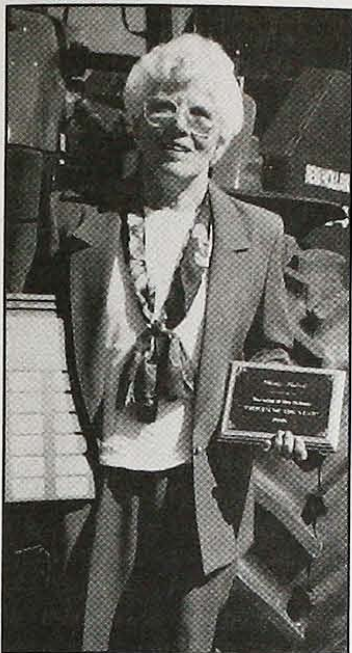


## Betty Veitch Named Citizen of the Year



Betty Veitch keeps incredibly busy; she seems to be full of energy and constantly on the go. When asked exactly what occupies her time, she explained that the Craighurst Women's Institute, the Oro Horticultural Society, the Oro-Medonte Trails Association and the Oro Adult Skating Club are just some of the organizations she is involved with.

For more than 20 years Betty has canvassed for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Since 1981, she has been the fund raising captain for the Craighurst area.

Betty has served as Treasurer of the Knox Presbyterian Cemetery Board since 1979. She remains involved in many other activities at the church, including tending the flower beds and preparing the flower arrangements.

Other community contributions include volunteering as a driver for the Canadian Cancer Society and for elderly neighbours needing transportation to medical appointments.

"Betty is a willing and hard worker and can always be counted on," wrote Mavis Burnham, one of the many area residents to nominate her.

*Extracted from the Oro-Medonte Township Newsletter, Fall/Winter 1998 and an article by Doug Telek in the Oro-Medonte & Severn News, Nov. 1998.*

## Self-Profile: Eastern

### Hooked on WI

By Janet Ellenberger

I was born and raised in the city of Belleville and had a wonderful, warm and privileged childhood. With an honors degree in Sociology I had my sights set on a career with the RCMP. Although I was accepted into their training program I chose to continue on as a counsellor/therapist in an outpatient mental health clinic in Bancroft. I had the opportunity to teach night school through Loyalist College, and for recreation I learned to square dance. That is where I met my husband Henry and in 1986 married into his wonderful family!

In 1989 Henry's farrier practice (horse shoeing) forced us south into the Stirling area. We purchased a 30 acre hobby farm and I began work with The Canadian Hearing Society as a senior's counsellor. Five years later, we purchased a 150 acre farm. Henry and I decided that we wanted to farm in an environmentally friendly way and to be as self-sufficient as possible. I am proud to say that three-quarters of the farm is certified organic under the Organic Crop Improvement Association standards, with the whole farm scheduled to be certified by the summer of 2000.

My introduction to WI occurred when we first moved to Stirling. We were living rural but I was working urban. I didn't know the neighbours and didn't feel like driving back to town to socialize. The Hastings County Junior WI invited me to their annual potluck and movie night and I was hooked! They were a great group of women, having lots of fun, serving fantastic food and as a bonus were doing good things supporting the local community.

Before long I was part of the Branch executive and a representative on the FWIO Board. With the disbanding of the Junior Women's Institutes of Ontario in 1998 our own local Branch decided to join FWIO. I am honoured that I was chosen as President for the new Highlands Branch of Hastings West.

I still have a lot to learn about FWIO and anxiously await the new *Handbook* for guidance. The new Board structure has potential and is something we are all learning about together.

It is through the Women's Institute that I have made the best friends you can imagine and feel that I am contributing to issues locally, provincially, nationally and especially making a difference to lives around the world through ACWW.

*Janet Ellenberger is a member of the Highlands WI, Hastings West.*



Janet Ellenberger, second from left, with her mother (far right), sister (at left) and sister-in-law (second from right).

## Congratulations

### Anniversaries:

Lookout Bay WI, Prescott . . . . .	45
Bolsover WI, Victoria West . . . . .	50
Community Builders WI, Lincoln . . . . .	50
Hampden WI, Grey South . . . . .	50
Walsingham WI, Norfolk South . . . . .	60
Cooper & Remington WI, Hastings North . . . . .	70
West Ops WI, Victoria West . . . . .	85
Magnetawan WI, Parry Sound South . . . . .	90
Islay-Zion WI, Victoria West . . . . .	91
Annan WI, Grey North . . . . .	95

### Life Members:

Tamworth WI, Lennox-Addington
- Jean Bradshaw
- Cecile Oberlie

### Certificates of Merit:

Bethesda WI, York East
- Doris Kennedy
- Alma Oldman
- Sadie Ratcliff
Parham WI, Frontenac
- Madeline Howes
- Adeline Lowery
- Vera Robertson
Selwyn WI, Peterborough
- Margaret Killeen
Westwood WI, Peterborough
- Mary Elmhirst

### Long-time Members:

Do-R-Best WI, Lambton South	
- Mary Welch . . . . .	66 yrs
Branchton WI, Waterloo South	
- Florence Oliver . . . . .	80 yrs