



HOME and COUNTRY



August-September 2017

W.I.N.S. Provincial Board

2017-2018 See Report of AGM on pages 3-5



Mission Statement: The Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia continue to provide opportunities to enhance the quality of life, through education and personal development, allowing us to meet the changing needs of our local and global communities.

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Upcoming Events

WINS Alumni

September 19 –Windsor

FWIC Competitions

Due September 30 to WINS Office

District Fall Meeting Dates

Annapolis

October TBA

Cape Breton

October 24

Cumberland-Colchester

October 18

Digby

October 23

Guysborough

Late October

Hants Central

October 5

Hants West

October TBA

Kings East

October 25

Kings West

October 24

Lunenburg

October TBA

Pictou

October 17

Queens

October 11

Shelburne-Yarmouth

October 24

Submissions

Please note the deadlines for submitting articles and photographs to the 2017 Home & Country are:
Jan 5, April 5, August 5,
October 5.

“Editor’s Chat”

Dear W.I. Members,

This is our biggest issue yet! Granted there are reports from the AGM and the ACWW Canada Area Conference included, but mainly it is because of you for sending in your Branch Monthly Reports and for submitting photos! Thank you!

Unfortunately, we were not able to include all the submitted photos but we will try and place them in the next issue. Also we would like to place the photos on the Facebook page.

If there is something you would like us to include, in the newsletter, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Lynn MacLean, Editor

jennielynnmaclean@gmail.com



**Reach for the Stars
Membership Challenge**
**Welcome to our new members
for 2017-2018!**

One Star
Port Williams—Nancy Blenkhorn
Spanish Bay— Margie MacNeill

Please remember in order to be listed and recorded in the Membership Challenge, new members' names must be submitted to the Office with their membership dues. If you require a new member form, please contact the Office or go to the WINS website. Errors or admissions should be reported to the Office as well.

In Memoriam

Ellen Crowe—Belnan

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF NOVA SCOTIA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AUGUST 2nd and 3rd, 2017



Above: Eleanor Anderson, Guest Speaker at the AGM is thanked by Cape Breton member, Yvonne Kennedy.

The weather cooperated for the drive to Sydney, Cape Breton University for AGM 2017 – the theme was *Be Kind to Our World*. On Wednesday, after early registration, we were entertained in true Cape Breton style by a local group of square dancers, step dancing and guitar players. Refreshments were available and there were many display tables to visit throughout the evening.

On Thursday, the business meeting opened with the Board and invited guests being piped into the auditorium of Verschuren Centre. Following the opening ceremonies of O Canada, Mary Stewart Collect, and the Flag Salute, the Board members and guests were introduced. The guests were Doreen Wall, newly elected President of Prince Edward Island Women's Institute and Marina Gillis, representative from the Department of Agriculture. Both brought greetings. There were six past presidents registered for the AGM and each received a Turtlehead plant. Unfortunately, Marion Newcombe was unable to at-

tend, but her Turtlehead plant was taken home to her.

The Financial Report was presented in a slightly different format this year which those present found easier to comprehend. The Minutes for AGM 2016 were approved as amended.

Everyone moved into the Amphitheatre to hear guest speaker, Eleanor Anderson, who spoke about the changes we must make to combat climate change.

An excellent lunch followed, comprised of soup, sandwiches, and desserts. Members had time during the lunch break to socialize, visit the display tables, and vote for their choice of woven place-mat.

There was one Resolution this year and it requested that the Nova Scotia Government contact the Hutterite communities in Western Canada and invite them to settle in Nova Scotia. After much discussion, the Resolution was defeated.

The Think Tank Committee gave an overview of the work they have completed this year. This included a summary of the responses from the questionnaires completed by the Districts and a few Branches as well a list of considerations on future actions for W.I.N.S. Those in attendance were invited to complete a survey prioritizing the considerations.

Ellen Simpson and Liz Johnson shared the Nova Scotia Women's Institute contribution to the exhibit "Preserving our HERitage: History from the Womyn's Perspective" at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. The exhibit told the story of the growth of Women's Institutes in each province and the projects that have been supported.

