

## 1997 Erland Lee Award Winners

**J**ack Matthison from St. Pauls, Ontario, was given an Honourary Life Membership in the Women's Institute from the Perth South District for his long-time interest in and support of the organization. Since 1976, Jack has provided great Branch, District and Area coverage for the WI as a reporter for the *St. Mary's Journal Argus*. Although he regularly helps his son run Fair Acres Farms, Jack never misses taking photos at WI special events. Jack has spent countless hours repairing and maintaining the Avonton Women's Institute Hall next to his home. "When your heart and soul is with an organization," stated Jack, "you never cease to praise it up..."



**D**ouglas Smith of Arkell, Ontario, a retired Bell Telephone employee and current Fire Chief for the Puslinch Township Volunteer Fire Department, has been and still is an ardent supporter of the Women's Institute.



Doug can be found helping arrange the WI float in a parade, setting up or dismantling food booths at the local fair, or carving meat and washing dishes at catering events. He is a tireless supporter and ambassador for the organization as he accompanies his wife to WI conferences and conventions throughout Canada and the world. He especially values his personal growth and the fellowship that he and his family have gained from their active involvement with the WI.

### Friends of WI Certificates

A new certificate is now available from the FWIO Provincial Office. The Friend of Women's Institute Award has been presented to the following four individuals for their efforts in promoting the WI:

- Steve Hagarty, Ridgetown Video Productions (Convention '97 Video)
- Debbie Thompson Wilson, Willustration (various Convention '97 promotional items)
- James Gordon, CBC Hometown Tunes (for his song, For Home and Country)
- Jim Prevost, Classic Radio Sounds (radio jingle)

## About ACWW

By Peggy Knapp

**A**s ACWW Area President for Canada, I was pleased to report to our Societies that the Goats and Piggery Projects for the villages of Uganda are now up and running, the babies of AIDS mothers have a regular supply of pure milk, and the older children have their own commitment to the care and feeding of the pigs in the village piggery which allows them to pay for their own education.

So generous was the support for the Uganda Projects that there was a surplus of \$4,000 in the account! After conferring with the mover and the seconder of the motion in Christchurch almost three years ago, I am now able to let our members know that, through a Program introduced to the ACWW Board last June, the residue of the fund will go to purchase cows for Uganda.

The new "Send a Cow" Project is committed to provide 40 in-calf heifers to 40 families in the Lira District. These Iteso

people have traditionally kept cattle, which were their most important asset until the civil war in their country from 1985 to 1990 brought devastation and famine to the land.

As the people started returning to their homes in 1992, they immediately began to grow the traditional food crops, such as millet and sweet potatoes and attempted to reintroduce cattle to their area. But they needed help. "Send a Cow" was set up, and is now bringing purebred animals from within Uganda to replace the devastated herds and to support the families with training, veterinary inputs and marketing equipment.

The women will own and control the cows, enabling them to meet the basic needs of their families, including clothing and school fees.

With your generous donations, we have allowed a third component to our Uganda Project. You have reason to be proud of the practical help you have given to those rural women who must take so much of the responsibility for the health and welfare of their villages. Thank you. Well done!

*Peggy Knapp is the Associated Country Women of the World Area President for Canada.*



## Hooked on the WI



The Listowel West Branch in Perth North spent last winter hooking this 5' x 16' rug. It took 600 hours to complete. It hangs in the Carson Auction Centre near Listowel for all to see. From left to right in the front row are WI members Winnifred Mann, Gwen Perkin, Ethel Wood, Ella Stewart, Doris Jean Henderson, Mary Israel, Anne Mayberry, Kathy Doig and Dorothy Hamilton. Standing in the back row are members Elaine Carson, Vola Purcell, Dorine McKechnie, Shirley Lee, Agnes Timm and Inez Allen.

Photo courtesy of The Listowel Banner  
Submitted by Gwen Perkin, President, Listowel West WI, Perth North.