

# About ACWW

By Peggy Knapp

When the five ACWW Societies of Eastern Canada met in Truro, Nova Scotia, in November, 1993, the entire program focussed on "Challenges In A Changing World," and provided insights and ideas that might help propel organizations into the future.

With the GATT Discussions taking place in Geneva, it was appropriate that the theme speaker, Owen Jennings of New Zealand, should address the opening session by vividly describing the deregulation of the entire economy of his country with the removal of government farm subsidies in the 1980s. A new challenge faced the agricultural producers and farm groups of New Zealand as they "hunkered down" to find new ways to meet the demands of new markets and to provide a self-help safety net for each other through the succeeding tough economic times.

Dale Ells, Director of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College's International Resource

Centre, provided an overview of its extensive program in International Development, and its linkages throughout the world. Formed to coordinate and implement development work and to increase awareness of international development, the Centre can point proudly to its achievements in such diverse areas as Gambia, Jamaica, Colombia, China and Ghana, where Canadians have lived in local villages and brought students to the College's campus for courses to develop much-needed new skills to cope with the challenges of today's world.

Raising awareness of ACWW was the priority of the Conference, and in addition to the Area President's address, an entire morning was devoted to questions and answers which followed the topic as discussed by Dr. Ellen McLean, Past President of ACWW. In the formality of small groups, many who were attending their first Area Conference, felt encouraged to participate and raised some very insightful questions which sparked the following resolution:

"That through consultation among the five Presidents of the ACWW Societies in Atlantic Canada and the Area President, a specific ACWW Project be considered for adoption."

During the business session, sponsorship,

twinning, Pennies For Friendship, projects individual memberships were part of the agenda. Resolutions passed at The Hague in 1992 were read and efforts renewed by all five Societies to take whatever actions possible during the remainder of the triennium.

The closing luncheon speaker, Dr. Ellen McLean, sent the members to their homes with thoughts of the International year of the Family and what they as societies and members were going to do in 1994 to strengthen the family unit, to communicate its value and importance to the community, and to be at the forefront of its promotion on May 15, 1994.

The Area President's closing remarks expressed thanks to the Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia, the Hostess Society, to Arlene McGregor, Committee Chair, and to the Committee composed of the Society Presidents, whose careful planning led to such a successful event.

Throughout the Conference there was warmth, music and laughter - the language of international friendship.

*Peggy Knapp is the ACWW Area President for Canada.*

## FWIO Conference '94

By May Brown

Don't procrastinate! Mail your registration form today to attend the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario Conference '94 at Geneva Park on the shore of Lake Couchiching near Orillia. Come and enjoy this scenic location from August 12-14, 1994, as well as learn from the interesting program that has been planned.

The opening ceremony includes the procession of the flags, music and an address by ACWW Area President for Canada, Peggy Knapp. A reception will follow giving you the opportunity to meet new people and speak to old friends.

Saturday will be a busy and learning time with keynote speakers and panel discussions. The workshops are varied, including speakers and demonstrations, as well as opportunities to make new crafts. At the end of the day, everyone can enjoy a beef barbecue followed by entertainment.

If the weather co-operates on Sunday, a worship service will be held outdoors. Wrap-up sessions will then conclude the conference.

Please remember, a tour has been planned for the men who have accompanied their



wives. So why not make this special event a holiday as well as a learning experience, as we look at "Challenges in a Changing World."

*May Brown is in charge of public relations for the 1994 FWIO Conference Planning Committee.*

## Congratulations

### Anniversaries:

Lexington WI	31
Spanish River WI	45
Cedar Hill WI	80
North Huntsville WI	80
Wilton Grove WI	85
Churchill WI	90
St. George WI	90

### Certificates of Merit:

- St. George WI*
- Rhoda Dufton
  - Jean McClay
  - Jean Russell
  - Shirley Williams

### Life Memberships:

- Desbarats WI*
- Rachel Hunter
- North Huntsville WI*
- Betty Higgins
  - Pat Miller
  - Fran Morrison
  - Mary Rye
  - Beth Wreggett
- Pittsburgh WI*
- Dorothea Gammeljord
- Singer's Corners WI*
- Pamela Bronn