

Ashgrove Women's Institute

By BETTY BROWNRIDGE
SOUTH ESQUESING

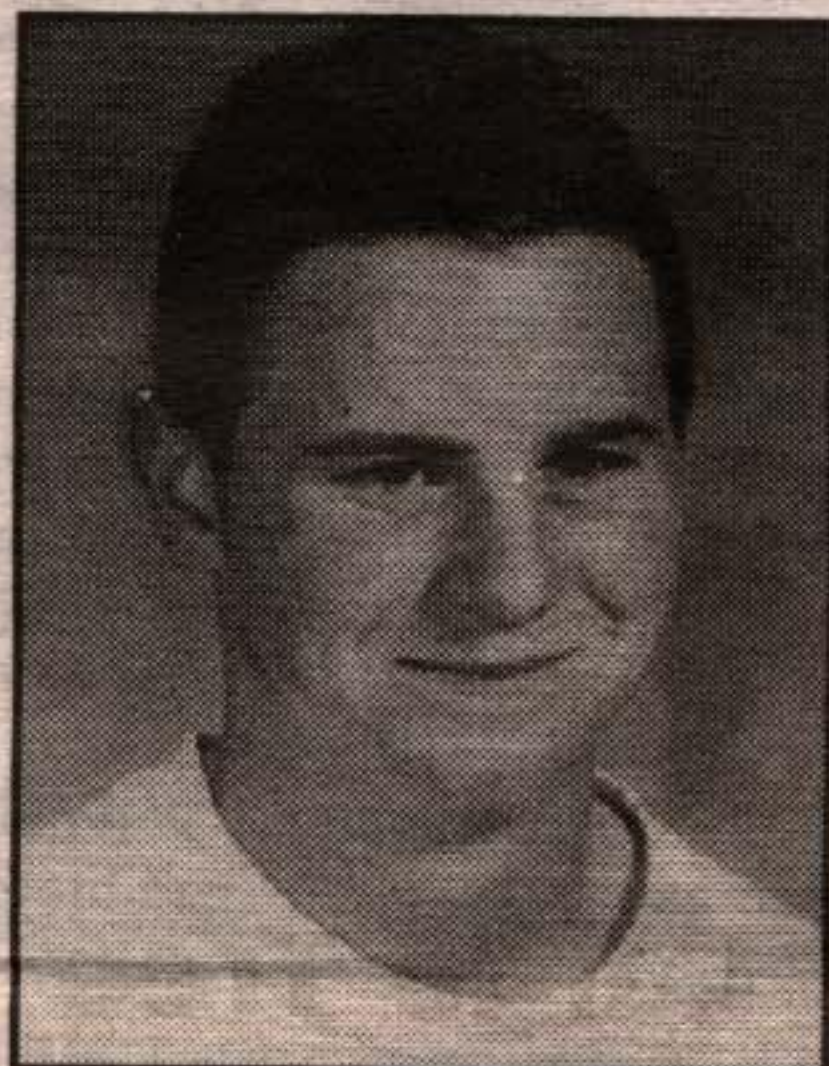
The annual meeting was held on April 21 in the Church Fellowship Room. We had a delicious buffet lunch prepared by Mildred Blackett, Eleanor Wood and Elizabeth Wilson. After the business, Jane Baynton, President of the district, installed the officers. The President: Gwen Brander; Secretary: Mary Jane Wingfield; Treasurer: Ethel Wilson; Public Relations Officer: Mary Wilson.

On May 19, the members had their Canadian Industries Meeting. It began with a tour of Acton's Main Street. They went to the *Doll Emporium*, where the moulding through to painting process was described. Courses are available. At *Paintin' Friends*, Ruth Kranendonk, a member of Dublin Institute, is co-owner. She showed and talked about her Folk Art. The group enjoyed the gift shops and then went to Timbri House for lunch and a business meeting.

On June 9, we had our program planning meeting at the home of Marion Hunter.

