

Eden Grove WI assemble Valentine's boxes for shut-ins

Eden Grove Women's Institute met at the home of Ferne Abell on February 14.

The roll call, "if someone new came to Canada, how would you promote Canada", was answered by 12 members.

They assembled 14 Valentine boxes for the shut-ins. Abell handed out some Valentine games and

a Cupid word find.

The institute will be selling pies at the home show in Walkerton on April 6.

Michelle Phillippi and Marion Chesney served lunch.

The next meeting is March 21 at the Cargill park building at 7:30 p.m. Barb Patterson will be speaking on women's health issues.

Area WI convention updates members on issues

FROM RICK AND VICKI JACKLIN

Special to SCN

The Grey Bruce WI's 43rd Area Convention was held this fall at the St. Peter and St Paul's Family Centre in Durham.

Guest speaker Pastor Sheila Fletch spoke on the importance of volunteering.

Christine Reaburn, FWIO President, did the honours of conducting the elections of the officers and gave a very informative account of what is happening in the WI provincially. We should be very proud of our accomplishments.

Our Grey Bruce President, Vicki Braeker, conducted the meeting and had various humorous tid bits throughout the day. Kimberly WI was given recognition for being 100 years in service.

We are to encourage non-members to

come to any of the branch's meetings and enjoy friendship, fellowship, fun, educational opportunities, and a way to contribute to your community here and around the world.

We had an informative report on the Erland Lee Museum and branches are requested to help donate funds as a new roof is needed.

There was a lively discussion on the new health board regulations on food handling. It was decided that because there seemed to be a conflict of information that the executive should meet with the inspectors and try to get the requirements uniform throughout the Grey Bruce Area.

There was a brief outline of the great time the ACWW convention in Hamilton was and how informative the workshops and meetings were.

Local women have made big contributions to agriculture, WI hears

by Barb Klages

Ethel Brant Monture, Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, Agnes Macphail and Peggy Knapp.

In the last century, these women have made enormous contributions to agriculture and a way of life in Canada.

Ethel Brant Monture was born to a farm family in Brant County in 1894. She was a descendant of Joseph Brant and led many short

courses and projects related to agriculture in her community. She was the first president of the women's section of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies and worked to establish agriculture courses for native people. She joined the staff of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and helped arrange student exchanges between Ontario and Quebec. She was

renowned as a lecturer, author and expert on Canada's native people.

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless lived in the last half of the 1800s. She was prompted by the death of her infant son to devote herself to educating women in household management, especially in areas of prevention of illness and disease. To this end, she established Women's Institutes, helped to establish the Victorian

Order of Nurses, the YWCA, National Council of Women, MacDonald Institute at the (now) University of Guelph and MacDonald College in Quebec.

Agnes Macphail was born in the area in 1890 and was the first woman to be elected to the federal House of Commons. She supported women's suffrage and helped establish family allowances, pensions for the

elderly and disabled, unemployment insurance, equal pay and prison reform. She also served in the Provincial Legislature.

Peggy Knapp, a woman of our times, has served as Provincial President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, as well as the Canadian Area President of the Associated Country Women of the World. She has also served on many boards-Ontario

Agricultural College, Ontario Veterinary College, Ontario Agricultural Museum, Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Besides these women, the Malcolm Women's Institute learned much about many outstanding women in agriculture through a presentation by Marg McCready, one of the branch members.

WOMEN/sec page 14

WOMEN/ from page 8

Local women who are active in farm operation include Jayne Dietrich, Bruce County Federation of Agriculture president and co-founder of Roots of Bruce; Kathy Velocci, advisor with the Ontario Agriculture

Training Institute, which provides training services

to the agriculture industry; Carol Rock, co-founder and executive director of WRED (Women's Rural Economic Development) which is dedicated to sustaining rural communities; Concerned Farm Women, who directed attention to the farm crisis, and many more.

With McCready's guidance, WI members calculated the number of farm products people use every day-food, cosmetics, clothing, household furnishings, wood...the list is endless.

Members also looked at how farming in 1900 compares to farming in 2000.

In 1900, it would likely cost a farmer about \$2,000 to set up to start farming. In 2000, there are many more zeroes in the start-up costs.

The jobs, expectations, workload and how things are done have also changed in 100 years.

At the March meeting of the Malcolm Women's Institute, members will be asked to sing, say or pay something Irish.

A speaker will talk about alternative medicine.