

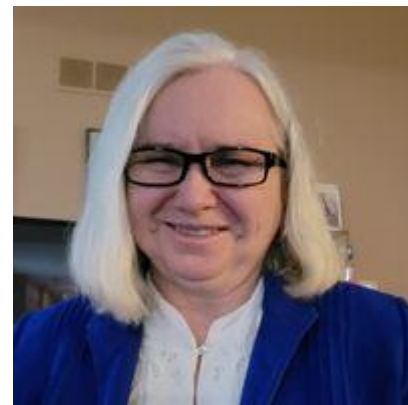


WI Connections

Monthly Newsletter of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

Margaret's Message, Submitted by President, Margaret Byl

Thank you to all the provinces that had donated auction items and to the bidders for making our first online auction a successful event!. Special thanks to Lynn MacLean for the tremendous job of putting it all together!



The Outreach & Communications Committees have been working hard to keep our members informed and engaged. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. Learn more about Upcoming Events on our website and social media pages! FWIC Remembers... On November 10th at 7 pm Eastern Time, WI Canada will be sharing a few moments of remembrance. Retired Sergeant Edith Scott will also be joining us via zoom to tell about her service to our country. Please register now for this event at registrations@fwic.ca You will receive your link for the zoom event via e-mail from our President Elect. Please register as soon as possible.



Last year during our Remembrance Day event, my mother-in-law, Lena Byl submitted her story on the occupation of Holland. Sadly, Lena, a WI member for more than 60 years, passed away on September 3rd, followed by her husband, Len, 5 days later. I am grateful that she had the opportunity to share her story and wish to convey our family's appreciation for all the expressions of sympathy.

On November 11th, I will be attending in Ottawa at the National War Memorial to place a wreath on behalf of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. The ribbon on the wreath will have the words "FWIC/WI Canada" "For Home and Country". Did you know that at the first Women's Institute Convention held in Ontario in 1902, requests for a motto was put forward and in 1903 "For Home & Country" suggested by Miss Laura Rose was selected? 119 years later, those words still hold true to WI members across Canada. To our Canadian Armed Forces, we thank you for your service and remember those that have fallen in their duty to "Home and Country".

Let us also remember the people of Ukraine. Too many lives have been lost in this cruel war. My thoughts and prayers are with them as they face a harsh winter ahead. I leave you with this quote from motivational speaker, Bob Proctor.

*"Let there be peace on
Earth,
and let it begin with me".*

If you haven't been to the "Homestead" recently, make plans to visit soon! Addie's Kitchen has received certification from the County of Brant Health Department to be used for low risk food preparations! Sincere thanks to everyone that helped make this happen. Amanda is making plans for onsite and online events!

Special thanks to Hollie Archer for providing the funds for our new roof. The work on the roof is scheduled to start the second week of November. Watch for more exciting news soon!

To the County of Brant, the Government of Ontario, and the Government of Canada, Linda Zelem, Amanda Weber, and our Volunteers, thank you for your support. We couldn't do it without you.

Interested in becoming a Friend of Addie, contact Amanda – info@adelaidelhoddless.ca or give her a call Wednesday through Sunday from 11 – 4 pm at 519-4483973



Lest we forget

Thurs November 10th,
2022

Remembering those
who serve Canada

7 pm Eastern Time



For your login inf, please send an e-mail to Registrations@fwic.ca and President Elect Lynn will send you the the Zoom link. It is a free service and open to all WI members across Canada.



Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead Report

Submitted by Amanda Weber, Museum Manager

Homestead Report – WI Connections November 2022

November 17 - December 23, 2022



**Turtle
Doves,
French
Hens &
Golden
Rings**

Explore and learn the history of Christmas postcards



Things are beginning to get exciting at the Homestead! We are in full swing planning for a busy holiday season, with new exhibits and events taking place.

