



HOME & COUNTRY is published quarterly by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO). **HOME & COUNTRY** has two objectives:

1. To provide educational material which cultivates more knowledgeable and responsible citizens and promotes good family life skills, leadership development and community action.
2. To provide a "communications link" among all members of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and other related organizations.

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FWIO Mailbag:

June 30, 1998

Dear Editor:

I had an interesting experience this past week, which I thought you might enjoy hearing about. Our neighbours are members of a company which sets up tours around the world and because of this they sometimes host tourists.

I received a call from my neighbours this past week inviting me and two other WI members for lunch. Imagine my surprise

upon arrival to meet a lady from New Zealand, Aileen Davies, whom I had corresponded with for several years but never met. Needless to say lots of chatting and picture taking was enjoyed before Aileen continued on her tour, and I was thrilled to meet her in person. I am a 50-year member, as is my sister Doris Miller, of the Staffa Women's Institute.

Sincerely,

Roberta Templeman

We Can Learn From the 'Silly Goose'

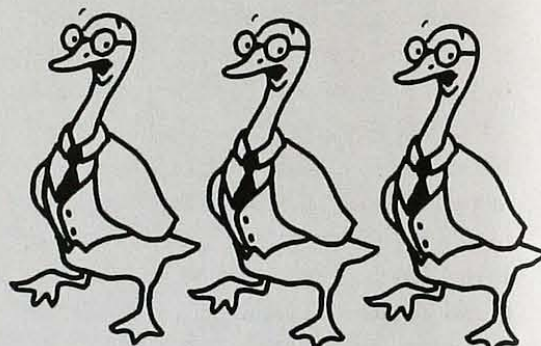
Fact No. 1 - As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift draft for the bird following. By flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds a greater flying range than if one bird flew alone.

- Lesson No. 1 - People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they're going quicker and more easily because they're travelling on the strength of one another.

Fact No. 2 - Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

- Lesson No. 2 - If we have as much sense as geese, we will stay in formation and be willing to accept help when we need it and give help when it is needed.

Fact No. 3 - When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies in the point position.



- Lesson No. 3 - Geese instinctively share the task of leadership and do not resent the leader.

Fact No. 4 - The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front.

- Lesson No. 4 - We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not something else.

Fact No. 5 - When a goose gets sick, is wounded or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to earth to help and protect it. They stay with their disabled companion until it is able to fly again or dies. They then launch out on their own or with another formation or catch up with the flock.

Source: *The London Free Press, Saturday, August 1, 1998.*

Hard-of-Hearing... continued from page 1

For example, fire and ambulance personnel are well aware of the Vial of Life Project, a pill container with medical data inside and a red heart on the outside attached to an individual's refrigerator. Now, the Blue Stamp is included so they know an individual is also hard of hearing.

Ivy has been educating professional and business people as well. She encourages local bank tellers, for example, to recognize the Blue Stamp. She reinforces her efforts with the slogan: Look Up, Speak Up! and Business will

Pick Up! Ivy has notified local medical offices asking them to put the symbol on all medical records and to become aware of their hard-of-hearing patients.

Resolutions to promote the use of The Blue Stamp for the hard-of-hearing were recently passed at the United Senior Citizens of Ontario Convention, and will be presented to the United Nations in 1999 during the International Year of the Senior. It is the hope that it come forward as a WI resolution.

Brantford, Ivy states, must also promote the Blue Stamp Project. After all, famous Brant-

ford resident, Alexander Graham Bell, spent his life experimenting with devices to help his wife hear better, resulting in the invention of the telephone.

A Good Idea!

Have your Branch purchase stickers for WI members, their families and others in the community who are hard-of-hearing. The Blue Stamps are 1" x 3/4" in size and are available in gummed rolls of 200. They are \$3.00 per roll (plus S/H). Contact the Canadian Hearing Society at 416-964-9595.