

# Fast and Fun Fashions from Fabrics

By Rosemary Moran

I began with MacPhee Workshop in 1985 as an instructor working out of my home. I have conducted workshops across the province. In 1989, I opened a MacPhee Workshop franchise with a full line of fabrics in Frankford, Ontario.

"What is MacPhee Workshop?," you ask. MacPhee Workshop is a Canadian Company started about twenty years ago by Linda and Harris MacPhee of Edmonton. They wanted to fill a need for those sewers who believe in the 3 F's of sewing: fun, fast and fashionable.

MacPhee franchise and dealer shops exist across Canada. These shops cater to the discriminating shopper for fine fabrics. In fact, many of the fabrics are exclusive to MacPhee. While known for their selection of outerwear fabrics throughout Canada and the United States, MacPhee shops also carry high fashion fabrics, including knits, leathers and furs.

The MacPhee Workshop is based on the premise that the best way to get a perfect pattern is to design your own. This is what MacPhee Workshop has done; they have designed simple, classic styles. Their patterns are multi-sized, and many are unisex. They design "one-of-a-kind" garments in two complete clothing collections each year - one for spring/summer and the other for fall/winter.

From my franchise in Frankford, I offer a wide variety of sewing classes. I have been trained as a MacPhee Workshop Instructor. As well, I am addicted to sewing and enjoy showing sewers the many shortcuts and tips on how to make garments with ease and flare. I have personally assisted Linda MacPhee at many shows and seminars throughout Canada and the United States.

If you are a non-sewer, you can order this



Rosemary Moran sports one of the MacPhee Workshop creations.

creative clothing through the mail-order catalogue. A video series is also available for the ardent sewer who is not able to attend a class directly.

Yes, I do have a life beyond the sewing machine. My husband, Dennis, and I live on a dairy farm outside of Frankford. We have three grown children and four grandchildren. I was involved as a 4-H leader for fifteen years, and participated on their provincial Leadership Council from 1985 to 1989. I enjoy music and am the organist at our church. I also enjoy sports, reading, teaching seminars and being involved with people.

I have been a Women's Institute member since 1971. It is a challenge and an honour to have been elected as the Eastern Regional Vice President. Going into the centennial year of WI is certainly exciting, as well as being a member of the Provincial Board in the first year of the next 100 years of WI.

Rosemary Moran is a member of the Maplevue Women's Institute in the Northumberland East District. She can be reached at RR 1, Frankford ON K0K 2C0, Phone: (613)398-7946(H).

## Western Regional VP Anna Hodge

I live in the village of Tara, near Owen Sound on the Bruce Peninsula, with my husband Ray and youngest son Mathew. We also have two grown sons Andrew and Michael, a daughter Corinna, and a grandson Justin. I work in a senior's lodge as a nurse's attendant, mostly the midnight shift.

Presently, I am President of the Grey-Bruce Area, a Past President of the Bruce Centre District, and a committee member of our annual Craft and Hobby Fair held in Southampton each July.

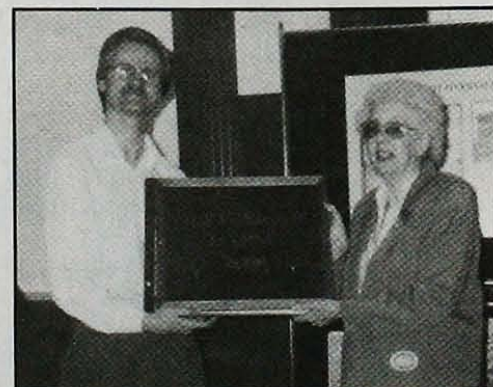
In addition to being a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer, I also mentor a young mother with Cradle-Link, a Brighter Future's Program. I also like knitting, sewing, crocheting, reading and crafts of all types.

I am looking forward to the challenges of being on the FWIO Executive and the Program Committee. With all the changes that the current government is proposing, Women's Institutes province-wide will want their opinions heard.

Most WI members would prefer to consider themselves ordinary, behind-the-scenes types. I know I did, but experience has taught me that all members of the Institute are quite exceptional and they are leaders in their communities. So, let us celebrate and move forward together into the next 100 years.

Anna Hodge is a member of the Tara Women's Institute in the Bruce Centre District. She can be reached at Box 344, Tara ON N0H 2N0, Phone: (519)934-0193.

## West Fort William Tweedsmuir



Last summer, the West Fort William Women's Institute presented their three Tweedsmuir History Books to the Thunder Bay Historical Museum. Museum Curator Tory Tronrud accepts the Tweedsmuir History Books from Nancy Murray, a member of the West Fort William WI.

Submitted by Nancy Murray, member, West Fort William WI, Thunder Bay District.