

Woodhouse

Woodhouse Women's Institute was organized in April, 1918 by a group of women who had worked diligently for the war effort during the First World War. When their sewing and knitting was no longer needed, they decided to keep meeting together and thus this branch was organized and then they worked for "Home and Country".

We met on Feb. 19, 1997, along with other Institutes across the province in the beautiful heritage home of Miss Winnie Walker, current branch treasurer. Her family has strived to maintain the historical significance of their home.

A lunch typical of 1897 was served on antique china in the spacious dining room. Former members were in attendance, with many in Centennial fashion.

Life member, Elva Reichheld received her 60 year Institute pin. She has served in every office. Woodhouse branch helped to plant the flower bed in Wellington Park, Simcoe and helped to fund the project.

The historical home of Winnie Walker, built in 1830's by her great-great grandfather Isaac Gilbert.



Shirley Dakin and Muriel Hodgkins painted a banner "100 years of Women's Institutes" to decorate the table and as our W.I. float in the Wainfleet Fall Fair parade. Welland West District celebrates ▲

O'Reilly's Bridge

Members dressed in period dress held an old-fashioned pot luck luncheon on Feb. 19, 1997, using recipes from 100 years ago. Memorabilia was on display. Following the programme, Centennial Awards and Anniversary pins were presented.

Branch members: Front row - Shirley Dakin, Beulah Michener, Jean Stayzer, Edith Disher, Jean Lachnit. Back row - Muriel Hodgkins, Hazel Potts, June Aldrey, Betty Henderson, Betty Kilts, Millie McCullum, Florence Smiley.



Welland West District

Welland West District Women's Institute marked the 100th Anniversary with a special programme at Wainfleet Township Hall on February 19, 1997. We had an old fashioned pot-luck luncheon at noon when period costumes were worn. The food was made using recipes from 100 year old cook books.

Quilts and articles from short courses lined the walls. The theme "Celebrate the Past, Challenge the Future" was presented using a panel of speakers highlighting key events and accomplishments over the hundred years.

After the candle lighting and the programme agenda, special Centennial Awards were presented to women from each of the 5 branches for outstanding service to W.I. These were: Margaret Campbell, Gladys Younblut, June Aldrey, Edith Disher, Pam Bronn, Ruth Wilson and Jasmine Kitchen. Beulah Michener received a 50 year service pin.



Welland East District

Welland East District had a display at the Heritage Day Celebration, February 16, 1997 at Stoney Creek. It was one of the stormiest day of the winter, but still a memorable day.

On February 19, 1997 the District celebrated at Cook's Mills

United Church with a roast beef dinner. Disbanded branches were also invited. The anniversary cake was made and decorated by Carolyn Skulj, Allanburg Branch.

All branches took part in the programme. Letters of congratulations were received from Jean Chretien and M.P. Gib Parent, Speaker of the House of Canada

The over 90's: Ruby Blaugh - Bowen Road W.I., Olive Mewburn - Stamford W.I., Helen Baufelt - Allanburg W.I.