

Burnstown WI wraps up winter

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By EILEEN BRYDGES
Special to The Mercury

The winter season for the Burnstown Women's Institute wound up with three interesting events.

In the living area of Florella's Antiques and Treasures in the village, Bonnie Aspin hosted the annual international night in February.

With guests from Stewartville, all enjoyed a pot luck supper of foods of many lands such as Spanish rice, Irish Colcannon potatoes and White Forest Cake.

Life member Adele McLeod was a literacy prize winner at the Eastern Ontario Area convention with her "Story of a Quilt."

She read this to the gathering and was congratulated on her award.

She showed a picture of the quilt which was a crazy patchwork pieced by Bella Hutson and Minnie Wilson,

late aunts of Rev. George Richardson.

Guest speaker Sandra Petrie of White Lake gave a very informative talk on the people and culture of Taiwan where she taught English for part of the year 2000.

She illustrated her talk with distribution of well-organized snaps and post cards and items of memorabilia.

Jessie Fraser thanked the speaker for her introduction to a fascinating country about which we previously had little knowledge.

At the March meeting at the home of Irene Robillard, part two of the computer training workshop was given.

Using her extensive equipment, aided by Bonnie Aspin and Marie Ingram, Irene demonstrated the many uses of the scanner and palm pilot, and sent a brief message by e-mail on

the Internet.

The literacy committee, composed of Diane McKinnon, Bonnie Aspin, Marie Ingram and Eileen Brydges, has launched Burnstown WI's essay competition in 10 local schools at the Grade 4 level.

The topic for this challenge is "A View of the Future".

Entries are due April 5 and judges will declare prize winners in May.

All entrants will be rewarded with admit tickets to the 2002 Renfrew Fair where prize-winning essays will be displayed in September.

The branches' resolution asking for the return of home care services where they are most needed has finally reached the Ontario Ministry of Health.

Will it get results?

Adele McLeod's name once again came to the forefront.

At the Renfrew Fair she won first prize for her whole wheat bread.

Next she won the same for her entry at the area convention in Delta. That led to a further challenge.

Competing as one of 15 entries in Toronto in February, she came second. Burnstown WI members are proud to have the second best bread maker in the province as one of their members!

Other activities included a donation to the Renfrew Fair board and the making of centrepieces for the Bonnechere Manor.

At the April 4 meeting at the home of Eileen Brydges, members will hear annual reports from all officers and convenors, install new officers for 2002-2003, and pay annual dues.

Any and all interested are welcome to attend, a good time to learn what WI is all about.



March 2002 - Home of Irene Robillard - Computer Workshop

Back L→R: Norma Riopelle, Marie Ingram, Helen Jones, Betty Comba
Seated L→R: Irene Robillard, Jessie Fraser, Eileen Brydges