Gold Medal Cabinetmaker

Donald MacKay has been a resident of Limehouse for all of his 18 years, attending Limehouse, Stewarttown and Acton District High Schools. He is a quiet, honours student who has achieved numerous awards for academic proficiency and was the overall top student in technology for his grade at last fall's commencement exercises. He has participated in the Skills Canada Competition, achieving gold medals in cabinetmaking at both the school and Regional levels. In 1997, he won the bronze medal for Ontario and went on to participate in the National finals in Red Deer, Alberta. Donald repeated as gold medal winner at the school and Regional levels again this year.



DONALD MACKAY

In addition to his cabinetmaking skills, Donald also enjoys architectural drafting and was the 1998 national winner of the Logo Design Competition sponsored by Carleton University School of Industrial Design. His design is now depicted on T-shirts and posters advertising this year's competition. Donald is a willing

worker and has volunteered at numerous community events - most recently, helping to construct a fence along the playground at Robert Little School in Acton. He is also an adept handyman around the house, from repairing plumbing to building interlocking patios.

This year, Donald's achievements were recognized when he was chosen as the senior winner of the Optimist Youth Award for Acton High School.

His hobbies include fishing, fly-tying, boating, woodcutting (he is a Certified Chainsaw Operator) and woodworking. He has taken over the family garage to house his woodworking shop.

Donald has always enjoyed working with his hands and being innovative with design, from his early beginnings with Lego to his current interest in cabinetmaking and Architectural CAD. He has just completed a co-op placement with Peter Zions Construction in Acton and will continue to work there this summer, before going on to Conestoga College in the fall to study in the acclaimed Engineering Technology (Woodworking) program.

STORY BY GLENDA BENTON

Farming in the Ukraine

On June 9th, members of the Nasagiweya Historical Society enjoyed an evening with former resident George Robinson at the Ebenezer Church on Guelph Line.

George, who grew up on the 5th Line, Nassagaweya, gave an interesting and informative overview on farming in the Ukraine. After working 30 years for the University of Guelph, George is now involved with the Canadian Industrial Development Association (CIDA). Members of this organization travel to various locations around the globe sharing technology with underdeveloped countries.

Working on what was formerly a communal farm under the old communist regime, George shared his agricultural expertise in the growing of corn, soybeans and alfalfa hay. The size of the farm was 20 sq. miles and it had over 1,000 people working on it. George said the farm really only needed 150 people.

He related how it takes 20 million dairy cows in the Ukraine to produce the same amount of milk 2 million cows do in Canada. "The quality of the feed these animals are forced to eat has very low nutritional value," Robinson explained. He added the crops are so poor because the genetics of the seeds have deteriorated. CIDA is instrumental in supplying Canadian seeds for many Ukraine farms.

"Much of their equipment is outdated and its not unknown to have a combine operator waiting three years for parts," Robinson said. "And while they wait, they usually end up drinking vodka for the day."

George drew a chuckle from the crowd when he explained the Ukraine was similar



to most societies, "the women end up doing all the work while the men wait for parts." Robinson, who was in the Ukraine in 1996 and 1997, said the soil in the country is some of the best in the world. "They have the same climate as here, good drainage, no stones and 25 feet of topsoil."

"As the population of the world continues to explode, the Ukraine will have a huge role to play in feeding the world in the future," George concluded.



GEORGE ROBINSON IN FIELD OF CORN GROWN FROM CANADIAN SEED IN THE UKRAINE.

