

Kairshea Women's Institute meets

The September Kairshea WI meeting was held at the home of president June Gilchrist with 19 members and one guest present.

June introduced guest speakers Gunne Weber, district president of the WI, and opened the meeting with the opening ode and the Mary Stewart Collect. A poem, fall Majesty, was read by June, followed by scripture by Kay McIntosh on positive thoughts.

Minutes of the June meeting and a report on the July theatre trip to Blyth were given by secretary. Correspondence followed. St. Helens WI invited our members to attend their 100th birthday

celebrations at the St. Helens Hall.

Murray Gaunt is to be the speaker at the Bruce County Historical Society's annual general meeting held in October.

Rally day is Oct. 4 at the Underwood Community Centre. The theme is "our heritage."

Bylaws for Bruce County Institute was read by the secretary. The area convention is Oct. 18 in Maxwell. Entries and exhibits for the fall fair were dis-

cussed. Rollcall were reports on highlights from another group.

Each member was to wear her blue Institute hat and Institute pin and the majority did. The guest speaker spoke on PRO and home and country new items.

A C W W Women's Day is Oct. 15. The treasurer's report was given by Marion McKinnon. Alice extended courtesy remarks to hostess and committee.

The meeting closed with O Canada and grace, followed by a delicious lunch.

Women's Institute Week

Feb. 12 to 18

Kinloss-Kairshea WI meets

the 3rd Thursday

All Welcome!

Call 519-395-2851 for more info

*** Meeting February 16**

at

River Valley Apartments



Kairshea WI sees 15 members at meeting

By Betty Hamilton

The January meeting of the Kairshea WI was held at the home of Alice Ritchie with 15 ladies present. The topic was "one room school days versus present". The rollcall was answered by sharing a fond memory of the member's school days. Everyone joined in singing 'School Days'.

The scripture was read by Andrea Feeley, who also had an in memoriam for one of the members, Vera Schmidt, who recently passed away. A donation of \$50 was sent to FWIO in her memory.

Irene Haldenby had a reading and Andrea Feeley read a poem.

Nancy MacIntyre was the guest speaker and told of the many ways teaching has changed over the years. Mothers were at home, report cards were easier to understand, the Lord's prayer and hymns were part of the curriculum.

June Gilchrist spoke of the one room schoolhouse with all eight grades. There were few resources and the older pupils helped and also played with the younger ones.

Today most pupils and schools have laptops, computers, calculators, videos and DVDs.

Playgrounds are divided into primary, junior and senior play

areas.

The members were reminded that the week of Feb. 12 - 18 has been designated as Women's Institute Week.

The meeting closed with the singing of 'O Canada'.



Mowbray host to WI

The February Kairshea WI meeting was held at the River Valley Apartments with Margaret Mowbray the hostess. There were 12 members and three guests present. The meeting started off with dessert - angel food cake with strawberries, which was enjoyed by all.

Alice Ritchie read the minutes and Marion MacKinnon gave the treasurer's report. It was decided to give a donation of \$100 to the Agricultural Society.

This was the Tweedsmuir History meeting led by Irene

Haldenby. Several readings were given with one entitled *Remember When?* Do you remember when going to the Ex was the thrill of the year? Kids were told to "go outside and play?" Having a weapon meant owning a slingshot. Decisions were made by playing "eeny-meeny-miney-mo."

It was interesting to hear the answers to the rollcall which was "What year did you or your family get your first TV and what was your favourite program at that time?"

The meeting closed with the singing of *O Canada*.

THE OLD COUNTRY SCHOOLHOUSE

Submitted by Maryann Pafford, London

Remember the Old Country Schoolhouse back in the thirties? - how different from what we see today. Although, even then the appearance of each one was different, ours was a two story, old white building with lots of charm. The building sat at the end of a dead end street, with a very large field behind it - where we enjoyed recess.

To enter our school, you would go through large double doors. Boys on one side and girls on the other into a very large entry way, with stairs leading up to the first two classrooms. These stairs I remember very well. In our school, we celebrated Arbour Day - it was a day we looked forward

to for months - a day when we would clean the school from basement to second floor, and outside as well. Anything the teacher decided needed a good cleaning. Of course this also meant the teachers car, (not too many teachers had a car back then) and of course we all wanted that job. To work outside was such an exciting part of the day - be it planting flowers, or cleaning the school yard, where we played allies or marbles each recess. But there I was every Arbour Day, sitting inside on the steps, with a pail and a brush, scrubbing each step very carefully and dreaming that maybe next year I would be chosen to work outside.