Opening November 17th, 2022 our newest exhibit **Turtle Doves, French Hens & Golden Rings: Holiday Greetings** will be opening. This exhibit highlights Christmas postcards and greetings from the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead collection. The postcards you'll find on display range from as early as 1906 to present day.

Regular admission to the museum applies for this exhibit. Don't miss your opportunity to see it, it will be closing on December 23rd, 2022 to make

way for an exciting new exhibit next year!

We also are pleased to announce that the Homestead will be fully decorated for **A Hunter Christmas**. Come get cozy with the Hunter family and marvel at the Christmas decorations at the Homestead. We use and showcase traditional methods that the Hunter family would be proud to share with you as we travel throughout the home. Your visit to the museum will include a fully guided tour through both floors of the home. As an added bonus, any children who come to visit will receive an extra special present!

The Homestead will be open for tours from Wednesday-Sunday from 11am-4pm. For groups of 8 or more, please call the museum at 519-448-3873 or email us at info@adelaidehoodless.ca to pre-arrange a visit.



**A Hunter
CHRISTMAS**

Nov. 17 - Dec. 23, 2022
Open Wednesday-Sunday
11am-4pm



URGENT MESSAGE FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION TO ALL CANADA AREA SOCIETIES (Districts, Counties, Branches, etc)

Due to circumstances beyond her immediate control, Canada Area President, Linda Hoy will not be accepting any further donations for the Associated Country Women of the World.



With the changes to the structure of the Associated Country Women of the World and in particular the name of the Fund. There is now one fund called the "Rural Women in Action Fund".

Any donations received from Canada Area in the past have or will be sent to ACWW Central Office within the next month by Wire Transfer on your behalf.

Donations collected for anything other than Pennies for Friendship or the Rural Women in Action fund will be returned by the Canada Area President or ACWW Central Office.

IF, you have questions or concerns about this matter, please contact Linda Hoy, Canada Area President either by email canada@acww.org.uk or by telephone 819-566-2105

Recipe - Addie's Potato Soup

4 potatoes, medium size

2 tbsp. minced celery

2 tbsp. of flour

1/4 tsp. of pepper

1/2 tsp. minced parsley

1-1/2 pints of milk

4 tbsp. minced onions

1 tsp. of salt

1 tbsp. of butter

Pare the potatoes, place on the fire in enough boiling water to cover, and cook for 30 minutes.

Reserve 1/2 cup milk, put the remainder in the double boiler with the onion and celery and place on the fire.

Mix the cold milk with the flour and stir into the boiling milk.

When the potatoes are cooked pour off the water, mash them until fine and light. Gradually beat into them the milk; now add salt, pepper and butter, and rub the soup through a sieve.

Return to the fire and add the minced parsley; simmer for 5 minutes and serve immediately. (The parsley may be omitted and celery salt substituted for the minced celery.)

From PUBLIC SCHOOL DOMESTIC SCIENCE BY MRS. J. HOODLESS, [Adelaide Hunter Hoodless] President School of Domestic Science, Hamilton. This Book may be used as a Text-Book in any High or Public School, if so ordered by a resolution of the Trustees. TORONTO: THE COPP, CLARK COMPANY, LIMITED, 1898.

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/18097/18097-h/18097-h.htm>



The Elgin Women's Institute (EWI) and Elgin Day! For the past several years, the community of Elgin has participated in



what we now call “Elgin Day.” This event, hosted by the EWI and the Elgin Eco Association, is a “thank you” to the community for its continued support of our volunteer groups that serve the community. The EWI hosted an “open house” at the WI Hall. This year, as in past years, we served ice cream sundaes with a variety of homemade toppings to choose from. The highlight this year was the WI-organized the kid’s exhibit. This was done to engage the children in the community. The children, ages 6 to 12, displayed various works of art including drawings, handcrafted toy and their artwork. Their exhibits were judged based on a set of criteria; children won 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for their exhibits. This was a great success with several children

