



HOME and COUNTRY

Winter

Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia

2013

Vision Statement

"Learning, sharing and improving the quality of life for all"

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Dates of Events

Call for Resolutions
Deadline for Submissions
January 31, 2014

WI Day in Nova Scotia
February 19, 2014
WI Week in Nova Scotia
February 16—22, 2014

Deadline for Scholarship Applications
April 11, 2014

ACWW Day
April 29, 2014

Hi Ladies,

What a lovely day, cold but sunny. Fall is here and soon the snow will be falling. This year went fast, as it seems like we just had our AGM. I am still hearing from the members that this meeting was great and the speakers were excellent.

The Board of Directors met on September 27th and 28th and we had a productive meeting. We had a great discussion regarding the reflective clothing. Shelburne District started the project, so during the March meeting they will have a pattern and where to get the materials. Once we have this, the office will be sending it to the Branches.

The Fall Rallies are taking place and a lot of activities have taken place over the past year. There have been a lot of events and celebrations that took place and are still celebrating. Ladies you have done a lot over the years and are still active. I had the privilege to attend some District Fall Rallies in Queens, Hants Central, Kings West and Kings East this month. I was amazed how much you ladies do during programs and the many projects that have been done. We are always busy doing things for others. Keep up the good work.

Don't forget that the Office will be closed over the Christmas Holidays.

The following ladies have been appointed at the ACWW Convention: Margaret Yetman as Deputy President, Sheila Needham as Area Canada ACWW President, Sharon Hatten as UN Committee Chairman, and Ruth Shanks from Australia as ACWW President. Good Luck Ladies.

As everyone is preparing for the Christmas Holidays, may your days be safe and joyful with family and friends.

Happy Holidays,

Linda Munro



Dropping In on the Branches...

Western Area

In October **Port Williams** had their twin branch, Spa Springs, visiting and they took them on an historical tour of Port Williams. Then went back to the community hall for a presentation by Ruth Blenkhorn on May Kidd's visit in our area. They then had a play directed by Liz Johnson with guests and members taking part. In September **Weston** had Adrian Balsor as their guest speaker telling them how to make fresh pesto. For their roll call, they answered with things learned from my parents – a humorous take on things we learned growing up. In October they had a program presented by Carol Tobin about small scale farming. She looked at reasons why we grow our own food and we know what we are eating and it's fresh. Also looked at if it is costing us money to grow our own food and some tips to look at to see if it is worthwhile. In September **Sheffield Mills and District** had Leta Ells and Susan Ueffing, and reported on the AGM in New Glasgow. They also hosted the East Kings District Rally in October. In September **South Berwick** had Susan Tziolas as guest speaker and told her story of how Holmstead Cheese in Aylesford had their beginning. In September **New Tusket** had Anita Gaudet gave a report of the AGM. They lost a long time member Laura Ford in July. In September **Tupperville** continued to support Tupperville community hall. They are presently working on a quilt for a fundraiser for WI. They participated in a celebration of the 100th anniversary of WI in Nova Scotia. In October they donated \$50.00 to the VON and are still working on their branch quilt and hope to have it fini-

shed by the end of October. In October **Burlington** hosted a delightful West Kings rally.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarice Pottie

Eastern Area

Caribou are having their annual spaghetti supper. Each month they have their in house history and history relevant to current events such as Black history month, Remembrance Day or Thanksgiving. **Sherbrooke** had their Municipal Councillor, Debbie Findlay, as a guest speaker and she gave a report on what council has done and are planning to do. In October, Emily Morton gave a talk on healthy eating and demonstrated chair exercise. They will also host the fall rally. **Port Bickerton** had Kerry Penny as a guest speaker in October, she spoke about helping start a Senior Day with lunch and games. They had a busy summer and are going to meet their twin Fox Brook for lunch in New Glasgow. **Point Edward** have been very busy this past summer. Comfort pillows continue all year round. They helped with the planning for the 100th anniversary celebrations. Three students received scholarships this year. Their strawberry festival was held in July. A banner was made for the branch. Four members were given life memberships. The interior of the hall was painted and front steps were repaired and painted. The hall continues to be used by the community for various events. In September **Churchville** had a program on gluten-free foods and tested cookies. They were given some gluten-free recipes. They support a breakfast program at the elementary

