone review it and highlight points for discussion and information.

FWIO Web Site

The Women's Institutes of New Brunswick were given permission to link up with the FWIO web site. Watch for this connection. Keep up-to-date on FWIO happenings by visiting the web site today at www.fwio.on.ca

HOME & COUNTRY Index

Beginning with 1999, the *Home & Country* newsletters will be indexed on an annual basis. An index can only be a useful tool in the process of improving communications and encouraging members to refer back to their newsletters for information. An index of the newsletter will be mailed to all District Presidents who will be asked to distribute them to Branches in their District. Watch for your 1999 index early in the new year.