submitting some really great works such as the one below. This young lady won 1st place for her drawing. (Permission granted by parent) Another highlight of the activities at The Hall was a presentation by Mrs. Eleanor Goggin on the early settlement of Elgin. Folks were keenly interested in Elgin’s early beginnings. Visitors to the Hall were able to view maps of the area that showed how Elgin as a thriving farming and industrial village. For WI our sale table, we were able to offer “Elgin” mugs and glasses as well as other handcrafted items made by WI Members. Through the sale of these items and other donations, the EWI raised over \$820. This event is always a great way to showcase the WI and it’s contributions to the community. As WIs continue to shrink in membership and branches, it is important to get youth and their parents interested and engaged in all community efforts. If you don’t engage youth now, you will lose them for a lifetime!

Submitted by: June Crandall Elgin WI Secretary/Treasure



Tree planted by Port Williams WI (Nova Scotia) celebrating 125 years of WI in Canada.

Pictured are Liz Johnson and PWWI President Ruth Blenkhorn at the tree planting celebrating 125 years of WI . The Port Williams WI is the oldest branch in Nova Scotia having been formed in 1913 when WI first came to NS .

-Ruth Blenkhorn



'She who plants a tree, plants hope'



PEIWI focuses on students and the meaning of this month.

The Prince Edward Island WI Board of Directors highlights youth scholarships while preparing for a holiday event and pausing on November 11 to reflect on those who have served and are serving for Canada.

The PEI Women's Institute recently presented an agriculture scholarship to Ethan Cole for pursuing biology and life sciences at UPEI with an aim for a career in the Ag industry. Ethan graduated from Kensington Intermediate High School with a focus on Agriculture and Bio Science and is hoping to work with crops, plants, animals or livestock in a natural, research or agricultural setting. The scholarship is valued at \$1,000.

In addition to the agricultural scholarship, the provincial board is excited to announce a new scholarship aimed at PEI residents on a rising cultural art form in the province. Rental fees for use of the WI office were recently donated to the PEI Women's Institute by the CBC TV production of Diggstown and will be used to create a one-time scholarship aimed at the arts and culture sector in the province. The \$1,000 scholarship will be offered to a PEI student entering a career in the film industry at an accredited college or university. Details will be made available in the new year.

Plans are also underway to host the ninth annual Island Product Cooking Contest aimed at Intermediate and High School Students across the Island. Students in grades 7 through to 12 are encouraged to enter their favorite recipes for cash prizes and be part of an annual Island Product online cookbook.

Organized by the provincial WI board and sponsored by Department of Agriculture and Land, this cooking event will feature Island agricultural or fishery based products. Deadline for students to enter their recipes is December 15. Additional details will become available online at www.PEIWI.ca or by contacting the WI office at 902-368-4860.

The PEI Women's Institute has once again teamed up with organizers of *Kits of Kindness*, an Island-wide project aimed at providing food and other essentials for elementary school-aged children up to grade 6. WI members are asked to knit, sew or provide mittens to be placed in children's backpacks to ensure warm hands. Mitts can be dropped off to the WI Office at 40 Enman Crescent, Monday to Friday 8-4.

In preparations for the holiday season, popular gift projects by branch members includes the White Cross Campaign and Stocking Program. In lieu of traditional gifts, monetary donations can be dropped off to the White Cross Campaign at 178 Fitzroy Street in Charlottetown. Cheques can be made out to Canadian Mental Health, Attention White Cross Program in Charlottetown, to the attention of Sharon Claybourne by December 9th. Branches are also once again invited to create 3 to 5" stockings for use at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hillsborough Hospital and Prince Edward Home. Stockings can be dropped off to the Volunteer Desk at the QEH. 4



A few tickets remain for the annual Festive Country Christmas Gala Dinner and Yuletide Auction taking place the Delta Marriot in Charlottetown on Friday, November 25. The auction will feature baked items, adventure experiences and decorative pieces made by Alan Preston of Hearts and Flowers. The evening commencing by grand piano with Don Fraser, and a few Christmas favorites by Catherine O'Brien will spark the holiday themed evening. As part of this event an online auction may also take place on Facebook through the PEI Women's Institute page in December. All proceeds will go towards Western Hospital, and Community Hospital, O'Leary.

