

Crumlin WI Wins Quilt Fest '94 Competition

The Ontario Agricultural Museum's (OAM) Country Quilt Fest '94 requested Women's Institute Branches to submit wall hangings that incorporated the Home and Country emblem and a welcome message to the new FWIO Provincial office. The winning wall hanging was made by the Crumlin WI Branch in the Middlesex East District. It was presented to the FWIO in September and will hang in their new office for three months.

For more information about next year's Quilt Fest, call Dorene Collins, Promotions and Public Relations Co-ordinator at the Ontario Agricultural Museum, Box 38, Milton, Ontario, L9T 2Y3, (905)876-4530.



Pictured above, from left to right, are: Nancy Urquhart, Crumlin WI member; Anna Jackson, FWIO Executive Secretary; Donna Russett, FWIO President; Ann Van Denbosch, Crumlin WI member; Beth Willis, Crumlin WI member; Marion Moore, Crumlin WI member; Helen Marsh, Crumlin WI member; and, Tony Price, (Acting) General Manager of the OAM.

Photo courtesy of Ken Barton, Ariss, Ontario.

Mushrooms... continued from page 12

In the 16 hours it takes to dry a single batch, Dave must check the mushrooms every two hours and adjust the temperature and air flow of the dryer to maintain the correct colour and shape of the finished product. If he is late loading the dryer in the afternoon, he faces a sleepless night. Still, it all seems worth it. The Oak Forest Mushroom Association have finalized a 10-year contract with Alpha Gourmet International, a large fine food company, for distributing the dried mushrooms across North America.

A Wisconsin newsletter, "Shiitake News," keeps the Reimers up-to-date on new equipment and advances. In addition, they take working holidays, visiting growers in the U.S. or promoting their shiitakes at food shows across the continent, most recently in Los Angeles and Anaheim, California. In their travels, they have yet to discover a competitor at home or abroad that rivals them for size and quality of mushroom or volume of production - a volume that will increase steadily as the brothers expand from their present 35,000 logs to 100,000.

No one in the Reimer family is complaining. Ruth, who also teaches kindergarten, seems to relish her double duty. "When I get home from work, I go into a different gear," she says. "I change my clothes and sometimes work until 11 at night, sorting the mushrooms, packing them for shipping the next day, getting them ready for the dryer."

She speaks for the whole clan when she adds, "I love it here at the farm, working together as a family."

This article was prepared by Foodland Ontario.

Waste Not, Want Not

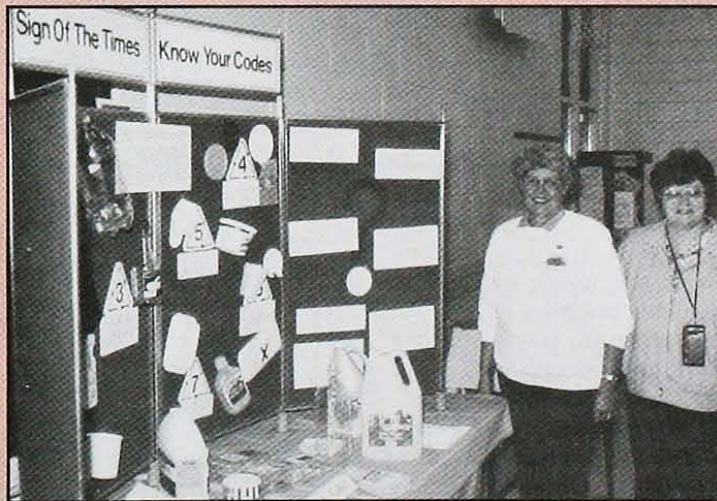
By Maxine Miner

It was an evening of learning as township residents came to Warwick Central School to attend the Public Information Meeting "Understanding Your Blue Box: You Can Make a Difference." Warwick WI (Lambton North District), Laidlaw Waste Systems and Warwick Township Council sponsored the evening to encourage people to use the newly expanded recycling depot at their landfill site.

The hallway and several rooms of the school were filled with demonstrations and displays: "Women and the Environment"

depicted three areas of concern to the Women's Institute - developing a woman's personal environment and potential, working to enhance the family and the community, and preserving global ecology; "Sign of the Times: Know Your Codes" illustrated the different kinds of plastic containers and how to identify them by number; "Nuisance Mail" and "Return to Sender" revealed ways to deal with junk mail; and, "Adopt-A-Road" provided information to residents on how to adopt and keep clean a stretch of road in their area.

Reid Cleland, Division General Manager of Laidlaw Waste Systems, showed a video of their operations. And Brenda Lorenz, Environmental Co-ordinator with Energreen, provided examples on how Warwick Township residents can "think green."



Two Warwick Women's Institute members, Sue Williams (left) and Marjorie Willoughby (right), are looking over the display showing the seven different kinds of plastics.

Maxine Miner is Chair of the Environment Education Committee for the Warwick W.I.