Coni Murray shared a report on the ACWW Canada Area Conference recently held in Pembroke, Ontario. (see page 16). Judy Parks also gave a short report on her work as Friendship Link Coordinator for Canada Area. She was delighted that she had found two women at the AGM who would like to write to England and New Zealand.

The winners for the woven placemat competition were: 1st Lakeville WI, 2nd Sharon Lynk - Medford Branch 3rd Jennie Jolly - Cambridge.

This year there was a tie in the winning of the "Reach for the Stars" competition. Cambridge WI and Spanish Bay WI each welcomed four new members to their respective Branches. Congratulations!

The winners of the Raffle were: Quilt – Kathy Brown, Gift cards - Betty Doucette. The Touch and Take table raised \$400 and the Pennies for Friendship total was \$816.47.

Many businesses supported the AGM and we thank them for their support. (See list on page 5).

An invitation to the W.I.N.S. Provincial Convention 2018 to be held in Truro was extended by President Elect, Eleanor Lilley. A thank you was expressed to retiring District Directors, Roberta Journeay and Shelley Lake. Unfortunately, there were no new directors to be installed during the AGM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Richards



Above top: Hillary's Square Dancers were part of the entertainment at the AGM.

Middle left: Display Table with great examples of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Middle above: Winners of the woven placemat competition. Left to right: Sharon Lynk, 2nd Place, Sharon Reid, Chair of Handcraft Committee, Marilyn Kenny, Lakeville Branch, 1st, and Jennie Jolly, Cambridge, 3rd place.

Left: Reach for the Stars winners were: Spanish Bay represented by Kay MacDonald, Marg Dawe, Chair of Committee and Judy Parks representing Cambridge.



Note from WINS Provincial President:

Congratulations

Congratulations are extended to Cheryl Durham, Cape Breton District Director and her committee for all the work they did to make AGM 2017 a very successful AGM.

Thank you.

Sheila Richards

Above: Cape Breton AGM Planning Committee L-R Brenda Skinner - Past CB District President; Jean MacQueen - CB District Vice-President; Cheryl Durham - CB District Director; Gerry MacAulay - CB District Secretary; Donna Rudderham - CB District President.

Thank you to the following Businesses that supported AGM 2017:

Atlantic Fabrics,
 Atlantic Superstore - Glace Bay & Sydney
 Best of Cape Breton, Sydney
 Breton Toyota - Sydney
 C & D Medical - Glace Bay
 Canadian Tire Ltd. - Sydney
 Cape Breton Farmer's Market
 Cape Breton Farmer's Market - Sydney
 Cape Breton University
 Charlene's Nutrition Center - Sydney
 Claims Pro. Inc. - Sydney
 Classic Fine Foods – Sydport
 Connors Basics - Sydney
 Dairy Queen - Sydney
 Dillon Consulting Ltd. - Sydney
 Dollarama - Sydney River
 Donna's Consignment - Sydney
 Ed's Books and More - Sydney
 Foodland - Glace Bay
 Giant Tiger - Sydney
 Highland Arts Theatre - Sydney
 Home Hardware - Sydney
 Jungle Jim's
 Just 4 U - Cheryl Durham
 Kreative Design Jewellery and Gift Shop
 Louann's Café - Sydney

Lynn's Jewellery - Sydney
 Marley's - Sydney
 Mayflower Mall - Sydney
 Meadows Pharmasave - Howie Centre
 Membertou Market - Sydney
 Mountainview Farms - Coxheath
 Napoli Pizzeria - Sydney
 North Sydney Garden Club
 Nova Scotia Power
 NS Dept. of Agriculture - Sydney
 Radiance Beauty & Tattoo Studio
 Razy's - Glace Bay
 Rudderham's Source for Sports
 Shoppers Drug Mart - Sydney River
 Sobey's - Glace Bay & Sydney
 Social Hair Salon - Sydney
 The Curiosity Shop - Sydney
 Treasures from The Heart
 Warren Gordon Photography - Sydney
 Wholesale Club - Sydney
 Y.M.C.A. - Sydney

Thank you also to:
 Town Crier - Allie MacInnis
 Hilary Square Dancers
 Piper: Jeanette Gillis

