

# Humpty Dumpty starts meeting

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

President Connie Silcox opened the May meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute with the reading of the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty. Keeping in theme with the meeting which was, Steady As You Go, she remembered how Humpty Dumpty fell to his death.

Eleven members were present and the meeting began with the Institute Ode and Mary Stuart Collect followed by the roll call which was, Name A Risk Factor That Contributed To A Fall.

Pat Palmer asked for volunteers to help with the Shedden Fair display and a discussion was held regarding this year's fair. Carol Gordon and Marlane Connors volunteered to make 18 jars of jam for the London area convention.

Reports were heard from Dorothy McLaughlin our representative to the museum. There is a display at the Seniors' Centre organized by the museum, and the strawberry social will be June 26.

A book report was heard and two books will be delivered by members. A report from Cheryl Garvin from the remembrance committee indicated that three cards were sent.

Sharon Welch had attended the district annual held in Crinan and updated members on items of interest.

The program was handed to Carol Gordon and Marlane Connors who had recently attended a Steady As You Go workshop offered by the St. Thomas health unit. They began the program by having members do a

minute "or more" workout with the use of a video. Following the work out, members filled out a booklet that scored us on our safety factors around our homes. Topics such as paying attention, taking risks, proper foot

care and medications were discussed, all of which help us stay safe in our homes.

The next meeting will be held on June 26 at the home of Pat Palmer when the speaker will be Joanne Irons, a button collector.

## Shedden WI tours local farm

BY PAT PALMER

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

The October meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was held at Side Track Stock Farm where Roy and Cheron Chamberlain described their business.

Jean Palmer introduced Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain to members and their husbands. The farm was purchased in 1927 and has always had cattle. This business is a purebred breeding operation of Black Angus since 1997. Roy and Cheron Chamberlain told members how their animals were purchased and prepared for the Royal Winter Fair. Each day it

takes 45-60 minutes per animal to prepare. This includes time to wash, brush and lead the animal. They also do judging at local shows as a husband and wife team. As well as judging, they have clipping and showing clinics for children. Young people bring their animals and come to the farm for the weekend to learn proper preparation of their animals. Connie Silcox thanked them for their interesting and informative talk. All then travelled to Bethany United Church to enjoy lunch before the business portion of the meeting was held.

The next meeting will be held at Bethany United Church on Nov. 27.



# Shedden WI marks season NOV + DEC

BY PAT PALMER

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

Eleven members met at the home of Denise Maton for the December meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute. The home was decorated beautifully for the festive season and lit only by candlelight.

President Connie Silcox welcomed members and opened with her own version of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. Mrs. Silcox included members' names for the reindeer names.

The roll call for the evening was *Tell about a star constellation*, and the motto was, *Let the light of the star shine upon you*.

Treasurer's report and minutes were heard. A letter of request to continue helping with the Tuck Shop at Elgin Manor was received and accepted. With the correspondence were letters of thanks from Christmas Care, Rehoboth Home and Second Stage Housing.

Volunteers for Elgin Manor in January were Jean Palmer and Pat Palmer. Gift remembrances for members at Christmas were discussed and arranged. A report from card convener and welcome book convener were heard.

The meeting was then handed over to convener

Denise Maton who led us in the singing of carols. Then came the Christmas craft. Denise Maton handed out small crystal beads which members used to form an ornament for the tree. Lots of laughs were heard as members struggled to do their very best.

The evening ended with a beautiful lunch served by Denise Maton, Cheryl Garvin and Carol Gordon. The next meeting will be held at the home of Brenda Silcox on Jan. 22 where Denise Maton will demonstrate her talents with folk art.

The Shedden Women's Institute met for their November meeting at the Bethany United Church. President Connie Silcox opened the meeting with a reading about Random Acts of Kindness.

The motto for the evening was, Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can read.

The minutes and treasurer's report were read. Several donations were made to local charities, including Rehoboth Home, Caring Cupboard, Children's Hospital just to name a few. Mrs. Silcox asked member for any ideas that they have to celebrate the group's 90th anniversary being cele-

brated next May.

Dorothy McLaughlin reported for the museum in St. Thomas, renovations that were taking place, and continuing courses for rug hooking in January.