The most important focus of this month is Remembrance Day. Provincial board member Marguerite Atchison will be laying a wreath on behalf of the WI membership across PEI, provincial board and staff on November 11. The board trusts all residents will pause for a moment of silence to honour and remember those who served or are serving in war, conflict and peace for our country.

Ellen's Corner

Ellen McLean has been an active WI member for close to seventy years. Over that time, she has served in many roles including President of the Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) and President of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). Testimony to her excellent leadership and service, Ellen has received a honorary doctorate degree from St. Francis Xavier University, been inducted to the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame, received the Order of Canada as well as being the first recipient of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Women of the Year.



Post tropical storm Fiona blew me out of my corner last month. The devastation and destruction to homes and businesses in many places in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick were heartbreaking. We were so fortunate that our farm buildings and houses were spared. There was the inconvenience of power shortage for a week, and no Internet or telephone for twelve days. It is sad to look around my house and see that so many trees came down. Never, can we underestimate the power of the wind and waves. Those who live and work along our coasts know that only too well.

As I write this, Remembrance Day is fast approaching. Across Canada in cities, towns, and villages we will gather at the local cenotaph to remember those men and women who were willing to risk and lose their lives in the service for their country. Once again, we will observe two minutes of silence where we can remember and reflect on what happened in the past and pray for a world of peace, not conflict.



I came across a short history of the Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia (just nine pages!) compiled for the Associated Country Women of the World conference held in Toronto in June 1953. Included was a Progress Report 1948-53. There were several mentions of the activities of the Women's Institutes to help in the war efforts during the first and second World Wars. I know that similar things were happening in our Women's Institutes right across Canada.

The history records that... 'Scarcely had the young organization entered its second year when the first great War burst upon the startled world. Immediately all Institute members turned their attention to patriotic work. Much of this work was done through the local Red Cross organizations, and for that reason, complete records of Institute war activities are not available. However, from the reports of three years we find that the sum of \$25,000 was raised; also that twenty-three Institute Branches banded together to donate an ambulance to the Red Cross at a cost of \$1540.00.'

'With the outbreak of the Second World War, Red Cross Conveners were added to the Standing Committees of the Branch and Provincial Organization. During the years 1940 to 1945 inclusive, more than \$70,000 was raised for war purposes. With part of this money an ambulance was purchased, the remainder being given to the Red Cross, Queen's Fund, Prisoner's of War Fund, Salvation Army, Greek, Russian and Chinese Relief, board for convalescent soldiers, 'ditty bags' for the Merchant Marine.'

'Contributions of knitted articles and comfort quilts were sent to the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Services in England. 1000 quilts and 173,000 knitted articles were made for the Red Cross and thousands of 'Boxes of Cheer' and packages of cigarettes were sent to the men and girls overseas.'

This is just a little reminder of what the Women's Institutes have done over the years in times of crisis, and continue to do whenever there is a need.

FWIC WI Canada and YouTube



FWIC WI Canada has its own channel which you will find under the following logo:

All FWIC events from 2021 and spring of 2022 are posted. Shortly after the following events happen the recording will be posted:

Social Media Workshop from Oct 25

Remembrance Event Nov 10

Membership Rally Nov 16



WI Membership Rally

Last fall, WI started a round table discussion about membership. An issue that affects every province, we went forward with other projects, but kept remembering the conversations regarding membership. Then at the AGM in July of 2022 our guest speaker, Gail Cuthbert Brandt provided the history of WI in Canada. At that time we formed a small committee to come up with some ideas that Branches across Canada could use. We also defined a central cause and vision that we could all work at together.

The presentation will be presented on Wednesday November 16th, 2022.