school with donations of breakfast foods. In October their program was under Legislation and Citizenship. Diane Hayman talked of many positive experiences as a host-mother for foreign exchange students. **Port Hilford** held a history display and lunch with Indian Harbour Lake/Jordanville W.I. in the summer. Guests and members enjoyed displays recalling their history, centered around the natural environment including, fishing, farming, forestry and nearby gold mining. In September **MacPherson's Mills** had a program on gardening in the fall. They had a report on renovations to their community hall. Their ongoing project is to provide books to the Thornburn school. October brought an afternoon meeting at the summer cottage of Joyce Howard. Plans were made to start a poster contest for grades P-6 for Remembrance Day. Money was sent to buy a rooster and 2 hens to Africa. They will be helping the Salvation Army for the Red Kettle.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Herald

Central Area

In September, a member of the **Enfield** branch brought in a newspaper of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. They read the news from that day, remembering how many lives were lost. **Gore** branch had a program on September presented by Pat MacPhee on the charity, Smile Train. Pat told about the bake sales that she held and donated the money to this charity. This organization provides surgery to repair cleft palates to children all over the world. Pictures of 3 of the children who

were provided with the surgery were shown. Phamplets and DVD's were handed out. Roll call idea was an unusual word and its meaning. The members are working on making pillow cases for the IWK and are preparing a Christmas basket for a fundraiser. **Nine Mile River Homemakers** member Mary MacAskill told her branch all about the AGM. They had a great discussion. Everyone enjoyed the Garden Party **Martock Windsor Forks** held in July. It was well attended. Dignitaries were our President, Linda Munro, MLA Chuck Porter, District Councillor, Jennifer Daniels. A fashion show was put on with a theme of 'Hats Through the Years'. The branch held their 100th anniversary supper at the Gladys Manning Residence. Marjorie Knowles presented a program in September on books. The message being what great variety of books that are out there. We can learn and explore the world through reading. Roll call idea was what kind of book do you read? In October, Marjorie did a presentation on the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick apple industry. We produce approximately 2.5 million bushels a year and generates 13 million dollars a year. Did you know the old fashion gravenstein was green with specks on it and it evolved into the crimson gravenstein due to our climate. Plans were made for the Fall Rally held in October. An anniversary tea was held on October 15th at the Horton Hall celebrating their 100th anniversary of Port Williams, Grand Pre and Martock Windsor Forks. The branch will be donating pies to the Hants County Hospital Bazaar this year. Roll call was what is your favourite fruit or vegetable. **Three Cornered** branch have been making plans for the Fall Rally. They will be doing something educational on Buy Local. In October, Joan Jack talked

about the Walking Club that is held two days a week at the local civic centre. Everyone that walks will have their steps recorded. On an average day, you could take 10,000 steps. Roll call idea was what is your favourite exercise.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Lake

Southern Area

Arcadia met in September at the Island View Seniors residence. Roll call was answered by a summer memory. A report from the AGM was given and it was decided to invite Brooklyn WI to meet with us if they wished as it would be better to have a larger audience for guest speakers. We will be collecting items for the Food Bank along with roll call this year. The October meeting was held together with Brooklyn WI. Anna Baker talked to the group about the local food bank-how it works and how necessary it has become to many people. The upcoming 100th anniversary luncheon was discussed. **Brazil Lake** met in September with 9 members in attendance. They are happy to report one new member this month. Sue Fuller gave a report on the 2013 AGM. At **Brooklyn's** September meeting, they voted to make a donation to the scholarship fund in memory of Glenna King, in the amount of \$170.50, representing her age of 107 years, 7 months. It has also been decided to join with Arcadia WI for meetings as much as possible. Also decided not to sponsor a 4-H trophy this year as we aren't sure if 4-H exists in this area. Working on plans for the district anniversary luncheon. At **Chelsea's** September meeting, Lorraine Frauzel and Madeline Henley were presented with Life Memberships. Congratulations to them! A birthday party was sponsored at the Hillside

