

"We Are All Sisters"



Ruby was born near Sault Ste. Marie. As a child, she worked as a domestic, when not helping on the family farm. After marrying in 1953, Ruby and her husband John moved to Prince Township. They put their eight children through the college or university of their choice.

Since Ruby joined the Prince WI in 1953, she has held many positions at the Branch, District and Area level. She enjoyed attending Board meetings as Alternate Board Director in 1991-92. Currently, Ruby is the Branch Vice-President, District President and Area Tweedsmuir Curator.

Ruby has been active with youth groups, as a Sunday School Teacher and 4-H Club Leader. She helped organize the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in the Township in 1960. Ruby was the Girl Guider of the Year in 1987 and was awarded the Girl Guide Merit Award in 1994.

"I think of WI members, as well as the Girl Guide Leaders, as different branches of my family" "We are all sisters," she added, "whether we come from small towns in Ontario or half way around the world." Ruby believes that we should be caring, sharing and teaching others how to improve their lives and country.

Ruby has received the Ontario Bicentennial Medal in 1984, the Sault Ste. Marie United Way Volunteer of the Year Award in 1988 and the Canada 125 Medal in 1992 for her volunteer work.

Handicrafts of Yesteryear



Allison Kubiseski (left), Balsam Hill WI member, and Marilyn Misener (right), Past President of Renfrew South District, are seen with a display of handicrafts. It was part of a Women's Institute display at an International Women's Day event in Renfrew. Allison also introduced her "Handicrafts of Yesteryear" to the members of the Balsam Hill WI and their guests at the Branch's Annual Salad Supper.

Submitted by Lynn Clelland, Balsam Hill WI, Renfrew South.

Photo courtesy of the Renfrew Mercury.

Too Much Attention

When the Bentpath Women's Institute planned a surprise celebration for Ethel Turner, she did something that was uncharacteristic of her - she missed the meeting. But since she was in the hospital, the members felt she had a good excuse.

Ethel, who has been a valued member of the WI for 60 years, was honoured ... by her fellow members for her years of service. A presentation, with plaques from the premier, prime minister and other politicians, brought tears to her eyes.

"It's too much attention," she said humbly.

Submitted by Alice Langstaff, Bentpath WI, Lambton South.



Ethel Turner (seated) is surrounded (from left to right) by South Lambton District President Evelyn Playfoot, member Jean Robinson, Dawn-Euphemia Mayor Bill Bilton, and members Donna McGuire and Marion Langstaff.

Plant Auction Highlights Institute Meeting

"The hall was alive with sounds of laughter, chatter and fellowship, and the tables in the centre of the room were laden with plants, plants and more plants." The Codrington Women's Institute in Northumberland East District made more than \$400 at their annual Plant Auction. What a success!

This Branch is involved in two other annual events - a spring fashion show and a Pitch-in clean up day. With over one hundred people attending the fashion show last spring, there was standing room only.

Submitted by Elsie Postma, PRO, Codrington WI, Northumberland East.