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Supporting Libraries, submitted by Sussex Vales District WI



"Good healthy reading both for young and old. The citizens of Sussex, NB owe a debt of gratitude to the Sussex Women's Institute who evolved the idea and spared no effort to bring their idea to fruition." (An excerpt from the August 1928 King's County Record)

The involvement of the Sussex Vale District Women's Institute, which began in 1928, is maintaining its strong tradition! On April 7th, 2022, Marjorie Goddard, President of the Sussex Vale District Women's Institute, presented a plaque to Ray Watson, Chair of the Library Board. This plaque will be displayed in the Sussex Library to acknowledge the Women's Institute as founders of the Sussex Library which began operation on August 20th, 1928. The Sussex Library which was situated in a small room at the top of the stairs in the Town building,

opened for the first time on Saturday, August 11th, 1928 from 2pm to 5pm and thereafter, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at the same hour. Another plaque in the library references the 40 years (1928 to 1968) that the Women's Institute played a major role in making sure the library continued to evolve and meet the needs of residents.



Made in Manitoba 2022-2023 Project submitted by Debra Barrett, Manitoba WI

This year the MWI's project is a Food Drive. Our desire is to help give thanks for the good fortune and many opportunities we enjoy by supporting the Manitoba families who go without each day.

Manitoba Harvest now provides food supplies to food banks in every area of the province. The Food Banks help feed 83,000 people and approximately 33% of these people are children.

The reasons provided for the huge number of families needing support are:

- COVID caused many small businesses to close leaving families with an income too low to adequately provide food for their families.
- Inflation continues to increase the costs of basic food items and therefore families cannot buy nutritious food. For example, pasta cost is up about 17%.
- The costs of transportation, housing, childcare, etc. have also all increased due to inflation which is causing families to have less income to spend on food.

According to Manitoba Harvest in 2021, **one in seven Manitoba families were living with food insecurity with one in five children living in a household without enough food.** In 2022, hikes in prices at the grocery stores because of inflation has led to a 24% decrease in food purchases. Of that number, 70% of those unable to purchase the volume of food required are women. Many being single income Mother's providing for their families.

The Lighthouse Mission in Winnipeg have seen a large number of families becoming homeless due to COVID and Inflation. Many of these families have young children who are now living homeless with their parents.

This list contains the most needed food product donations. Many of these products provide maximum nutrition and allow people to store items without having refrigeration.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Can Fruit | Instant Coffee |
| • Can Soup/Stew/Pasta | Tea |
| • Can Meats (Tuna/Chicken/Ham) | Cereal |
| • Can Vegetables | Flour |
| • Boxed Pasta | Sugar |
| • Pasta Sauce | Canned Beans |
| • Rice | Cooking Oil |
| • Peanut Butter | Instant Oatmeal |
| • Baby Formula | Baby Food |



- Bag of Carrots

- Bag of Potatoes

No matter where you live in Canada or beyond please consider making a food donation to your local food bank.

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Pictou District WI submitted by Eleanor Lilly

Pictou District (8 Branches) celebrated the late Queen Elizabeth's 70th Anniversary at the Fall Rally with tiny tea sandwiches and sweets. The guest speakers were coordinators from Viola's Place, a local homeless shelter, and each Branch collected items from the Wanted list.



PEI Update submitted by Dorreen Wall

The province of PEI is bouncing back and going forward. We have our fall all planned and into next year 2023. We had our Fall Workshops with many different topics, Invasive Species, Farmers helping farmers, Indigenous Affairs and an update on WI in the UK. We have a group that we speak with quite often. The fun part was rock painting and of course a good lunch.

One thing we do every year is knit mitts campaign for school children and we place them on a tree in the office hallway for youth to take and give many to schools. This is a Island Wide Campaign.

We have a Taking Care of Business, 28 Day Campaign. This is a yearly campaign where we collect feminine hygiene products and drop them off at certain places.

Our fund raiser for the hospital this year is to be held Friday, November 25 at the Delta Hotel and it is on line also. It is called the Festive Country Christmas Gala dinner and Yuletide Action. It is a fun time held by all.