STORY BY REID KENNEDY

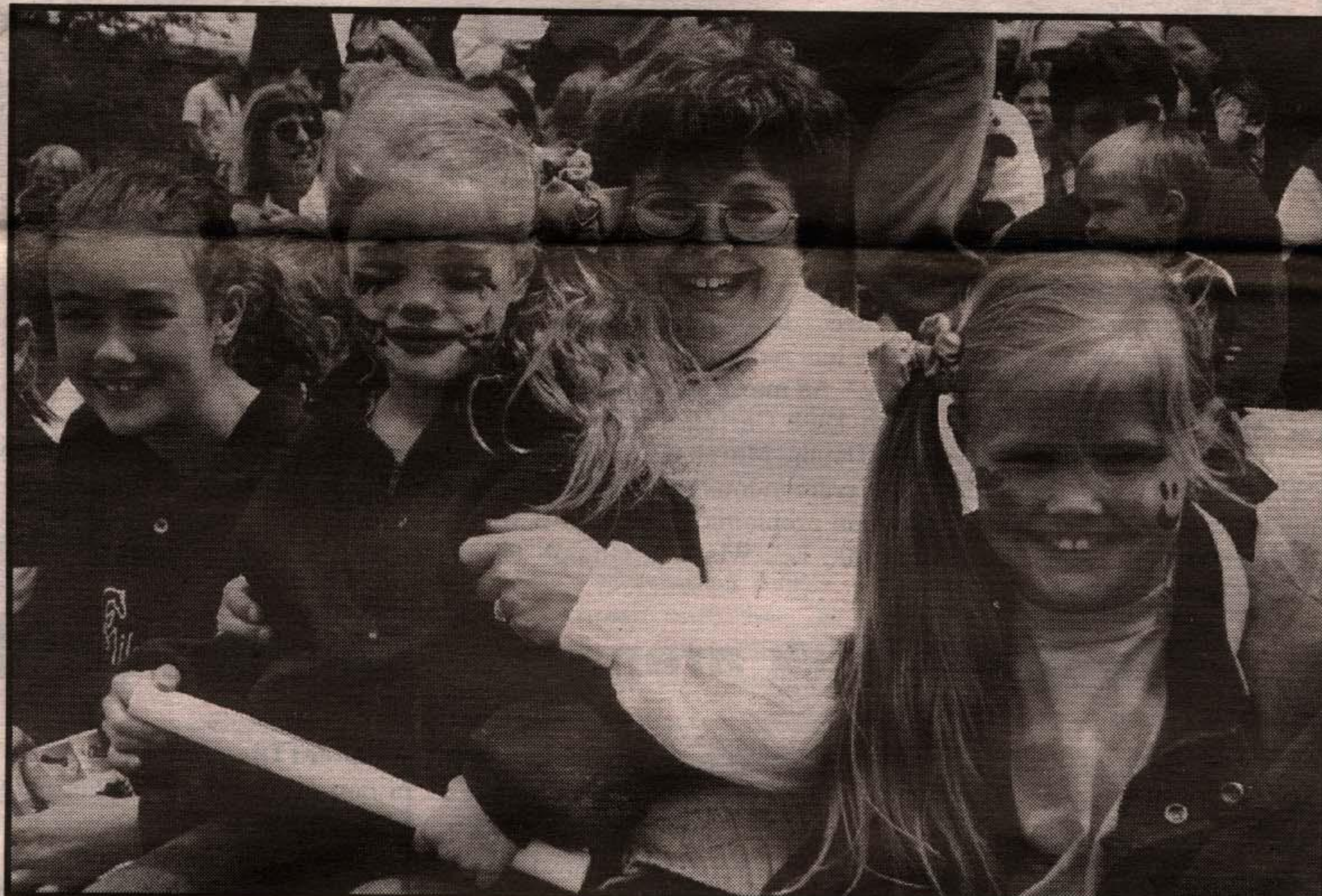


PHOTO BY MARGARET KENNEDY

HAPPY FACES IN THE CROWD- Jennifer, Kathleen, Mary Anne and Amanda Dennis are just four of the over 1,000 people that enjoyed the Brookville Fun Fair on June 6th at the Brookville Public School. The event, organized by the Nassagaweya Community School Council, raised over \$5,000 for technology, literacy and problem solving programs at the Brookville school.