Dropping In on Central Area Branches

The program for **Belnan** in April was “A full Model of a Pre-Born” and they had a lengthy discussion on the future of WI. Roll call was Members’ Choice. The Branch was very sad to lose one of their members, Ellen Crowe. In March, **Gore** made plans to hold a Paint Night as a fundraiser. The program for April was about the Rawdon 2-Way 4-H Club and their activities. Marlene Custance spoke on the book she is compiling called, “The Place We Call Home”. The book is a Canada 150 project and includes recipes, folklore, myths, school day stories and community photos which have been submitted by the community. In May, they presented a \$100.00 bursary to a graduate from HNRH. Roll call ideas included giving a gardening tip and Fact or Fiction where each member told a story-fact or fiction and the members had to guess which it was. **Hants Shore** answered March roll call with “Do you make bread”? A delicious program of making your own Chai tea blends and homemade bagels was presented by Erin Moore, who shared her favorite recipes. **Martock Windsor Forks** held a coffee party in April and raised \$52.00 for Pennies for Friendship. In April, they discussed the suggested changes to the WI structure forwarded by the Think Tank. **Nine Mile River Homemakers** answered roll call with ideas for WI Week and what WI could do for their community, name a woman who did something of importance in the last 150 years and what are the plans for the summer. In March, they had a quiz on Alzheimer’s and a discussion on rules and regulations on entering the U.S.A. A discussion was also held on having a Blueberry Day in the Fall. In April, they had an Easter quiz and learned how to make Easter Bunnies out of a large facecloths. They visited a Seniors’ home, taking chocolates and Easter Cards for the residents, chatted with them, and held a sing song. In June, a \$100.00 bursary was given to a student at two local high schools. Plans were made to visit a small nursing home and have a picnic with the seniors during the summer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Coni Murray



Above: members of the Upper Nine Mile River Homemakers Branch, visited the Serenity Lodge in Enfield taking them cards/chocolates for Easter. A lifelong member, Erma MacPhee (seated), was very pleased to see some familiar faces.



Above: Members from Martock Windsor Forks recently held a Coffee Party and raised \$52.00 for Pennies for Friendship. Far Left and far right: Guests Maxine Trinacity-Pelltier and June Card are joined centre with Marjorie Knowles and Marion Newcombe.

Dropping In on Central and Eastern Area Branches



Pictured left are some of the Gore WI members. They recently enjoyed a Paint Night which was a fundraiser for the Hants North Community Food Bank. Pictured below is Gore Branch President, Ruby Demont, presenting a cheque to Kim Burns of Hants North Community Food Bank .



Above left: In recognition of Administration Appreciation Day. Hants Central members presented Lindsay Murray with a flower arrangement. Shown in photo are Gail MacAskill (Vice President of Homemakers), Pat Goodbrand (Treasurer of Homemakers) Lindsay and Eileen VanderKooi (President of District). Left: Pictured are Churchville Branch members and their guests as they celebrated Canada's 150th Birthday.

Dropping In on Eastern Area Branches



Recently, MacPherson's Mills had an informative program with International students. Pictures above are Branch members with students from South Korea, Germany, and France.

April, **Churchville** held a Home Economics program on 'eggs' with interesting facts, followed by a quiz as well as decorating Easter eggs. Also, a program on the lobster fishery in Lismore and area was presented by Pauline Murphy. There were many great pictures from the 1700's with the comparison to today's lobster industry. To help celebrate Canada 150 the Branch held a 'Strawberry Social' where guests & members played games & other fun things. A parting gift of a red carnation was given as well as door prizes of a Canadian flag and a Canadian pin. **Foxbrook** made donations to MacLeod School 'Breakfast' program, Pictou North Colchester Exhibition and the I.W.K. Hospital. They held their annual social event at "Westside – Bistro" and made plans for the Pictou-North Colchester Exhibition. **Homeville** had an interesting program and presentation on Terry Fox by Christine MacKeigan. She shared his contribution to cancer research and that his legacy continues after 36 years. Roll call was to name your favourite flower. Another program was presented by Marilyn Cathcart and she told about her family's time in the military and all the different places they lived. She always found it interesting how every place she lived, even in Germany & other places, the Canadian flag was always on display & respected by many. One of the members, Yvonne Kennedy shared an interesting program on the history of the

