



RENFREW SOUTH DISTRICT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

NEWSLETTER

FOURTH ISSUE - JULY 2004

Hello WI Members

I can hardly believe that it is time to get another newsletter out to all and that summer is half over. Many of the Branches are getting ready for the fairs in the area. How exciting to know that Arnprior and Renfrew fairs will be celebrating 150 years! It is important that RSDWI show their support at these events - by exhibiting - to help these celebrations survive. This is part of our heritage and we need to work with the Agricultural Societies to ensure we are doing all that we can to keep these traditions alive. Do not forget about the Ottawa Fair and contact Jean Henderson with your intention to exhibit. The Renfrew County Plowing Match is happening in September this year. Please drop by and see our RSDWI display. Check your local papers for the date and location. Coming up is also the WOW Health Festival, RSDWI Fall Courses and the Area Convention - all happening in October. Hope you are marking all of these things on your calendar.

We have some special events mentioned in this Newsletter. Irene Robillard has been very busy getting us on track with a couple of projects. She also gave us a report on the FWIO Provincial Conference in Oshawa that some of our members were able to attend. Chairperson for the event was our Christine Raeburn and she did a wonderful job presenting a full slate of events for the three days. The accommodations and food were fantastic. Also featured in this issue is the milestone of a wonderful lady. Luella Jones was presented with her 60 year pin. Congratulations Luella on your achievement.

So enjoy this edition of your Newsletter and keep us informed of your news events. Happy Summer Joanne McDonald and Jo-Anne Camelon

FWIO Provincial Conference, Durham College, Oshawa June 11, 12, & 13, 2004

Important Dates to Remember from Conference
1. Quilts, Quills & Bears - Sept 16, 17, 18 2005
2007 - ACWW Triennial Conference in
inland

Hosted by Central Ontario Area and chaired by Christine Raeburn, on Saturday there were 322 registered for the day's events.

Alma Majaury, Jo-Anne Camelon, Irene Robillard, and Noreen McGregor - plus Noreen's husband, Steve attended from RSDWI. Noreen and Steve enjoyed the bus tours on Friday and on Saturday explored Cullen Gardens.

Facilities were excellent. Our rooms were very comfortable and although the college was under construction, our facilities were very accessible.

Friday evening

1. Opening Ceremony and Greetings
2. Branch Membership Award - went to Penage Road WI in Sudbury District for 10 new members. The president was an enthusiastic person who offered tips and insights on how to increase membership (see p.5 of Spring/Summer 2004 for some tips)
3. FWIO received an award of excellence from the Ontario Historical Society for the Tweedsmuir Histories - for outstanding work in history.



4. Provincial Conference Competitions - 34 entries - our district had at least 8 entries, with 3 winning entries. A. Kubiseski, Balsam Hill 1st Ribbon Embroidery, I. Robillard, Burnstown 1st Historical Tour of their Community, and Roseanne Gilchrist, Balsam Hill 2nd Crocheted Sweater

5. Entertainment - singing by Cindy Ashton, accompanied by Joyce Taylor on piano
Saturday

1. Address by Elsie Stephenson, FWIO president
 - Focus High for WI - showed money really added up, whether large or small donations.
 - We need to share dreams
2. Overview of 'Quilts, Quills, & Bears'
 - Sept 16, 17, 18 2005 at International Centre near Toronto Airport
 - this is a Provincial fundraiser
 - Looking to show 600-800 quilts
 - Quilting workshops thru weekend/ vendors with fabrics/patterns
 - Branches can show a quilt for sale and auction (10% hanging fee)
 - Quincey the Bear story - received 93 stories
 - Looking for enough bears to fill a police car
 - Blocks made into quilts and will be raffled off.
- Shown at Area Conferences
3. Highlights of the ACWW Triennial Conference in Hobart, Tasmania - 5 members talked about their experiences
4. Educational Workshop in morning & Leisure workshop in afternoon
5. Evening Entertainment - "The Pink Tea"

Sunday (until noon)

1. Interfaith service, including a Bell Choir from Bowmanville
2. Address by Margaret Yetman, FWIC president, from Nfld and Labrador
 - Explained how the various WI structures fit - from branch to ACWW
 - Promotion of better living at Branch level
 - 17,000 in FWIC
 - \$5 fee split between \$1.50 Adelaide Hoodless Homestead upkeep and \$3.50 operation
3. Manitoba WI - two speakers explaining their organization and work
 - 700 members only but greater than 43,000 volunteer hours
 - 2005 will be their 95th anniversary
 - great poem "Dust if you Must"
4. Michigan's Women's organization - 8 ladies attended
 - Only 900 members in their State
 - A number of projects, including Children's Quilt Club, Tune out Violence (reducing violence on TV/movies), Books for Babes (giving bag of books to infants' families in hospital), collecting used eyeglasses
5. Invitation to 2006 FWIO conference
 - In London Area, probably near St. Mary's or Stratford
 - Theme TEAM - Together Everyone Achieves More
6. Closing Ceremonies