Wayne Taylor

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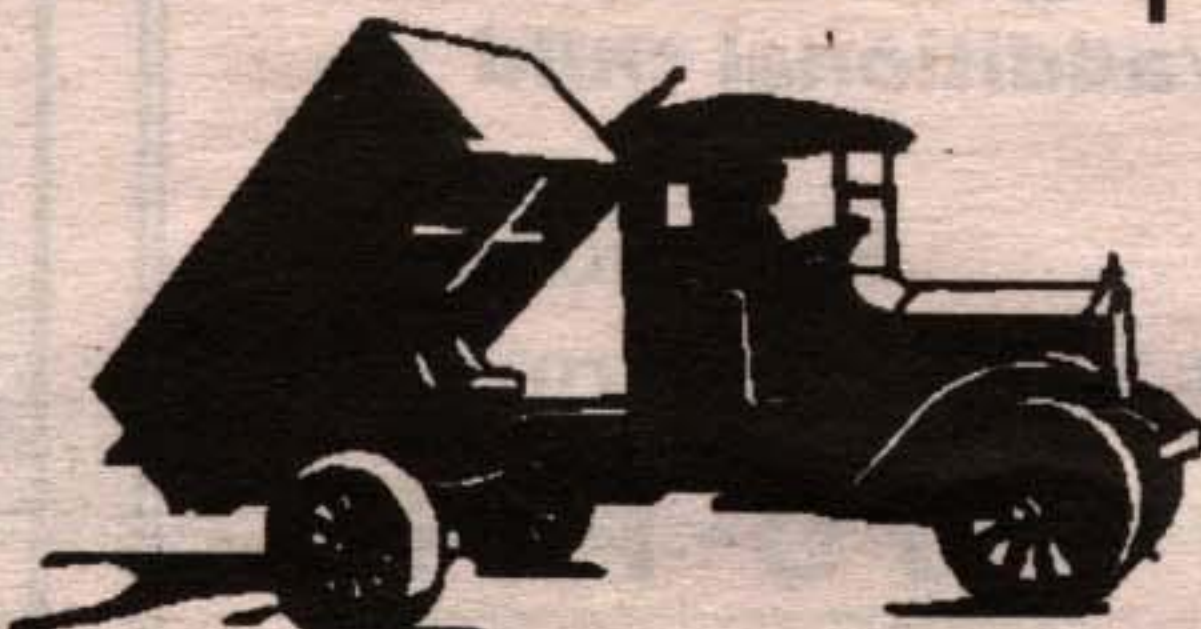
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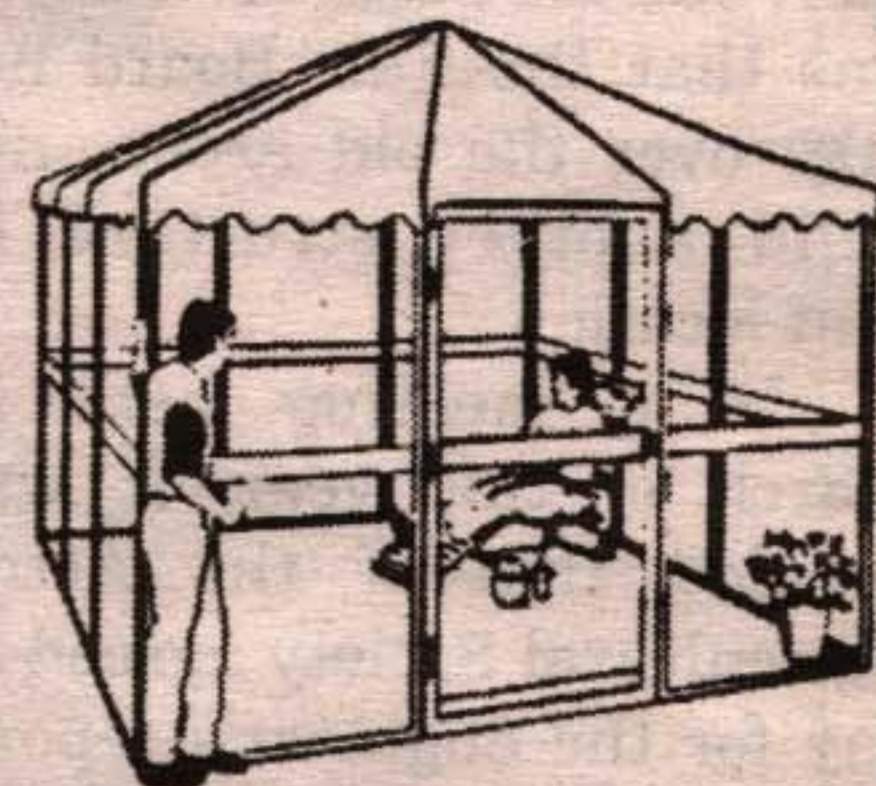
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