



**BRUCE COUNTY DISTRICT
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

6th Annual Meeting

**Elmwood Community Centre
Elmwood, Ontario**

**Thursday, May 22, 2003
Registration 9:00 a.m.**

**Host Branches:
Southline-Brant,
South Saugeen,
Tara,
Tiverton,
Underwood**

Luncheon \$9.00

**Theme:
A Guiding Light**

**THE SUN TIMES MAY 31, 2003
OWEN SOUND
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Bruce County District

The 49th annual meeting of the Bruce County District Women's Institute was held on Thursday, May 22 at the Elmwood Community Centre.

President Betty Anne Thompson started the day off right with a verse telling us we had a smile, it is free, pass it on whenever you can. Tara WI welcomed us and the roll call was answered by 33 of our 33 branches. Congratulations on 100% representation!

Secretary-treasure Doreen MacAdam began with the reading of the 2002 district annual minutes, the financial report, the donation report and the correspondence. Doris Hays gave the financial advisors report on behalf of Ina Ireland and Mary O'Malley who were unable to attend.

Nine different committee representatives presented their reports. All reports indicated a very busy year with 441 members doing approximately 18,000 hours of volunteer work. Mem-

bers learned about a large variety of health issues, crafts, local business and much more. They have been busy working on their Tweedsmuir histories, representing WI at various fairs, Roots of Bruce, Bruce County Farm Safety, The Bruce County Museum, and the Bruce County tartan to touch just a few activities.

The election and installation of 2003 2004 officers was conducted by Past President Linda Freiburger and Joy Trimble.

There was not much new business to attend to this spring but two items of note are: firstly, the WI will be working with Bruce County to make an arrangement on how to keep the tartan going and in what capacity the WI will perform. The second project is to try favourite recipes over the summer and bring the recipe to the fall rally Oct 7 in Underwood as a cookbook will be assembled for a fundraiser. More information will be mailed to the branches as the committee pulls everything together.

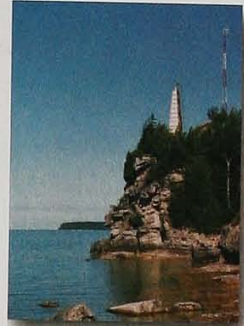
Thank you to the ladies who donated eight quilts to Participation Lodge.

THE BEAUTIFUL BRUCE PENINSULA

Peninsula Lighthouses

The Lighthouse, a majestic structure that conjures visions of high seas and adventure! Here on the Beautiful Bruce Peninsula these lighthouses stand as a beacon to all sailors passing by and a reminder of days gone by. Now unmanned these lighthouses are a part of our marine heritage. So come visit a lighthouse, enjoy the drive... and the beautiful scenery.

Flowerpot Island Lighthouse was built to guide ships as they travelled from Georgian Bay to



FLOWERPOT LIGHT KENT WILKENS

Lake Huron. The Flowerpot Lighthouse was built of wood in 1896 and over the years the elements took their toll. In 1968, a new steel tower was erected and a foghorn plant was installed. A new dwelling was also erected but the original one still stands and is in good condition. The station is part of Fathom Five National Marine Park and is now a completely automated station. Open Daily, Victoria Day Weekend to Thanksgiving. Accessible by boat tour from Tobermory.

Big Tub Lighthouse stands as a silent sentinel at the entrance of Tobermory. In 1855 the Department of Marine and Fisheries bought three lots at the entrance to the Big Tub Harbour for a lighthouse. In the 1870's, Charles Earl, one of the first settlers in the township, hung a lantern on a tree where the lighthouse was later built. Earl's lantern guided ships into the Big Tub Harbour where they could take refuge from storms and high seas. Grateful for this service, sailors gave Earl coal, flour and coal oil. In 1883 he was paid one hundred dollars a year for this



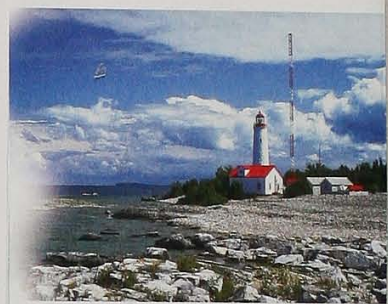
BIG TUB LIGHT KENT WILKENS

service. He became the first keeper of the new light and remained so until his death. The 43 foot lighthouse at the entrance to Big Tub Harbour is now fully automated with access for visitors.

Although the lighthouse is only open once a year to the public, as part of the Marine Heritage Festival in mid-August, it's a great place to sit, picnic and watch the boats pass by.

Cove Island Lighthouse is one of six Imperial lighthouses built in the 1850's. The Cove Island Light was first lit on October 30, 1858, following a delay in the shipping of the lens from France. The fuel first used was sperm whale oil! Today the light is electrically powered thanks to a submarine power cable linking Cove Island to Tobermory. The light from the 500 watt bulb is magnified to about 10 times its power by six prisms that revolve around the light. The prisms are separated by sections of frame giving the impression that the light blinks on and off, when it is actually on all the time. Ships can see the Cove Island Light up to 80 km away (50 miles)

depending on the weather. When you travel on the ferry between Tobermory and Manitoulin Island, keep an eye out for the Cove Island Light Station. It will be on the west side, about 20 minutes from Tobermory. Open seasonally, weekends only (weather permitting). Tour boat access only.



COVE ISLAND LIGHT PARKS CANADA

In 1933, it was damaged by fire and repaired again. In the 1960's, the tower was dismantled by the Coast Guard. In 1980, students built a replica

Cabot Head Light station is located on a cliff 1/3 miles east of Wingfield Basin in Georgian Bay and can be reached by following Dyers Bay Road - to the end. The original square wooden tower, rising from the corner of a framed dwelling, was removed in 1971 and replaced by a steel skeleton tower with an automated signal beacon. The station was unmanned in 1988, was neglected for several years and was doomed to join a long list of abandoned lighthouses. The Friends of Cabot



CABOT HEAD LIGHT © SUN TIMES

Head was formed to save the station from destruction. During their first two years, a feasibility study was conducted and the original building was restored to its former glory. The Friends reopened the lighthouse with a Visitor Centre, replaced the lighthouse dome and built new trails. In 1995, the station celebrated its 100th anniversary. Don't forget to take a walk to Wingfield Basin which overlooks the Provincial Nature Reserve Research Station. Open daily 9am to sunset. May 1 to Thanksgiving.

Lions Head Lighthouse is the little lighthouse that would not give up! In 1883, the sandbar which blocked the harbour for years was cleared away and a channel allowed ships to make their way into the dock. In 1903, a light was established. In 1911, a square tower was added, but in less than a year it was knocked down by weather and replaced. In November 1913, a storm drove the lighthouse onto the harbour's south beach, but it was recovered and restored.



LION'S HEAD LIGHT © ETHAN MELEZ

and in 1983 the Lion's Head Lighthouse was completed. Today it stands again on its station on the wharf. To reach this lighthouse, follow Ferndale Road east off of Highway #6 to the village of Lion's Head and follow the signs to the beach/marina. For more info on Lighthouse tours see www.naturalretreat.com/lighthouses