

Agricultural draw winner



Sheila Greason, St. Marys' Volunteer of the Year for 2001, is shown with St. Marys Agricultural Society President Judy Kainz making the draw for a 52 inch RCA TV, purchased from Claude Electric, the winner was Kevin White from RR1 Ilderton. Congratulations, Kevin. The St. Marys Agricultural Society would like to thank everyone who purchased a ticket for their support.

BROWN'S WI

Interesting tour of Tillsonburg

Brown Women's Institute celebrated Christmas on December 12, 2001. We met at Browns School for a brief meeting. Donations of personal items to the Women's Emergency Centre Woodstock were collected.

We took time for a viewing of pewter Christmas ornaments and pins displayed by Ron King for the Uniondale Firefighters. He gave the ladies a chance to purchase any of the items. By doing so we supported the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada. Our Women's Institute also gave a donation to this Association at this time. Ron joined us for lunch served by a small committee. We ate those wonderful triple layered sandwiches smothered in cream cheese icing with tempting side dishes and Susan Towle's Christmas Cake.

Then we set off for a four-hour excursion. We drove south, making a stop at Coyle's Country Store to browse and shop for any last minute goodies or decorations. Begging the ladies to leave, we headed to Annandale House in Tillsonburg. This house was built by

E.D. Tillson the first mayor of Tillsonburg.

Before our tour we were directed to a lovely room set for afternoon tea. China tea cups and a silver tea service provided just the right mood and delicious Christmas goodies were served by volunteers of this quaint museum. We were joined by another group, who were Volunteers of the Aylmer Museum.

The Museum was having a fundraiser as well. Thirty-eight volunteers each made a wreath. Tickets could be purchased for a penny auction on these gorgeous wreaths. Congratulations to Evelyn Arthur from Browns W.I. who won a just in time for Christmas.

Annandale National Historic Site has many restored period rooms as well as local history galleries. While waiting for our Tour Guide we were directed to a large room known as the 'Changing Gallery.' The display this day was the history of Christmas Music.

Our final destination of the outing was to tour Annandale House, a very large (three storey) and lovely Victorian House built in the 1880s.

Hand painted ceilings, inlaid floors, ornate mantels, hinges and stained glass have been restored in many rooms by artists, wallpaper and paint specialists and by many trade people, specialists who have spent many diligent hours working out fine details.

Mr. Tillson was a crafty businessman who was able to make money at whatever he ventured into. He established his sons in many businesses in town and set out to improve farming skills in the area as his last adventure. He supported the town in many ways and paid from his own pocket to have the railway service in Tillsonburg.

Tillsonburg is a beautiful Oxford County town. They are fortunate to have volunteers and interested historians to keep their history alive. Heritage is important to Tillsonburg, giving them roots to build on. It was a wonderful getaway for our ladies!

Happy New Year to All from Browns Women's Institute.

Our euchres will start again on Thursday, January 10, 2002 at Browns School.

BROWN'S WI

Insurance the topic at Browns WI

The highlight of Browns Women's Institute meeting held on Wednesday, January 16 at the School was Pat Switzer of St. Marys. Her topic was 'Liability Insurance and how it affects each and everyone of us.'

Liz Harrison presided at the business. The Ladies Day Away will be held at Dundas Centre United Church

Woodstock on April 8 starting at 9 a.m. Activities include Rug Making, Genealogy and Food catering. More information at a later date.

The F.W.I.C. convention will be held at Sault College, Soo, June 14 and 15. Registration for this event has to be in by January 31.

A donation of \$100 was made to the

Friendship Centre in St. Marys. Our Annual Luncheon and Euchre Party for Cancer and Jesse's Journey will be held on April 20 at 12 o'clock noon. The ladies are invited to A Dessert Luncheon and Euchre Party sponsored by Lakeside W.I. in the Parish Hall on February 11 at 1 o'clock.

The Roll Call for our meeting was "A

Lawyers Joke" and the Pennies for Friendship was 5¢ for each letter in your Lawyer's name.

The next W.I. meeting will be February 20 at 10 a.m. when our guest will be a speaker on Osteoporosis.

Browns Euchre

The next regular Euchre will be held this Thursday, January 24 at 8 p.m. in the School.