The branches were great Sarmatians in their community during Fiona and neighbor helping neighbor.

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Cranberry Orange Cake Submitted by Helen Clarke, NBWI

1 1/2 cups flour

2 teaspoons baking powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 cup sour cream

1 cup sugar

3 large eggs

zest of one orange – about 1

tablespoon

juice of an orange

1/2 cup butter

2 tablespoons sugar

1 1/2 cups fresh cranberries



For the Icing:

1 cup powdered sugar

2 – 3 tablespoons water, milk or orange juice

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a bundt pan with cooking spray. Sprinkle the 2 tablespoons of sugar on the bottom of the pan. Sprinkle 1/4 cup of the cranberries on the bottom of the pan. Set aside.

Cream together butter and sugar until sugar turn a lemon color, about 4 – 5 minutes. Add eggs one at a time and mix in until incorporated.

Add the orange juice and zest. Add the sour cream.

When incorporated add the flour, salt and baking powder. When this is all mixed together stir in the remaining 1 1/4 cups cranberries.

Bake for 50 – 55 minutes until a tester comes out clean. Let pan set for 5 minutes after you take the cake out of the oven. Turn over cake unto a wire rack to cool. Mix up your glaze ingredients and spread on top and sides of cake.

Annabelle Gay Women's Institute in Wheaton Settlement, NB

Attached is a photo of our group Summer 2022, having High Tea at Burkinshaws Tea Room in Amherst NS. This was our Annual Summer Outing.



Kennebecasis Valley District

The Kennebecasis Valley District W.I. held a Mother's Day Tea at the Norton Firehall April 30, 2022. The event was very well attended & much appreciated by all. It was held to benefit the Atlantic Burn Camp in Cape Breton for burn injured children age 6 - 17. Zoey Gray spoke on behalf of it being a burn victim herself & having attended the camp. A very brave & courageous young woman to speak of how she got burned but also the wonderful support she received because of the camp.

Brochures were available to all, a very worthy cause indeed from what we heard & learned about it.

The tables were beautifully set each with a centre teapot of flowers. Every table had a different one! China cups & saucers, fancy plates, loads of various fancy sandwiches, sweets & breads, cheeses & pickles! Lovely Mother bookmarks at each place completed the setting.

A neat photo OP also was set up for taking pictures, & Kathy Parlee won the door prize of guessing number of candies in a bottle.

It was wonderful to see friends & neighbors, some expressed an interest in joining W.I. an added bonus!

All in all a wonderful time ladies working together for Home & Country & a very worthy cause.



ACWW News submitted by Linda Hoy

For this issue of WI Connections, I wanted to focus on the competitions at the 30th Triennial World Conference. If you are not intending to attend to the Conference, you can still submit an entry by asking someone from your Society to take your entry with them! There are two competitions being run during the Conference, with the specifications shown below:

TEA TRAY CLOTH • Any medium, any shape (round, square, oval, rectangle, etc.) • The cloth can be machine or hand sewn, crocheted, or knitted • The cloth can be quilted, patchworked, embroidered, or lace • Approximate Size: 40cm x 30cm (15.7" x 11.8") or 45cm x 30cm (17.7" x 11.8")

SHOE BAG FOR TRAVELLING PURPOSES • Article must be machine sewn • Minimum Size: 30cm x 40cm (11.8" x 15.7") • Maximum Size: 35cm x 50cm (13.8" x 20") • The Shoe Bag must close with a draw string

Additional Information • The articles must be made by an ACWW member • You do not have to attend the Triennial World Conference to enter the competition • There is no limit to the number of entries • Articles using fabric representing your country can add to the charm of your article • You must attach the entry form below, fully completed, by stitching it onto the underside of your article • All entries must be submitted on 17 May 2023 at the Competitions Desk at the Conference Venue • After the articles have been judged and viewed, they will be sold at a nominal price for the benefit of ACWW Judging • The judging will be carried out by the Hostess Society, WI Pahang • There will also be a "Viewer's Choice" vote • The winning articles will be auctioned during the Conference, for the benefit of ACWW

Further details and the entry form can be found on the website www.acww.org.uk Reminder that the deadline to register for the 30th Triennial World Conference closes December 31, 2022. Linda Hoy, Canada Area President.

