

Rooted in History

One of Janet Lee's favourite bushes is now growing in the garden at the Janet Lee Public School in Stoney Creek. Eileen Kowalshyn (right) spearheaded the school garden two years ago with the help from staff, parents, volunteers and corporate donations.

Michael Gemmell (centre), Curator of the Erland Lee (Museum) Home, read the story in the *Stoney Creek News* and wondered what he could do to help. "After all, the school was named after the co-founder of the first Women's Institute," said Gemmell.

"The Erland Lee Museum is always asking the community for something and I thought this would be a chance to give something back to the community."



Vinemount WI member Joan McLean who looks after the Museum's garden suggested Gemmell present a tree to the school. Gemmell and Thelma Stewart (left), Erland Lee Committee Chair, presented a cutting from a snowball bush that existed on the Lee Home property when Janet Lee was alive. Eileen Kowalshyn and Janet Lee students Neve Zubac and Tanja Kipervic are shown with the two-year old cutting.

Extracted from an article in the *Stoney Creek News*, October, 1999, by Stephen Beecroft.



Board Briefings...continued from page 6

HOME & COUNTRY Readership Survey

All Branch members are encouraged to complete the *Home & Country* Readership Survey, to be included as a separate insert with the Winter 1999-2000 issue of the newsletter. Remember, the onus is on you - the member - to return the survey; it is your newsletter! Please mail all surveys to the FWIO Provincial Office by February 28, 2000, and remember to mark the envelope Readership Survey.

MOTIONS

- That if there is only one application for a FWIO Provincial Scholarship, a mark of 75 per cent must be reached in points to receive the full scholarship amount; if 75 per cent is not reached only half of the scholarship amount will be awarded.
- That FWIO change their banking institution from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce at the corner of Woodlawn Road and Silvercreek Road (which is closing) to the Royal Bank of Canada at the corner of Willow Road and Silvercreek Road.
- That the *Home & Country* newsletter be indexed on an annual basis and the index be mailed to District Presidents to pass on to each Branch in their District.
- That a *Home & Country* Readership Survey be included as a separate insert in the Winter 1999-2000 issue of the newsletter; each bundle mailed to include the same number of surveys as newsletters.
- That 1000 copies of the 1999 FWIO Annual Report be printed.

- That ten history books be sent to local radio stations in each region to be used as prizes during the week of February 19, 2000, in honour of the Women's Institute anniversary.
- That FWIO Health Program Coordinator Kelly Marshall respond as soon as possible to PICEPS (Partners in Creative & Effective Program Solutions) Consultants, Inc. so that FWIO can participate in the focus groups to discuss strategies for women's regular participation in an organized cervical screening program.
- That FWIO increase their Board Director Liability Insurance from two to three million dollars at the time of renewal in January 2000.
- That the letter from Michael Gemmell, Curator of the Erland Lee (Museum) Home, be received and acknowledged and be referred to the Personnel Committee for review.
- That the FWIO President may hire secretarial services in her own area as needed; the hours not to exceed 8 hours per week; the wages to range from \$7 to \$10 per hour.
- That each Branch receive a copy of the FWIO Annual Report with their Branch mailing in January, 2000.
- That FWIO invite the Minister of Health, the Minister of Agriculture and other dignitaries to all annual meetings beginning in the year 2000.
- That the Convention '97 Time Capsule Committee be asked to continue their work to have the Time Capsule placed in a cairn to be erected at the Erland Lee (Museum) Home.
- That the minimum number of Provincial Past Presidents Pins be produced as per the quote.
- That an additional 2,500 copies of the FWIO Handbook be printed.

Profile

Focus on the FWIO Fundraiser Mike Paquet



For the past seven years, I have been involved in fundraising as both a professional and a volunteer for a variety of non-profit groups in Southern Ontario. My speciality has been implementing productive and sustainable long-term fundraising programs for organizations that have traditionally relied on government funding or other narrow forms of financial support. I became thoroughly acquainted with this particular approach due to my experience as an Associate Fundraiser for Participation House Hamilton & District in 1995-96.

My first opportunity to "rescue" a charitable organization in need began in 1996 when I became the Fundraising Coordinator for Friends In Grief (FIG), a bereavement support and resource agency in Hamilton. FIG was sharing limited office space and was on the verge of dissolving if fundraising was not pursued more aggressively.

During my first year with FIG, I introduced a number of different funding initiatives and established several partnerships with businesses and groups throughout the community. I played an instrumental role in obtaining and developing a new office location for FIG. Presently, their financial situation is remarkably stable due to the strengthened long-term fundraising program.

I have voluntarily coordinated several special events and fundraising projects for charitable groups, including the CNIB, Self Help Centre of Hamilton-Wentworth and People In Partnership '95. Currently, I sit on the Board for the United Ostomy Association of Canada, and serve as the volunteer Advertising Manager for their official magazine, *OSTOMY CANADA*. My membership with the National Society of Fundraising Executives (NSFRE) provides me with numerous opportunities to share thoughts, learn new concepts and network with other fundraising professionals.

My academic qualifications include an Honours B.A. in History from the University of Windsor. And I need two credits to complete an Honours Public Administration degree. A native of Hamilton, I reside on the city's West Mountain area with my wife Janet, our three-year old daughter Joelle and two cats.

Any member wishing to speak with Mike Paquet can call or write to the FWIO Provincial Office.