

Prescott County District Annual Meeting May 15, 1991

The theme of the meeting was "The challenge of change."

"Change may be different and uncomfortable, but not impossible."

With these words, Marie Wilkes, District President challenged members and visitors to accept the changes facing our Women's Institutes. In her address she told us we should look at change as a wonderful opportunity which leads to progress.

Ethelda Boa of Look Out Bay conducted a moving memorial service for seven deceased members who were lovingly remembered by a brief tribute and the placing of a white carnation by a member of the deceased's branch. Kay Mooney accompanied by Catherine Smith on the organ, rendered a beautiful solo, "Spirit."

Frankie Higginson, PRO, Alma Presley, Program Coordinator, Margaret Newton, Curator and Ruby Proudfoot, Resolutions Convenor, in their annual reports, showed that the branches in Prescott had a busy year with many interesting meetings. Two items stood out. Ethelda Boa's picture and article on the environment were published in the magazine for ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World — our world-wide organization).

Ruby Proudfoot pointed out that one of our resolutions from Prescott District was to lower the age of membership in 4-H from 12 to 10 years. Ten years later it has been lowered across the province.

The Prescott District 4-H Scholarship was presented to Kim Carkner. Kerry Dawson received the Everready 4-H Scholarship. Both girls are from the Stardale 4-H Club. Congratulations girls and keep up the good work!

They and their mothers were special guests at the

noon luncheon catered for our hostess branch Look Out Bay in the United Church hall.

Kim Carkner is also Dairy Princess for Prescott County. She spoke about her work as a goodwill ambassador for the dairy industry. Children in schools and their questions will always be a highlight for her. "Can you do magic?"

"Do you know the Tooth Fairy?"

She has been to 2-3 functions each month and in August competes in Toronto for Dairy Princess of Ontario.

The noon entertainment, provided by Look Out Bay, was Kareena Dainty, a student at Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute, who favoured us with several beautiful songs.

On display in the hall were photographs of members' homes from each of the seven branches in Prescott District: Cassburn, Greenlane, Hillview, Look Out Bay, Plantagenet, Stardale and Sunshine. Also on display were photos taken by PRO Frankie Higginson at the 1990 District Annual, 6-F's Workshop in Kemptville, Conference '90 at Carleton University and the Area Convention in October. Much interest was shown in all the displays.

Lois Dillabough, new Board Director, asked that we support courses offered by FWIO. A Senior Training School on Decor Accents will be held in Avonmore on Sept. 13 if two leaders from a minimum of 14 groups apply. She summarized the planning for the 100th Anniversary of WI and other information and coming events. WI theme for the '90s continues to be "Women Feed the World," and this year they are stressing planting a tree.

Marie Ouimet, ROS, told of the change in her organization, OMAF. She doesn't help WI as much but helps many more organizations, such as 4-H. She announced the 1991 is the first

year that 10-year-olds are allowed to be 4-H members. Up to May 1 there were more new members than in all of last year. She mentioned some of the publications available at the OMAF office at Plantagenet.

Pennies for Friendship were collected for ACWW which has a project in India.

WI officers from neighbouring Districts of Dundas, Stormont, Glengarry and Russell were guests for the day.

Very few changes were made in the slate of officers. Jean Morrison is the new District Curator of Tweedsmuir histories.

Phylis Deragon and Ann Nicholas were lucky winners of door prizes. Everyone attending was a winner. receiving a spruce or pine seedling, a gift from the Department of Natural Resources in Cornwall through OMAF. This was in response to the FWIO request that every member plant a tree to help the environment.

Dorothy Allen, our hard-working Secretary-Treasurer kept everything running smoothly throughout the day.

Micheline McRae from Hillview invited us for next year's District Annual.

An impressive flag ceremony opened and closed the meeting.

Ethelda Boa and Marie Wilkes expressed thanks to all who made this an excellent and informative Annual.