Pines Nursing Home, and a tied quilt is to be donated to the In From the Cold program. Seven members from **Kempt** answered Roll Call with their favourite fall recipes. Pictures of Sable Island were shared by a lady whose son works there for Parks Canada. Photos were also shown of local ladies of the past, and of the last day of school at the community school before it closed in 1967. The Community Hall has a lovely new metal roof, and more work is planned on the hall. Members made salads for a wedding in July, and we took part in the 30 mile yard sale. \$50 was donated to the Breast Cancer Foundation. September Roll call at **North Brookfield** was answered by telling something on your bucket list that you want to do before you can't do it. Plans were made for the Fall Rally and the annual Turkey Supper to be held in October. A float was entered in the Caledonia Exhibition. Nine members answered their roll call by telling what kind of treats they give out at Halloween. Three new members have joined recently! The float in the Caledonia Exhibition took 2nd place! The theme was 100 years of WI in Nova Scotia. Planning continues for the Turkey Supper. Also a LED light exchange will be held in November. The highway cleanup has been postponed until spring. **Parkdale-Maplewood** had fourteen members attended and Roll call was answered by something we are thankful for. A skit was presented, and the WINS community sign has been repaired and erected. Had a visit from our twin group, South Berwick. We toured the museum, enjoyed some games and lunch together.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharman Fells

27th Triennial Conference, Chennai, India 26 September -2 October 2013

Welcome to India! These were the words, often in combination of showers of flower petals that were spoken repeatedly as we began the 27th Triennial Conference for the Associated Country Women of the World in Chennai, India. The Daughters of Mary Immaculate, the hosting organization, warmly greeted each delegate and presented each with a rose. The theme was Empowering Women Worldwide-Encourage, Educate, Enrich.

Each Triennial conference includes the following; Area Meetings (pre and post), Board Meeting (pre and post), Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Plenary Sessions (nine in Chennai), Workshops, India Evening, Interfaith Service, and a Tour Day. It is difficult to capture all that takes place but I hope the following will provide some insight into the 27th ACWW Triennial Conference.

As with most conferences there is an opening ceremony. However, one of the most impressive and moving parts of the ACWW Triennial Conference is the parade of flags and the singing of the Song of Peace. It was quite impressive to watch as the flag bearers, this time young women dressed in beautiful saris, accompanied by drummers, carrying the flags from ACWW countries as well as the flags of ACWW and the UN to the stage. The singing of the Song of Peace, accompanied on the keyboard by the World President, reminded us that no matter where we are from, we are all united under ACWW. World President, May Kidd, in her opening comments, said that the warmth of the sun in India is surpassed only by the warmth of the welcome by the DMI. She shared stories about her visits to the various societies and the excellent work that has been done by ACWW throughout the last Triennium.

Professor Saraswathi, President of Peoples' Union of Civil Liberties, Tamil Nadu gave the opening address. She called upon all women to come together to prevent wars as it was women who were affected the most by war, even though the decision to engage in a war is not usually in the hands of women. Speaking about increasing violence on women and children, the professor said that while there was progress in India when it came to education and empowerment of women, there was also increasing instances of violence. She went on to say that a country is not independent until women can walk where they want at any time of the day or night. Only increased education and empowerment will cause change to happen.

