

Maple Grove

A special meeting was held on Feb. 19, 1997 to celebrate our Centennial. Former members were invited to join us. The committee in charge presented the beginnings of W.I. They did a terrific job. We sang the centennial song and followed the suggested menu of tea biscuits and jam. It was fun thinking back to the beginnings and the worthwhile work of W.I. Candles were lit in celebration and it was especially neat to be thinking of our mothers and grandmothers.

In July we held a picnic inviting spouses to join us. We spoke again of the exciting year of W.I. celebrations. One of our members decorated a cake, with the W.I. logo, which was enjoyed by all.

Oakland

The Oakland Township Community Centre was the setting for the celebration of 100 years of W.I. on February 11, 1997. Oakland branch ladies were dressed as it would have been the custom in 1897. Eighty-four ladies and three men came to share in the afternoon's festivities. Tweedsmuir history books were available for browsing.

President, Shirley Lefler welcomed all. Sharon Anderson introduced Jean Tottle as one of 100 recipients of the prestigious Centennial Award. Jean has been a W.I. member for 56 years and a life member of Oakland for 39. Alfreda Allan, Oakland W.I. was the oldest member present at 93 years young. She wore a shawl her grandmother used at her wedding and laced high button boots that were 77 years old.

An old clipping reminded us of 1000 pounds of jam sent to soldiers overseas. The planned programme was followed and it was a day to remember for us, especially having our FWIO President, Marg Harris and her husband with us. A delicious lunch of tea biscuits, homemade jam, real butter, homemade bread and assorted pies, tea and coffee was enjoyed.

Joyce Starkey - 1st V.P., Lois McIntosh - 2nd V.P., Shirley Lefler - President Norma Stratford - Bd. Dir., Velma Anderson - Sec., Margaret McEwan - Tweedsmuir Curator, Sharon Anderson - District Director



L-R (seated) Eileen Flowers, Beatrice McKeen, Mary Lint, Rena Mowat, Grace Pond, Viola Wadel, Jean Cass. L-R (back row) Lorna Greenlees, Mernie McCartney, Frances Nelles, Helen Smith, Norma Hedley, Orpha Strome, Mary Rhora, Marjorie Hoekstra, Susan Bacher.

Haldimand East and Haldimand West District

Haldimand East and Haldimand West District united to celebrate the Women's Institutes's Centennial Anniversary. On Feb. 19, 1997 at the Agricultural Center, Kohler, more than 170 women representing the fourteen branches gathered together. Many of the members dressed in 1897 costumes. A pot luck dinner was served smorgasbord style followed by the outlined programme. Rena Mowat, Selkirk branch, 95 years and Mary Lint, Kohler branch, 94 years cut the birthday cake plus with the District Presidents.

The mayor of the Town of Haldimand presented certificates of appreciation for their contribution to the betterment of the community to the eight W.I.s. Haldimand West was honoured to have two chosen for the Centennial award. They are Helen Smith, Clanbrasil and Mary Nelles, Sims Locks.

Displays were set up at the Caledonia Fair.

Canborough and Oswego

Our special meeting to celebrate the 100th anniversary of W.I. was held on Feb. 20, 1997 with the Oswego Friendship Group at Bethany United Church. We added to the programme as set out with a reply to the theme "Celebrate the Past, Challenge the Future" with Marjorie Hoekstra in the chair. Displays of centennial memorabilia such as old handbooks, the new history book, clippings, tea towels and other keepsakes. We presented some members with corsages for their outstanding contribution to W.I. A candle was lit in memory of deceased members and in celebration of 100 years. Entertainment, a social hour, cutting of an anniversary cake and the Hymn of all Nations closed a very special meeting.

Majorie Hoekstra - President Oswego Friends, Janice Croft - President Canborough, Regina Wagter, Sec. Treas. Haldimand East District.