What's Iran Have to Do With Us? Submitted by Brenda Devauld, BCWI

What's Iran Have to Do with Us? We have been hearing a lot about Iran these days, about the "Morality" police, about their brutality, especially to women who don't conform to their ideas and rules of how a society should be. About the death of a woman, who was arrested by the Morality Police and beat so badly that it caused her death. Her offence? She was not wearing a hijab, which is a scarf which covers women's hair. Iran is not the only country that requires this and it has become a symbol of repression of women. There are countries that practice laws that do not allow women to express themselves, how to work, how to dress, or how to reach their full potential as human beings. We are always very thankful that we live in a country that recognizes the humanity of all its citizens. But let's not forget, that although we did not have to cover our hair, we (women) were also oppressed in this country. It's was not that long ago, that women could not vote, or were not even officially thought of as persons. It was October 18, 1929 when women in Canada were officially included in the legal definition of "Persons". In 1916 women in Manitoba became the first in Canada to win the right to vote in provincial elections. In 1918 some women were granted the right to vote in Federal



Elections but it wasn't until 1960 that all women were given the right to vote in Federal Elections. We have not forgotten what it is like to not be included and equal in all situations. There are widespread protests happening in Iran, led by those that want to see changes in the government. Women, girls and children are protesting in Iran and in cities world wide for the the right to choose for themselves, for the right for bodily freedom. We ask ourselves what can we do? We can support these women by bringing awareness to what is taking place, by talking about it, by supporting sanctions that are put against countries like Iran, by reaching out to those charities and societies that are in place to help in situations like this, by perhaps inviting speakers to our meetings who have been in these situations. We must remember the fight still goes on, let's stand in solidarity with women world wide



This is the Elgin WI members (a few were not present on this day). We gathered to take a photo for our WI sister who has lost her hair due to cancer treatments. She had, by this time, resorted to wearing hats all the time to cover her



baldness.



The Pie Ladies Of Salt Spring Island submitted by Salt Spring Island WI, BC

Many Hands Make Light Work



“Pies are SOLD OUT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! See you next year!”

The final message on the white board of the Salt Spring Island Women’s Institute pie booth brings forth sighs and moans of disappointment from would-be pie eaters. It also signals the time to wrap up, clean up and celebrate another successful year at the Salt Spring Island Fall Fair for “The Pie Ladies”.

Since 1920, members and friends of SSI Women’s Institute have been making and selling whole and pies by the slice at the SSI Farmers Institute Fall Fair held in September. That is over a century of pie-making!

In the early days, pies were made at home by a circle of members, family & friends that grew and shrank and grew with the times. In 2002, the WI also became involved in the making and selling of variety-specific apple pies at the annual SSI Apple Festival held in early October.

The increasing demand for pie and quality control required a new approach. And so, the WI Pie Bees began. The first Fall Fair pie bee was held in 2006 and resulted in 57 pies. WI members and friends contributed another 211 pies for a total of 368 pies.

Every year we have become more efficient in our pie making and the number of pies we make in a pie bee has increased to about 100 pies per bee. In 2022, with new efficient ovens in the kitchen we use, the Fall Fair pie bees resulted in 259 pies, with members and friends contributing another 170 for a total of 429 pies. Even though we made hundreds of pies, we sold out before 3 p.m. on the Saturday of the 2022 Fair and before 1 p.m. on the Sunday.