Hope everyone is having a great summer and wearing their sunscreen!! In April, **Bridgeville** had a program on Cultural Activities with Show & Tell. Each member presented a short talk on something important in their life eg. family story, memorabilia, crafts and/or hobbies. They also donated to ACWW. For one of their programs they had a guided tour of the Miner's Exhibit at the N.S. Museum of Industry. The members also celebrated their 54th anniversary with a potluck and they made plans to work on a Terry Fox quilt. **Cape Breton District** held a very successful 'District' fund raiser prior to AGM 2017 to help with costs associated with this event. The prizes were donated by local businesses and

tickets were sold in many locations on numerous days. The prize was drawn June 30 and ironically it was won by the guest speaker for AGM 2017, Eleanor Anderson. The District members worked diligently over the course of the year preparing & planning for AGM 2017 such as making hand-made items for the 'Goodie' bags which was one job for many! **Caribou** worked on a crafting idea using china cups & saucers to make bird feeders and roll call was facts about birds. Their book club discussed a book "Amazing Grace" written by Lesley Crewe and roll call was an Easter treat exchange. They plan on having a bake sale and an 'ice cream' social to celebrate 50 years as a Branch. In

Dropping In on Eastern Area Branches

Canadian flag. Homeville decided for the remainder of 2017 that all programs would have a Canadian theme to celebrate Canada 150 and they donated to the fireworks display in Port Morien for Canada Day. Members worked at making handmade items for AGM 2017 throughout the year. **Garden of Eden** had a presentation from a guest speaker on "some fashions of yesteryear" and in keeping with the Canada 150 theme, they researched some history on their Branch with lots of old photos and memories. A program was presented by a member on her trip to Music City, USA. **Lyon's Brook** had a program called "Herbs in Action" presented by Margie Beck and roll call was to name your favourite herb. There was a cooking demonstration, recipes, and ways to use herbs in food. They held a walk to celebrate Women Walk the World for ACWW and collected donations. For projects, they held their monthly Lunch & Learn programs, completed the Community Heritage kiosk panels which were unveiled in June and were the supporting organization for the 250th Anniversary of the Landing of the Betsey. **MacPherson's Mills** held a program with international students from South Korea, Germany and France. They spoke about their home and communities, education systems, and different foods. Roll call was items for the local animal shelter and stories & trivia about St. Patrick's Day.

For projects, they helped prepare a meal for the "New Hope Site" for people with mental health issues, supported Book Awards, donated cereal for the Breakfast program at Thorburn Consolidated school and donated placemats to a local Market. In April, they donated items for the local Food Bank for roll call. **Point Edward** donated items to the Long-term Care Unit of the Northside Hospital and items to the "Every Women's Center". They celebrated 50 years in June with a special function in their hall with lots of food and entertainment. They even included their deceased long-time friend and member, Sue MacInnis, who passed away in February. They displayed her photo with her china cup & saucer with an attractive flower arrangement inside the cup. They were busy with upcoming AGM activities & items for this event, as well. **Port Bickerton** held their monthly meeting in June and decided to sell tickets on the Institute quilt on Canada Day. **Sherbrooke** had an employee from Efficiency Nova Scotia give an informative presentation on ways to save power on the N.S. Power bills. Roll call involved readings pertaining to Mother's Day and they made hats and finger puppets for the I.W.K. Hospital. Also, a very successful silent auction was held and they worked on a memory book of deceased members for the Spring Rally. **Spanish Bay** held monthly meetings with their main focus on AGM activ-

ities. They donated to Greenfield School and made aprons in exchange for AGM 2017 flower center pieces (in china cups) for the tables from the N.S. Garden Club...thank you Laurie! Members were very busy making handmade items & other activities over the course of the year for AGM 2017. They also welcomed new member, Margie MacNeill. **Springville-Island** was honoured to have Tim Huston, MLA Pictou East visit with their branch for a very informative & enjoyable afternoon. Also, they had a Canada 150 program and shared stories from the Governor General's book, The Idea of Canada. A branch fundraiser was held in the form of a Bring 'n' Buy to fund next year's projects and Comfort kits were donated to Tearmann House. Thanks to everyone for all your volunteering! It was great to see the members from across Nova Scotia and even from P.E.I. at the recent A.G.M. in Cape Breton at the Verschuren Centre (CBU). We hope everyone had a great time and enjoyed the "Kitchen Party" with the Town Crier opening the evening and the special guest speaker. I hope you had time to relax a bit after your long drive! Please come back to visit any time and in particular, "Celtic Colours 2017" is just around the corner with its beautiful Fall colours!!

Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Durham

Dropping In on Eastern Area Branches



Caribou WI & Point Edward WI



Above: Diane Hynes, Barb Herald, and Donna Rudderham, members of Point Edward, celebrating the 50th anniversary of their Branch.

Left: Members of Caribou WI at their celebration. Both Branches also celebrated Canada's 150th birthday.



Above: Cari



Above left: Sue Arsenault was chair of the Point Edward Celebration.

Above middle: Caribou members celebrate their anniversary and Canada's 150th birthday.

Above right: Members from Spanish bay hold up their invitations to the Point Edward celebration.

Right: Ready for a party at Caribou's celebration



Dropping In on Eastern Area Branches



Above Left: Garden of Eden WI took some time to look at the history of their Branch from 1955-1983. Above Right: MacPherson's Mills members recently donated boxes of cereal to their local school. Left: Pictured are Pictou District members who held a walk for "Women Walk the World" at their Spring meeting.



Above: Frances Cameron (left) presents awards to first place winners for the WI & Friends Bowling League. L-R Nellie Phillips, Jessie Gay, Beulah Martell, and Lola Tree. Above R: Springville Island walked the paths of Millstream for "Women Walk the World". Pictured are Ruth MacLeod, Diane Wright, Ellen McLean, Diane MacLeod, Debbie White and Rose Gillis. Right: Churchville members and a member from Foxbrook, Marilyn Kerr, at their Strawberry Social.



Dropping In on Southern Area Branches



Above: Queens District members ponder the questionnaire sent by the Think Tank Committee at their Spring Meeting.

In May, **Arcadia's** program was a visit from SHYFT house in Yarmouth, the only youth homeless shelter outside Halifax. After hearing the excellent presentation, the members decided to bring socks and for the shelter in June. Their roll call was to "model a hat they had made". **Chelsea** sold 50/50 tickets at each meeting instead of having "Money Makers" and the winning ticket is drawn each year in June. Donations are made to Christmas Daddies, Every Stamp Counts, the local Fire Department and the Heart Services Foundations Telethon. They packed 33 boxes and donated \$223.00 for Operation Christmas Child. Programs included Wind Turbines, Dementia and Alzheimer's, and an article from a local paper on Celebrating WI Week. A wreath was laid at the cenotaph and later posted at the Catholic Cemetery. The Branch misses the many talents of member Lorraine Frauzel as she has moved from the

area. **Island's** W.I. program was the community SWAP and how successful it has been since it first began ten years ago when their Branch was organized. The Swap helps keep items out of the landfill. Congratulations to the members for their endeavour in this project **Kempt** answered April roll call with an Easter tradition or speciality in your home. Projects include procuring a new flag for the outside flagpole and holding a Food Handlers Course in May. The program included Easter information – how the date is set for Easter as well as symbols and their meanings. In May, roll call was answered with their favorite spring flower and an interesting program was given by a local high school student and her mother who attended the ceremonies at Vimy Ridge. They had many pictures and commentary of the event as well as other places in France and England which they visited while abroad. A reason why we

should be proud to be Canadian was the roll call for June. An oral quiz on the beginnings of Canada, logos and slogans of Canada, why famous Canadians are famous and comical laws in Canada was the program. Projects included replacing the kitchen floor in the hall, taking part in the 30-mile yard sale and delivering two fruit baskets to ill community members. **New Tusket** answered roll call with their favorite colour and favorite wild animal. They donated seven quilts to the IWK. They presented muffins and WI information to three schools in the area. This was postponed from WI Week due to bad weather. In May, with their twin branch Port Williams, enjoyed a presentation from a woman on her trip to South Africa. They had a pot luck supper and a game on Proverbs. In June, they presented a bursary of \$200.00 to a student at St. Mary's Bay Academy graduation. In June, they held the final meeting of the year at a local hotel. A donation was made to the Woodstock Nursing Home. In April, **North Brookfield** made plans to participate in the 30-Mile Yard Sale. Roll call was answered with suggestions of what they would like to as programs for upcoming meetings. The program for the month was given on the Daffodil and the significance it has to the Canadian Cancer Society. As well, a poem written in 1815 by William Wadsworth, was read. Roll call for May and June was fund raising ideas and ideas for their summer outing. The Annual Meeting was held with the in-

