

News from the FWIO April Meeting

Creiff Hills Community and Conference Centre was the setting for the spring meeting of the Executive and Board of Directors of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO). After dinner on the evening of April 13, everyone gathered to brainstorm on topics for Conference '94.

The following highlights some of the reports presented throughout the next two days:

Education Advisory Committee

Kay Taylor read the Family Life Skills Program Report. She stated that Pass-It-On received only five requests. The one request in the North could not be honoured, but the other four will be presented.

Hilde Morden facilitated a workshop to determine the future policy on the Family Life Skills Program. After much discussion, it was decided that the 3-year pilot project with Pass-It-On be discontinued. The explanation: "Due to the changing lifestyles of WI members, Educational Advisory Committees realize the necessity for a CHANGE in direction. Our women no longer have the time for preparation and teaching."

In place of Pass-It-On, the Subdivisions and/or Districts will be encouraged to establish an Educational Committee to organize seminars or workshops relating to life skills to meet their particular needs. It was suggested that they use local experts, open the activity to the community, and fill out a report form to send back to the FWIO.

The Education Advisory Committee will prepare directives for the Board Directors, as well as a report form to include space for 4-H leadership and Agri-Food Education.

FWIO's Charitable Status

The Charities Division of Revenue Canada Taxation has granted expansion of FWIO's charitable status to include donations to the Headquarters Fund, the History Book and Conference '97. Charitable Receipts may now be sent to individuals upon request for donations of \$25 or more, commencing March 15, 1993.

Centennial Committee

The Mementoes Committee have approved the following requests: a Centennial Flag from the Perth North District; serviettes from the Ontario North District; a pocket-size date book and planner from the Brant North District; travel mugs from the Huron East District; china mugs from the Uxbridge Branch; and, lapel pins from the Palmyra Branch.

Women's Day at the Royal

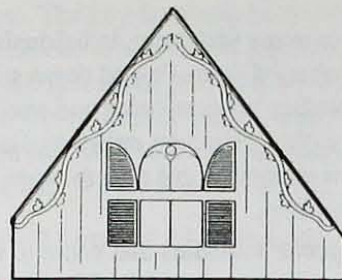
Mark your calendars now! Thursday, November 11, 1993, is Women's Day at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. The theme of this year's Royal is "food." The Royal is planning a Christmas Village and the WI will likely participate there.

Personal Growth & Renewal

A recommendation was passed that the Personal Growth and Renewal Courses will be held in April of 1994, and that drama and photography (knowing your camera better) be offered.

Western Regional VP

Please note that Marilyn Sharp is the Western Regional Vice-President. In her profile in the Spring 1993 issue, I stated she was the Southern VP. Sorry Marilyn!



Erland Lee (Museum) Home

The Erland Lee (Museum) Home assessment of 40 cents per member will be on the FWIO Fee Sheet for 1993-94. Also note that a Harvest Festival Luncheon will be on September 28 and 29, 1993. For more information about the events at the Lee Home contact Mary Kneebone, Curator/Hostess, The Erland Lee (Museum) Home, 52 Ridge Rd., Stoney Creek, Ontario, L8G 3X4, (416)662-2691.

About ACWW

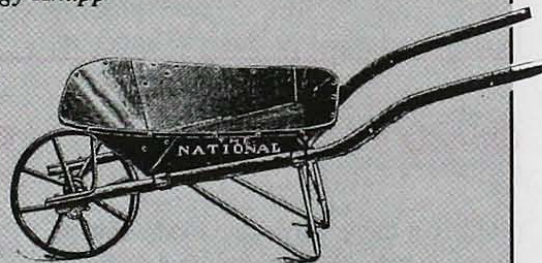
By Peggy Knapp

The Associated Country Women of the World is an international umbrella for women's organizations worldwide, with particular concern for rural women.

It is pledged to build on the traditional values of family life, to develop community projects, to gain access to skills development, education and training, and to express the views of women to the decision-makers locally, nationally and internationally.

Supported by members' fees and their collection of "Pennies for Friendship," it has a remarkable record of achievement.

Project funds have been generously supported by Ontario WI members through the "Save Sight" and "Water for All" programs, and are now being collected for "Women Feed the World," the project for this triennium.



To a woman trying to eke out a meagre existence for her family in a developing country, even the smallest tools can make a world of difference. Our \$5 donation will buy a garden spade, \$10 a preserving kettle, and \$20 a wheelbarrow or a brooder for fifty chicks.

And our Pennies for Friendship hold women together around the world. Think of it - 7,000,000 of us - bonded together as supporters and friends. Certainly, we can make a difference!

Peggy Knapp is the ACWW Area President for Canada.