## HEARTBEATS of the Community

## "For home and country" on Sout

by CHERYL WAUGH

Post Staff Writer

For 64 years the Southline Branch of the Women's Institute has been working for "home and country" within the Hanover area. The membership has had its ups and downs throughout the years, at one point in the late '60's the membership was down to eight, but today the group stands strong with 20 members and is a welcoming presence in the Hanover community.

Out-going President Joan Grubb has

Out-going President Joan Grubb has been a member of the group for 14 years, a relative new comer considering two members, Leona Francis and Anna Oehring, have been a part of the group for 55 and 44 years, respectively. There are four others who have achieved 25 year pins.

Mrs. Grubb was brought into the group through a friend. "I'm not sorry at all—it's a happy go-lucky group here," she said.

Both happy go-lucky, and happy to help out, the ladies of Southline run "Ye Olde Tea Room at the Heritage Fair, lunch booths at farm sales, and make quilts for Participation Lodge.

They will also hold birthday parties at Walkerton/Hanover hospital when asked, or at nursing homes. Every March the ladies hold an Easter parade at the Walkerton Hospital and sing a variety of songs to them.

This year they held it on March 25 and their selection of songs ranged from, "You Are My Sunshine" to "The Old Rugged Cross". They had a full 20 minute program lined up for the Walkerton patients to enjoy.

Since 1934, when the Southline branch of the Women's Institute was first formed by Mrs. Joseph Kirstine, the ladies have worked to keep the homestead. During World War II the group knitted clothing, sent food boxes and money to bombed out areas of great Britain.

Closer to home, the ladies main-

tained a ward at Hospital by buyi blankets, chairs, paint. Money was Memorial to buy e donating to orga CNIB, Arthritis Society.

They still have t the Cancer Societor, and donate to, The ladies meet ever day of the month ber's homes, have summer in July Christmas party in

Each meeting v particular membe bring back to the February's meetir where members v and introduce her up for discussion Culture Activities

The meetings well as social. anyone is welcor

The ladles of the Southline Women's Institute are, from left to right; Front row: Caryle Hickling, Joan Stroeder, Mary Poechman, Florence Birr, Brenda Meyer, Joan Ernewein, Joan Hundt, Gali Poechman, and Marlene Montag. Back row: Leona Francis, Bernetta Freiburger, Eugenia Zettler, Tonia Kingma, Gladys Benninger, Joan Grubb, Phyllis Siegner, Phyllis Poechman and Anna Oehring. Absent members were Cathy Van De Vyvere and Ruth Pletsch.

Gladys
Benninger
And
Joan Grubb
Were InterViewed about
Our
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