Dropping In on Southern Area Branches

stallation of new officers, discussion of the resolution for AGM, and a Mother's Day poem written by Robert Service was read. They are working on baby hats for the IWK. They planned to visit "Halifax and Southwestern Railway Museum" in Lunenburg. They welcomed new member Debbie Wardon. **Sable River and Area** enjoyed a presentation by Mount St. Vincent Food Arc entitled "Making food matter and building momentum for action". They have been busy with projects: Health Matters every other week, catered to Retired Teachers, sent items to the IWK, took part in Women Walk the World and placed an order with the Vesey's Seed Fund Raiser. In May, member Jacky Fowers, gave an interesting talk on saffron, which is a herb used in Cornwall in the south west of England. She made bread using the herb and raisins which was a nice treat along with tea. A Heritage Day is planned for August and a Community Christmas Party will be held in December. In June, a speaker from the Department of Health gave a talk on ticks and Lyme disease. Projects included a donation of money to Lockeport Scholarship Fund and a donation to Health Matters for the Health Matter Transportation Fund.

Respectfully Submitted,
Coni Murray



Above: Recently, Arcadia's roll call was "model a hat you made". After a quick ballot, Mabel Saulnier's creation was the winner! Pictured above: L-R Back Row: Irene White, Yvonne Box, Mabel Saulnier, Dorothy Redfurn; Front: Dolores Robichaud, Minnie Redfurn, Sharman Fells, Marilyn Burns.



Island's WI Community Swap

In April, Island's WI held their Annual Community Swap at Island's Consolidated School. They diverted a lot of stuff from the landfills, as people brought in bags and boxes full of things they did not want and/or no longer needed. Then, at 11 o'clock plenty of people were at the school to take home "new to them" treasures. When you 'shop', you naturally get hungry, so the Women's Institute was prepared with various lunch items which they sold to raise money at the swap. Island's Women's Institute would like to thank everyone for coming out to their annual swap and to the Consolidated School for allowing them to hold the swap in the school's multi-purpose room. Pictured left samples of the treasures that were available.

Dropping in on Western Area Branches



Above left: Weston WI members enjoy some Hutchinson maple products. L-R– Front row. President, Sharon Whelton Brown, Secretary Janet Saunders, Judy Knox, Adrienne Balsor & Carrie Horsnell holding Adrienne's new baby, Ebeline. Back: Jeannie Huntley & Lorraine Hamilton. Above Right: Lockhartville members make turbans for cancer patients. Left: Jose van Vilsteren and Mary te Stroete of Delhaven and District WI and Liz Johnson and Ruth Blenkhorn of Port Williams WI, made a donation of eight filled backpacks, supplies, and blankets for the Kentville shelter, Open Arms.

The Annapolis District (Paradise and Spa Springs) took the Tupperville ladies out for a celebration lunch to honour their contribution to their communities and to WINS for 85 years. It was with saddened hearts Tupperville made the tough decision to disband, but it was a festive occasion to honour their years of service and dedication. Members from Tupperville pictured below are: Myrtle Wood, Gladys Weir, Rita Lewis, Mary Inglis, Judy Whitman, Wendy MacDonald, and Thelma Bent, Far right: District Director Ellen Simpson presents a WINS Certificate of Recognition to Thelma Bent, honouring Tupperville's service to WINS.



Dropping in on Western Area Branches



Port Williams members gathered to celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday. Members present included: Marie Griffin, Marg Barkhouse, Marion Newcombe, Ethel Ells, Liz Johnson, Bette Cussons, Myrtle Merrett, Ruth Blenkhorn, and Lorrainer Miner.