During the Conference nine Plenary sessions were held. Business discussed included reports from the Six Standing Committees, reports by the nine Area Presidents, budget, and resolutions. One of the motions passed at the conference was to have the event, Women Walk the World, become an annual event. Resolutions always bring great discussions and the resolutions presented were no exception. Two emergency resolutions were also brought forward and two resolutions were defeated. Delegates heard a report on Pen Friends and how individuals or groups could be matched with another individual or group from another part of the world. During one of the plenary sessions, delegates learned about the work of our UN Representative in Geneva. As Joanna Koch stated she speaks for those who have no voice. As she noted ACWW has had consultative status with the United Nations for many years and together with other non-government agencies, ACWW works to improve the roles of women in rural areas.

Workshops were both fun and informative. Each of the six committees (Agriculture, Finance, Projects, Promotion and Publications, Triennial Conference and United Nations) conducted a workshop that shared the work done by the committee and/or sought input from the delegates on future direction. Also delegates had the opportunity to make jewelry, paper crafts or see how henna was applied.

The second guest speaker was Sheelu Francis, from the Tamil Nadu Women's Collection in (Continued on Page 7)



Resolutions and Recommendations 27th Triennial Conference, Chennai, India

Resolution 1: ACWW Constitution and Governing Document -defeated

“Subject to Charity Commission approval, be it resolved that the Constitution of the Associated Country Women of the World is rewritten in the model of the England and Wales Charity Model and accepted by the Triennial Conference (September 2013) as the governing document. “

Proposed by the ACWW Board

Resolution 2: Maternal Health –passed

”Be it resolved that ACWW Member Societies urge their governments to provide a well trained and resourced quality maternity health service and to improve maternal health education for all women and girls to ensure the best outcomes for mother and baby, giving particular regard to the special needs and isolation of rural women.”

Proposed by Rural Women New Zealand

Resolution 3: Stop Use of Bisphenol A –passed

“Be it resolved that ACWW and its Member Organizations strongly urge their governments to banish the use of the hazardous chemical Bisphenol A (BPA). This chemical is the main building block of polycarbonate plastics and is used in many consumer products and household goods, such as food and drink containers, plastic baby bottles, medical devices, sports equipment and toys. The chemical compounds are dissolved and leach into their content, poisoning our bodies and damaging our health.”

Proposed by European Area Conference, Dublin, 2011

Resolution 4: Registration of Births –passed

“Be it resolved that ACWW member Societies urge their governments to promote and make accessible the recording of the births of all children born within their jurisdiction to ensure that all children are recognized as citizens. “

Proposed by British Columbia Women’s Institute, Canada

Resolution 5: ‘Energy for All’ Fund –defeated

“Be it resolved that ACWW should establish an “Energy for All” Fund to encourage Member Societies to promote and support sustainable energy projects.”

Resolution 6: Stop the Practice of Genital Mutilation-passed

“Be it resolved that ACWW calls on all people worldwide to stop the practice of female genital mutilation, female circumcision and cutting which endangers the health and life of young girls”.

Proposed by Ottery St Mary’s Institute, England

Urgency Resolution-Legal Structure -passed

Oxfordshire FWI proposes that the ACWW Board (2013-2016) have the power to look at the legal structure of ACWW with a view to:

Making ACWW a legal entity in its own right

Limiting the legal liability of Trustees

And to implement a new structure as they see fit, subject to ratification at the 28th Triennial Conference in 2016.

Urgency Resolution –Stop Violence Against Women-passed

The Norwegian Recommendation (Recommendation 1) was discussed. All the delegates who attended the Area Meetings supported the change from a Recommendation to a Resolution.

The European Area requests that the World President puts it to the meeting to accept it as an Urgency Resolution.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 5)

Urgency Resolution –passed

“Be it resolved that Associated Country Women of the World and its member organizations urge their governments to act, not only adopt, the UN Security Council Resolution 1325. “

Proposed by Norges Bygdekvinnelag, Norway

Recommendation –passed

“In view of the ever increasing use of electronics that pollute the environment, the members of ACWW are urged to do all they can to ensure e-waste is recycled and disposed of safely and responsibility to prevent further damage to the environment.”

