



Swadesh Sachdeva (left), Anne Culliford (middle), and Dorothy Burtch entertain at the recent Lincoln District Women's Institute Friendship Evening.

AUG. 1989



DISPLAY FOR
LINCOLN COUNTY
FAIR. "SECOND"
PRIZE WINNER
1989

Women's Institutes hold board meeting

(The following report has been provided by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.)

Agricultural issues and leadership training were the main topics at the recent board meeting of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) held last month in Guelph.

A visit by Rita Burak, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food, gave her a chance to listen to the concerns and learn about the organization of the Women's Institutes. Concerns included the environment and rural child care.

Joan Law, FWIO resolutions committee chairman, stressed in a report on the Canadian Crop Drought Assistance Program that crop insurance, other than ad hoc drought relief programs, is the best way to help farmers. She attended a recent meeting of Ontario commodity groups and OMAF staff, in which the drought relief program was explained.

Hilde Morden, FWIO program co-ordinator, reported on the implications the recent Uruguay round of GATT negotiations holds for Canada's and Ontario's agricultural system.

FWIO has decided to form an agricultural advisory committee to look at agricultural issues from the Women's Institute point of view. This follows attendance by Janet Parsons, Canadian Farmer of the Year from Cache Bay, and Charlotte Johnson, FWIO past-president, at the Hands Across the Border conference of Ontario and New York women.

Leadership training has always been part of the Women's Institute program, and this meeting was no exception. There is a workshop tentatively scheduled for January titled 'Forms, Facts and Figures', with the purpose of developing administrative skills for farm

women's organizations.

This is Phase 2 of a plan by FWIO to train people in the skills needed to put on workshops, then have those people put on workshops throughout Ontario.

An Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) mini conference is to be held at Carleton University, Ottawa, in June of next year. This conference is to educate WI and ACWW members about the aims, goals and work of ACWW.

The conference theme will be 'Women and the Environment — the Challenge is Now'. There will be such workshops as 'The International Marketplace', 'Fad Diets and Their Implication on Agriculture', 'Reproductive Technology', and 'Natural Resources'.

'Surgery — A Necessity or Your Choice', a series of workshops held recently in the Guelph area by Irene Mauer and Pat Salter, gave participants an opportunity to learn and make decisions about their own health concerns.

With the commitment to rural youth and higher education, FWIO has been revamping its scholarship program. This year, the regional scholarships will be worth \$275 each, and the county and area scholarships will be \$250 each. It is hoped more rural youth will make use of these scholarships, as they are not just for girls.

Plans for the centennial celebration of FWIO are ongoing, and a special fund has been established. Already in place are plans for a centennial stamp, a special rose, a logo and a commemorative plate, with more plans coming later.

From the establishment of one WI branch in Stoney Creek in 1897, Women's Institutes have spread throughout the world.



CROSS COUNTRY WINNERS

These runners won the Midget Boys Division at the St. Catharines' cross country race last Wednesday. They are (front row, from left): Mark Dodgson, Craig Low, Todd Walton, (back row) John Hildreth and Wayne Augustine. Absent were: Ray Lies and David Aston.

, September 27, 1989

BDSS cross-country midget boys' team wins first ce