New Century - A New Beginning

By Lorna McGrath

Welcome to Membership 101 at Women's Institute University. This is a home study course designed to help Women's Institute members find solutions to membership issues.

It is a time to define and retain the positive aspects of our organization. It is time to weed out the negatives. The place to start is within your local Branch where you can make a definite difference.

Take the advice of Norman Rebin, motivational speaker at Convention '97 in Hamilton, and "Scheme, Dream and Redeem." Start scheming by plotting and planning your goals and the actions required to meet them. Dream about how to fulfill these hopes and the rewards of achieving them. Imagine these things in vibrant colours, on a wide screen, with a full orchestra and a thunderous applause.

Redeem your efforts, whether they generate positive or negative results, and start all over again.

Mr. Rebin stated in his address that the moral values that we represent are under seige in today's world. These are the same ethics that many people are seeking. Our challenge is to market our organization, which already nurtures these ideals, to individuals who wish to support these principles. We need to promote a balanced life with a balanced perspective. Rebin advised us not to stifle our voices, but to keep our spark or light, our romance and our communion alive.

Elizabeth Rushton, Past President for Alberta, spoke at Convention '97: "WI meetings are an oasis of security in a world of rapid change." We can bring that change under control, manage it and plan for it in an orderly fashion. We can meet the new century with excitement and anticipation, secure in the knowledge that our Women's Institute will continue to contribute to our communities, our country and the world.

Fact No. 1 - We need to have 30% new members in order to maintain our numbers.

Fact No. 2 - We need to encourage Branches to invite at least one guest to every meeting.

Fact No. 3 - The challenge is for every member to persuade one new person to join our group this year.

We need committed members to carry our torch and find those who wish to belong to ensure the survival of the Women's Institute. Can we count on you?

Happy recruiting!

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Watch your attitude. It's the first thing that people notice about you.

Remember that how you say something is as important as what you say.

Hints from Life's Little Instruction Book, Vol. II, by H. Jackson Brown Jr.



## It's almost as good as being there!

The FWIO presents three videos and a Centennial Celebration Souvenir Booklet that they are offering for sale.

Note: All prices include taxes, shipping and handling. TO ORDER: call the FWIO Provincial Office at 519-836-3078 "Indebted to the Past - Committed to the Future" -Celebrated on Video

This visual record combines the Centennial Celebrations in Hamilton with historical background about the WI and its roots.

Length: 2 1/4 hrs Cost: \$50



## Scheme, Dream and Redeem

This Convention '97 Theme Presentation by Norm Rebin, cofounder of the Pinehurst Innovision Institute, encouraged the WI to continue to provide roots, role models, relevance and hope for the future. Length: 36 min. Cost: \$35

