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Meet Your Regional VP's

Self-Profile: Western Regional VP Lorna McGrath

I live with my husband Don on a 296 acre farm between Elmvale and Hillsdale, just north of Barrie. We operate a cow-calf operation; we grow most of our own feed and are establishing a registered Simmental herd. We have five daughters - Bonnie, Julie, Sheila, Kelly and Mae - and three grandchildren. Because of the two-and-a-half year age difference between our youngest daughter and our oldest grandson, they are like sister and brother.

As the Board Director for Subdivision "Lucky" 13, I am promoting Institute at every opportunity. I am gaining experience at meeting people and at public speaking. As Western Regional VP, I expect to gain knowledge to assist all of us in the Western Region.

Presently, I am First Vice-President of the Simcoe Centre District and President of the Silver Maples Branch. The upcoming FWIO Conference at Geneva Park is also keeping me busy these days; I am helping organize the sales and tours for the Conference.

I have always thought of myself as an ordinary, sit quietly in the corner and let somebody else do the work, member. Not any more! I believe in the Women's Institute and I believe in the necessity of having our own provincial office.

Remember, Conference '94 is at Geneva Park, near Orillia, and I'll be there. So please stop me and say hello. I love to talk.

P.S. - I also like knitting, reading, occasional babysitting and learning new square dances.

Self-Profile: Northern Regional VP Doreen McMillan

I grew up in Toronto. My working career began as a bookkeeper in a bank, where I soon progressed to head bookkeeper. In 1951 I married Everett McMillan, an artistic blacksmith. With the arrival of our first child, the banking career was put on hold, and Everett and I settled in the Newmarket area. There we raised five children - Pam, Garry, Brian, Patrick and Lynn.

In 1973 I was introduced to the Bogartown Women's Institute, and the more I learned, the more involved I became. Over the past 20 years I have held executive positions at both Branch and District levels, along with several convenerships. Before I became the FWIO Board member for Subdivision 26, I was District Secretary-Treasurer for Muskoka North, and I am presently President of the Dwight Branch. Being on the FWIO Board has been a wonderful learning and growing experience and I am looking forward to the challenge of serving on the FWIO Executive as your Northern Regional Vice-President.

During the 1970s, I managed all the book work for our family business, ANVIL-CRAFT, and eventually returned to college to upgrade my accounting skills. When the children were all in high school, I took on the position of office manager for a large farming corporation. In 1986 we retired to Muskoka and built our dream home on 18 acres of forest near Dwight. Being part of the WI meant I was soon involved in the community and I began to feel right at home.

Today, I volunteer for the Canadian Cancer Society, and I am involved in helping with the local nursing home. I also have a small accounting and tax service at home. And when I have spare time I love to crochet and read. My latest challenge has been a recently acquired computer. In closing I'd like to pass on this thought: "We cannot change the past, only the future."