“The Pie Ladies” and our pies have become widely known to both locals and visitors from around the world. Years of practice and refinement of the recipes, techniques and pie-bee organization go into each slice of beautifully crafted pies. And oh, what pies! The 2022 Fall Fair menu included; apple, blackberry apple, blackberry peach, blackberry rhubarb, blackberry strawberry, blueberry apple, blueberry raspberry, blueberry rhubarb, bumbleberry, cherry, ginger pear, peach bourbon, peach ginger, peach mango, raspberry, raspberry peach, raspberry rhubarb, rhubarb, strawberry, strawberry kiwi daiquiri, and strawberry rhubarb.

And what about the proceeds of the pie sales? At the end of “pie season”, WI members meet to review the results and determine the allocation of funds to local, regional, national agencies, groups and projects. These include the BC Children’s Hospital, Queen Alexandra Centre for Children’s Health, local extended and supportive care residences, construction and reconstruction of the Fulford Community Hall, local Girl Guide, 4-H and Therapeutic Riding groups, the Gulf Island Secondary School WI Bursary, local community support services, and emergency relief campaigns across Canada.

The Salt Spring Island Women’s Institute is the nucleus of a vibrant, supportive community of women from all walks of life. WI members recruit family and friends to help with the pie bees. Other women ask to be included. Some are interested in learning how to make fabulous pies. Some are looking for a place to belong and contribute to the community. All are welcome. For some, it is a one-time experience. Others return year after year.

Some decide to become WI members. In fact, volunteering for a pie bee is now the most common first step towards joining the local WI. That is a commitment that is rewarded with opportunities to learn about and contribute to the work of the Women’s Institute at all levels. And it is symbolized in the presentation of a personalized “Salt Spring Island Women’s Institute Pie Lady apron”, the official uniform of the SSI WI.



We are The Pie Ladies of Salt Spring Island! Contributed by the members of the Salt Spring Island Women's Institute, BC We are humbled and grateful to live, work, and create in unceded Coast Salish territories, including those of the Hul'qumi'num and SENĆOŦEN speaking peoples.

Cross Canada Book Club

7 pm Eastern Time -November 24th -

Please contact Elizabeth Young regarding the Book Club and the links.

fwicacrosscanadabookclub@fwic.ca I look forward to hearing from you – Elizabeth Young.

WI Canada FWIC

359 Blue Lake Road, P.O. Box 209

St. George, ON, N0E 1N0 info@fwic.ca 519.448.3873

Margaret Byl, President

Lynn MacLean, President Elect

Colleen Hooper, BC

Linda Mason, AB Executive

Eleanor Lilley, NS

Linda Zelem, ON

Denise Joss, MB

Judy Page Jones QC

Angela Scott, NB

Doreen Wall, PEI

Elizabeth Moss, NL

Coming next month....

- Each province's greetings
- Book Club Descriptions
- Membership Rally update
- Plenty of ideas for the holiday season



Please forward any submissions to Angela.Scott@bellaliant.net



The following poem was submitted by Janet Wilkinson, Chesterfield, England

Remembering Elizabeth

Silver, Gold, Diamond and Platinum Jubilees,
Queen Elizabeth saw them all with no regrets.
Having served the nation as she had promised,
her dedication to duty was beyond compare.

Elizabeth was a lifelong mentor, ensuring
King Charles would reign for the good of all.
The Prince and Princess of Wales will now
prepare for the time they ascend the throne.

A world wide audience who loved the Queen,
lined up in silence to pay her due respect.
As part of that audience since her accession,
I thank her sincerely for everything she did.

Elizabeth was having fun not so long ago,
sharing marmalade sandwiches with a bear.
Paddington kept his sandwiches under his hat
and her Majesty's were stashed in her handbag.

Elizabeth's final duty to the nation was to welcome
her fifteenth Prime Minister to lead her Parliament.
Liz Truss took on her new duties under a Queen,
she will now carry out those duties under a King.

We will never see another Platinum Ruler, as
Elizabeth's long reign is unlikely to be surpassed.
Thank you Elizabeth for the gift of your son Charles,
who has now become our new royal ruler.

Long Live The King!

Jan Wilkinson

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