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HISTORY OF PINE GROVE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
FROM OUR TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY

The Branch was organized in the The Pine Grove School S.S.#9, on May 14th, 1914.

President - Mrs. Alex McNab

Vice President - Mrs. Donald McLaren

Secretary - Treasurer - Miss Alice Fraser

Members - Mrs. George Green, Mrs. Duncan J. Campbell, Mrs. James Fraser, Mrs. Wm. Adrain, and Mrs. J. E. Hudson.

The chief work of the Branch during the early years was work and upholding the W.I. Motto " For Home and Country." The first money working project was an autograph quilt, which was sent overseas with pillows, sheets and a hospital cot. Reading recently in our Home and Country, a thank you letter was from long ago by a nurse in training in the Buckinghamshire Hospital wrote how much the coloured quilts were appreciated by staff and patients, surrounded by white furniture and walls. This letter was written by Dorothy Wilson, South Africa.

In the early days afternoon meetings were held in the homes, followed by a social hour and refreshments, which was their supper. They were much enjoyed and the ladies would attend dressed up travelled by horse and buggy, sleigh in the winter. I have been told in stormy weather/whatever. In those days, I am sure it was a monthly outing, away from their large families and in some cases a child might attend, if there was no one home to take care of them.

Later the membership increased and many activities took place such as: quilting bees, card parties, picnics and dances for the neighbourhood. If stones could speak, what stories we would hear.

Mrs. Katie Moir joined a short time later and has been a member of our Branch for seventy-four years guiding us in later years.

Through the years the W.I. kept the members updated as much as possible with world events and culture etc.

At the present time the Conveners of Standing Committees give a an interesting report at each evening meeting, such as: cultural, education, citizenship, agriculture, International Affairs etc. and if a member has interesting information, it is much appreciated by all present.

The late Alex Staye, a community minded person would give the Institute use of his hall for dances and a play at one time. These functions were held for our cash flow, refreshments were served and enjoyed. This continued once or twice a year until the Mayfair was burnt a few years ago. Often the music would be local members of the Community.

Members from our Branch serving at District Level:

Presidents: Miss Janet Yuill 1919 - also as

Mrs. John Wilson 1928-30

Mrs. J. H. Findlay 1939-40 District later Area
and a three year term Provincial