I am pleased to report for the western district of Nova Scotia and pleased to say that every Branch has been extremely busy. **Cambridge** welcomed a guest who spoke on Reflexology where the members learned what messages the foot could tell about one's health. The roll call was to name a Branch of Women's Institutes in Nova Scotia, where it was located, and how it made everyone more aware of our province. In May, the Branch did a Travel Log by telling a place where they had been and what was unique about the place. **Grand Pre** held a program in April on ACWW with the members participating and a ACWW tea towel was on display. In May, the members brought in a pic-

ture during their youth for all to see and the ladies were busy during the month preparing a luncheon for those who did the clean up with Adopt a Highway. In June, the 2016 bur-sary winner, Miss J. Fuller, spoke to the Branch about her first year at Acadia University and her involvement with 4H. The members entertained their twin Branch with a tour to the Malt House followed by a luncheon. Plans were made to continue with Toonie plates as the past year had been extremely successful. **Lakeville** celebrated their 43rd birthday and in doing so they had a program on the story of the Lakeville Community Hall. The hall at one time was the school and two of the members had attended the Lakeville school. The members did a program in May on "What Canada Means to Me". The program was completed with a poster. They have been extremely busy as they reported giving the following items to the VRH Kentville: 6 teddy bears, 22 knitted dolls, 1265 finger puppets, 26 preemie hats, 17 baby hats and 25 toe

socks. What a wonderful donation by one Women's Institute group! In April, **Port Williams** welcomed the area director of Harmony Inc. who spoke on Harmony Inc. The Branch also helped the local Elementary School collect donations for the local food bank. Port Williams like many Branches held their annual general meeting in May. **South Berwick** celebrated their 64th anniversary in April with a special guest from the Western Kings Health Centre who spoke on primary health care in the area. The program was very enjoyable and all those present including guests were enlightened to hear the activities that the health centre arrange. **Spa Springs** members and guests welcomed Sharon Elliott, RCMP who spoke on scams through various forms of Social Media. **Weston** was pleased to learn about the art of Ukrainian egg decorating and learned the traditional lines and symbols of decorating the eggs. In May, the members learned about landscaping, seeds, bulbs, and general gardening from an expert. They selected a Nova Scotia book, read the book, and then had the opportunity to share the story with the members. Thank you to all members for your reports and please continue to send them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen MacGillivray Simpson



ACWW CANADA AREA CONFERENCE REPORT

The theme for the **ACWW Canada Area Conference** held at the Best Western in Pembroke, Ontario June 23 -25, 2017 was “Women Helping Women For 90 Years...and Beyond”. There were 154 delegates in attendance of which 14 were partial registrants. There were nine women and two husbands attending from Nova Scotia.

ACWW Canada Area President, Sheila Needham, presided over opening ceremonies on Friday evening. She welcomed special guests World President, Ruth Shanks from Australia, Deputy World President Margaret Yetman from Newfoundland and Labrador, USA Area ACWW President Jo Ellen Almond from Indiana, and FWIC President Linda Hoy from Quebec and they each brought greetings from their respective associations. Also present was Debbie Reardon, European Friendship Link Coordinator from Liverpool, England.

Greetings were also brought by City of Pembroke Councillor Christine Reavie. Letters of greeting were read from Governor General David Johnson and his wife Carolyn, ACWW European Area President Margaret MacMillan and Irene Chinje, ACWW Area President East, West and Central Africa.

On Saturday, Canadian Societies brought their greetings and reports on how they each support ACWW and the ACWW World President, Ruth Shanks, delivered her address. Marlene Schaly presented on the Art Tree Project. After the break, the regular business meeting took place which included minutes of the previous meeting, finances, resolutions, and discussion on the next Canada Area project.

The **ACWW Canada Area project** selected for the Triennium was Project #1015 –Art Therapy in Romania. This is at the shelter run by the Women’s Association from Sibiu in Romania. It provides refugee and legal advice to women and children fleeing domestic violence and is the only one of its kind in the region. Art therapy teaches the women and children how to create beautiful pieces using various materials and techniques, providing an opportunity to be creative in a peaceful and relaxing environment. The products such as greeting cards, photo frames, and magnets are sold online and at local events and bazaars as a source of revenue for the shelter. Once the women move out, having mastered the techniques, they can go on to produce their own handicrafts for sale. Women have remarked how learning these new skills along with the counselling and support has given them a confidence boost and encouragement to start a new and independent life.

Perth-Huron WI presented a donation of \$394.18 for the Water for All project and SOS (Southern Ontario Society) presented \$500.00 to ACWW.