Proposed by National Association for Family and Community Education, USA



2014 WINS Family Scholarship

The 2014 WINS Family Scholarship is now open for applications. Application forms, along with required items will be accepted until the deadline for submission of April 11, 2014. **No late submissions will be considered.** The essay subject will be ‘History of WINS and the importance of supporting the local branch in his/her own community. Application Forms have been sent out to the branches and is available online at www.novascotia.ca/agri/wins/.



Yarmouth WI Celebrates 100 Years!

On October 19, Yarmouth District celebrated 100 years of WINS by hosting a luncheon at the Brooklyn Seniors Hall. Guests included former members, members of New Tusket WI, friends of our three remaining branches, our President Elect, Sheila Richards and Past President, Coni Murray as well as Municipality of Yarmouth warden, Murray Goodwin. The planning committee prepared a luncheon consisting of local products, which was enjoyed by all. Entertainment, in the form of music selections from each decade of the 100 years, was provided by Loran Fevens, and as one member put it “was the icing on the cake”! A pleasant afternoon was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all who made the afternoon such a success with your presence!



(Continued from Page 4) Southern India and has over 60 thousand members. The Collective is present in 20 districts and covers a total 1540 villages; most of its participants are women. Empowerment is a challenge for each and every member of the Collective. Their approach to economic development is initiation and they encourage the participants to actively engage in learning. The villagers are taught about the advantages of keeping their money in their own villages and how to have businesses that will address their local needs. The Collective supports a friendly approach to agriculture and water use; they are strong supporters of organic farming. The Collective has recently been awarded the Global Sovereignty Award by the Food First Organization for their work with food sovereignty and justice groups.

The Interfaith Service was held on Sunday morning. Readings and prayers from several religions as well as singing made up the service. One of the prayers was led by FWIC President, Marie Kenny and the sermon was delivered by Rev. Fr. J.E. Arul Raj, head of the DMI.

Some of the work done by the DMI is operating schools. To help with this work the delegates were invited to bring books and school supplies to the Triennial Conference and what a collection was gathered! The DMI brought some of the children who attend their schools, including some of their special needs children, to be onstage for the presentation. Each of the children was presented with a book and their faces showed how thrilled they were to receive such a gift.

Each Triennial Conference has an evening where the host country showcases their entertainment. This was a spectacular evening of children, young men and women in amazing costumes performing many of India's native dances and singing native songs. A first for the Triennial Conference was a night where each Area presented entertainment. Skits, singing, poetry reading, and native dances gave us a glimpse of the talents of the delegates. Some of the performances were quite funny. The Canadian delegation sang a song composed by one of the members called "We're Canadian Gals" sung to the tune of Vive La Canadian Gals. We certainly added to the laughter.

Tour day was an opportunity to visit some of the local villages. So thirteen buses headed out to where the DMI was operating schools and/or working with the women in the villages. Again we were warmly welcomed, showered with petals and had a tilak (red dot made from sandalwood) applied to our foreheads as well as presented with the traditional shawl. Young women and girls, clothed in their colourful costumes, entertained the group with native dances. After visiting the classrooms, there was an opportunity to tour the village. In 40 degree temperatures, delegates and street children walked through the village visiting the shrines and other places of interest. Travelling through the village we were certainly overwhelmed with the poverty and the lack of opportunity for the families and their children. However the DMI has been providing business loans to women to help improve their families and the village. It was a day that made us very appreciative of the country in which we live.

On the last day of the conference, the officers were installed during the closing ceremony. They include:

WORLD PRESIDENT –Ruth Shanks

DEPUTY PRESIDENT – Margaret Yetman

SECRETARY –Henrietta Schoeman

TREASURER – Alison Burnett

PROJECTS CHAIR – Anne Marit Hovstad

PROMOTION & PUBLICATIONS – Magdie De Kock

UNITED NATIONS CHAIR – Sharon Hatten

AREA PRESIDENT Canada – Sheila Needham

The Triennial Conference is a terrific opportunity to learn about the work of ACWW and the difference we are making in the lives of women and children. Meeting and talking with members from many countries, we discover that though we come from different parts of the world, we share a common goal. We all want what is best for not only our families but for those in developing countries as well.

