

Bervie Women's Institute discusses international affairs, preps for 115th anniversary of Women's Institutes

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International Affairs was the theme when the Bervie Women's Institute met at the hall in Bervie on Feb. 1.

After singing O Canada and the Opening Ode, the Mary Stewart Collect was repeated. The roll call "A fact about Vietnam" was answered by 11 members. Donations will be made to the Kincardine and Tiverton Agricultural Societies.

Betty Ann Thompson showed slides and spoke about Vietnam where her daughter Brett and her partner had attended a wedding in 2010. Betty Ann explained the Vietnam wedding customs and other points of interest while travelling from the north to the south. She also had several interesting items on display that Brett had collected while there.

Our lunch included fruit and foods from Vietnam as well. Our next meeting will be on March 7 at 10 a.m. at the hall.

Since Feb. 19 is Women's Institute Day everyone is encouraged to invite a friend or friends over for a cup of tea that day to celebrate the 115th anniversary of WI. Below is a brief history:

Sunday February 19 is the 115th Anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institute in Stoney Creek, Ontario. This women's group is the largest women's group on the planet, known in some countries as Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW).

It was founded by Adelaide Hunter Hoodless with the help of Janet and Erland Lee. Erland Lee was a Minister of Agriculture for Ontario and founder of Farmer's Institutes.

A busy 1897 lady, Hoodless was a National Officer in the National Council of Women and as such she was called upon by Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General for Canada, to help form the Victorian Order of Nurses. Known by reputation as a controversial speaker and a great organizer she also founded the Canadian Y.W.C.A and Macdonald College at the University of Guelph.

She explained her goals this way, "Apart from my family duties, the education of mothers has been my life work."

general standard of the life of farm people," she spoke internationally.

As you enjoy your cup of tea on Sunday, Feb. 19 why not google Women's Institute.



The women of the Bervie Women's Institute gathered for one of their regular meetings on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at the Bervie hall. The topic of the meeting was International Affairs. (SUBMITTED)

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