Speakers for the afternoon session included Brian Innes, Vice President Canola Council, who spoke on the importance of bees and the promotion of open international trading environment for agriculture and agri-food.

Several ACWW Committee presentations were given. ACWW Deputy World President and Chair of the Agriculture Committee, Margaret Yetmen and Donna Jebb (Ontario), committee member spoke on the work of the Agriculture Committee. Christine Raeburn (Ontario) gave a report on the UN Committee and Judy Parks (Nova Scotia) along with Debbie Reardon shared information on Friendship Link (formerly Pen Friends). Margaret Christenson and Jo Ellen Almond reported on the International Exchange.

One of the stories from the Friendship Link that Judy Parkes shared was Esther Chute, a long time supporter and promoter of WI in her charter group of South Berwick. At 104, she is very keen and alert and has two pen pals, one from New Zealand, the other from BC. To her, the pen pal program has brought her a lot of joy!

The banquet speaker was Sally Armstrong, Journalist and Human Rights Activist. Sally related some of her experiences working with women in the Middle East and around the world.

Sheila Needham presented a booklet she has compiled for future ACWW Canada Area Presi-

ACWW Continued and FWIC



Esther Chute, South Berwick, long time supporter of Friendship Link.

dents, including duties and guidelines as well as an explanation of the Mrs. Watt Memorial Trust Fund. The dues for each Society from the Mrs. Alfred Watt Memorial Trust Fund has been lowered to \$300.00 from \$400.00 for this Triennium (2017-2020).

The final speaker of the conference was Margaret Yetman, ACWW Deputy World President.

The Pennies for Friendship collection amounted to \$439.00 and the raffle which helps with expenses on the Conference amounted to \$845.00.

The Conference closed with the Hymn of all Nations. As delegates headed for home or to Quebec to attend the FWIC Board Meeting all agreed it was an informative and enjoyable Conference. Delegates had something new to bring to their respective Societies and could look forward to attending the 29th ACWW Triennial World Conference, April 4 to 10, 2019 in Melbourne, Australia.

Website: www.acww.org.uk

Respectfully Submitted,
Coni Murray

Website: please visit the ACWW website www.acww.org.uk and be sure to log on to the member area with the following password *acww2016portal*.

Also follow ACWW on Twitter at #We are ACWW or check out the ACWW Facebook page.



FEDERATED WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES OF CANADA

FWIC Projects are "Adopt A Shelter", "Fidget Quilts", and the "Great Canadian Quilting Bee".

For the Quilting Bee, each person would make a quilt block and each block would have one piece of Canada 150 birthday fabric. It is hoped to make and donate 1000 quilts for kids at Ronald MacDonald Houses across Canada. For more information, please contact Norma at norma4qwi@gmail.com.

Tweedsmuir Competition entries from NS due to WINS Office by September 30, 2017.

If your Branch would like to receive the monthly FWIC Bulletins, sign up at www.fwic.ca.

FWIC National Convention: July 10-14, 2018 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



Right: Donna Henderson, from Ontario displayed the completed queen size quilt she created called, "A Story in Patchwork". The quilt has 130 different fabrics from across Canada as well as some from Australia and Ireland. It is being used as a fundraiser for FWIC. Tickets will be \$2.00 each and the winning ticket will be drawn at the FWIC Convention in Winnipeg in July 2018. Donna is also planning to compile a book which will tell the stories of the fabrics used in making the quilt.

**W.I.N.S. 2017 Scholarship Winner
Emma-Lee Ryno
Hants East Rural High School**



Dear Members of the
Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia,

It is with immense gratitude and honour that I accept the 2017 Women's Institute Family Scholarship. I was so excited as I crossed the stage on graduation day to discover that I had earned such a special award, not just to me, but to my family because of my grandmother's commitment to the organization. I promise that I will work my very hardest in this upcoming year to make you all proud!

In the fall, I will be attending Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB for my Bachelor of Science. As previously disclosed, it is my goal to become an optometrist, and my journey begins in September!

I cannot wait to see what the future has in store, and again I thank you all for selecting me as your honoured recipient. The required information will follow at the end of first term!

With sincere thanks,
Emma-Lee Rhyno

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