Interested in learning more about ACWW, why not attend the Canada Area Conference in Camrose, Alberta from June 12-14 2014 or the next Triennial Conference in Birmingham, England in August 2016? It will be one of the most remarkable experiences you could have.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn MacLean





Belnan WI recently made a donation to the Elemsdale Elementary District School to help support new programs and initiatives at the school. Pictured L-R: Vice Principal Tammy Fox, Joan Campbell, Margaret Sullivan, Principal Mary Anne Alley, Ellen Crowe, Joan Wellwood, Rita Erskine and Linda Smith. Missing from photo are WI members Irene Wotherspoon and Doris Darer.

The Hants Central District Fall Rally was held October 10th. Members enjoyed a presentation from a RCMP Officer regarding Neighbourhood Watch. Carol Crawford was presented with a certificate and floral bouquet in congratulations and recognition of 50 years as a WI member. Also present at The meeting was Linda Munro, President.



Did You Know...

That WINS was nominated for Outstanding Philanthropic group Award of the Canadian Society of Fund Raising Executive in 1994 and has received Environmental Awards from the NS Environmental Council in 1978, 1982 and 1987.

West Kings District Fall Rally was held in Burlington. Pictures L-R: Eleanor Lilley, Pictou District Director; Linda Munro, WINS President; Judy Parks, ACWW Pen Friend Person and Cambridge WI member; Ruth Blenkhorn, Past FWIC President & Marion Newcombe; Past FWIC President and Kings East District President.





Linda Munro attended the Queens District Fall Rally on October 9th and was their guest speaker. She talked about her personal experience over the past three years negotiating the challenges cancer threw at her and her decision to meet the challenge with a very positive and cheerful disposition.



North Brookfield WI entered a float in their local exhibition parade. The ladies did an excellent job decorating the float that help mark 100 years of WI in Nova Scotia.



Left: Marion Inglis, Tupperville WI, and Dianne MacDonald, Spa Springs WI chatting during the supper portion for the Fall Rally. Centre: Velma Bent and Gladys Weir, both Tupperville WI, reading a memorial and placing carnations in remembrance of lost EI members. Right: WI members enjoying the supper portion of the meeting.

Glenna King of Brooklyn and Area WI passed away at age 107&7 months

Glenna was a wonderful lady and we were proud to have her as a member of our branch and although there were several years that she couldn't attend meetings, she never lost her interest in the organization and what we were doing as a branch. Every January we helped her celebrate her birthday and every Christmas season we took her a box of cookies even when we delivered her cookies she was at her kitchen table making cookies as well at age 102.

Glenna will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

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May Kidd

Scotland

Visit our website: www.novascotia.ca/agri/wins/

Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia Christmas Office Hours

The WINS/AAH Provincial Office will be closed starting at 4 p.m. on December 19th, 2013 and will reopen at 8 a.m. on January 6th, 2014.

Wishing all a very happy holiday and a prosperous new year!



Announcement:

At the AGM 2013, in New Glasgow, members were able to purchase Nazanin Afshin-Jam's book 'A Tale of Two Nazanins'. A few members have paid for a copy of the book, with the book being sent to an address as they ran out of copies at the meeting. There is one book ready to be delivered but they do not have an address to send it to. If you have purchased this book at the AGM and have not received your copy yet, please contact Gerald Keddy, MP, at 902-527-5655 to make arrangements for delivery.

Thank you

Note from the Office,

Due to space limitations and amount of submissions, the WINS Sales Items Price list will return in the next issue of the newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos and articles.