

# Singer's Corners Women's Institute news

Singer's Corners Women's Institute will be collecting craft supplies at their February meeting to be sent to regions in the Caribbean, namely Brazil, Guyana, Grenada or Trinidad/Tobago to assist women there with their projects. The request was made from the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario to the Regions. Niagara District is in the Southern Region. Knitting and crochet material, embroidery floss, patterns etc. are needed.

Sophie Paroschy, the

President, chaired the meeting at the home of Ruth Dudiak, welcoming all to the New Year. She was asked to accept an award on behalf of the Branch when she attends the Niagara Regional Exhibition to receive an award herself for articles exhibited at the 2005 Fair.

Members were urged to contact members of Parliament again to request the age of consent be raised from 14 years to 16 years. A resolution to this affect had been sent some time ago by this Branch, but to no avail.

Paroschy mentioned that she had delivered poinsettias to several former members and those unable to attend meetings anymore. A letter of thanks was received from Pelham Cares for donations gathered by members for the Food Bank.

A program was presented by Pam Bronn on the work of the FWIO, Federated Women's Institutes of Canada and the Associated Country Women of the World, numbering over seven million members.

The FWIO and FWIC were both organized in

1919, after the tremendous efforts of W.I. members during the war years brought the Organization into the spotlight, and women realized the power they had to effect good in their country and the world. The ACWW was formed in 1933 by a Canadian, Mrs. Alfred Watt, MBE, MA. A memorial plaque on a boulder in a garden at the Mather Arch in Fort Erie commemorates the 100th year of peace between Canada and the United States in 1936, the year the ACWW held their conferences in Washington

D.C. A gala affair was held following the ceremony which affixed the plaque in the centre of the Peace Bridge.

The ACWW is active all around the globe. The priorities for 2004-2007 are HIV/AIDS, Trafficking of women, maternal health, extreme poverty, child mortality, primary education, malaria and gender equality. Coins, known as Pennies for Friendship, are collected at each meeting for the ACWW projects. Since pennies don't

buy much anymore, it was suggested the fund be renamed Loonies for Love.

The roll call was "read something from the W.I. magazine, Home and Country", and was answered by 14 members. The motto for the month was "Don't look back. That's not where we're going."

The next meeting will be at the home of Sophie Paroschy on Kottmeier Road. Visitors are always welcome.