A report was heard from Sharon Welch and Jean Palmer who had attended the Area Convention at the Southwold Keystone Complex. Approximately 200 women from the area had attended.

Pat Palmer then introduced the guest speakers for the evening. Adrienne Van Boven and Grace Doelman spoke about the Dutch products and how they use them. They spoke of how the immigrants came from Holland, many between 1947 and 1956. They also told of the many Dutch traditions as they demonstrated how they use the Dutch products available to them here in Canada. Once finished they treated members to a full course meal consisting of Ollie Boillen (doughnuts), potato and Kahl casserole, and pumpnickel served two different ways and desserts. The speakers were thanked by Dorothy McLaughlin.

## COMMUNITY

# Crafts at Shedden WI

BY PAT PALMER

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — The January meeting of the Shedden Womens Institute was held at the home of Brenda Silcox with 11 members and two visitors present.

A brown bag worth \$3 is to be brought to the next meeting to be sold and used as a fundraiser for the project entitled, Focus High For WI.

A donation was made to Tara

Houston, a local student from Southwold Public School who is in the United States receiving cancer treatments. We wish her and her family all the best.

The winter picnic will be held at Talbotville United Church on Feb. 19 at noon.

The business portion of the meeting was finished and Brenda Silcox introduced the guest speaker. Denise Maton, a member of our group, offered to share her folk art

talents with us. She moved to Shedden five years ago and joined the institute shortly after, and has been a welcomed member, always willing to do her share. One of her talents is folk art and she does it beautifully. She teaches classes in Dutton at Crafts Plus and gave members a quick lesson. She Maton brought with her several of the projects she had completed. Pauline Silcox thanked Denise Maton for sharing her talent with us.



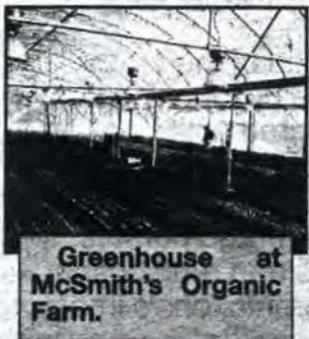
# Organic farm topic for WI

March 26, 2003

By PAT PALMER  
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

**SHEDDEN** — Thirteen members of the Shedden Women's Institute met for the March meeting at the Bethany United Church. President Connie Silcox opened the meeting and the roll call was to name an organic product you can purchase in your grocery store. Items such as edible flowers, fiddleheads and herbs were among the answers.

Pauline Silcox introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Cathy McGregor-Smith from McSmith's Organic Farm. She spoke about her organic farming business of 17 years. They have 250 acres of fresh market vegetables, 500 laying hens, 25 beef cattle and also pigs. They sell in the London area and also to wholesalers in Toronto. Many insects we think may be pesky are quite beneficial to organic farming. As well, white allysum and wild carrots are good for the pollination process. A very challenging part of organic farming is the weeds. The Smiths have built a new piece of equipment to



Greenhouse at  
McSmith's Organic  
Farm.

hopefully help with that problem this year. Sharon Welch thanked the speaker.

The business portion of the meeting was then held. The minutes and treasurer's reports were heard. The 90th anniversary celebration of the West Lorne WI will be attended by some members. There was also an invitation to attend the Kensington Club Tea on May 7 at 7:15 p.m. at Lawrence Station hall. The news from the FWIO was shared and a survey answered. A donation was given to the Shedden 4-H Club.

Joanne Does, a new member, told of her recent experience in Nicaragua, where she went with her husband to work at a dental clinic for two weeks. A donation

given to her by the members was used to begin a lunch program for children.

Dorothy McLaughlin gave the museum report. An exhibit showing Laura Ingles Wilder is on display at the present time. A mother/daughter tea will be held on May 3 from 2-4 p.m. at the museum. A strawberry social will be held June 25 with Shedden and Calton in charge.

A nominating report was given by Denise Matton.

The committee that has been preparing the 90th anniversary celebration for the branch reported details to date and told members what they were to bring to the next meeting. A mystery day is being planned.

A lunch was served by committee members Sharon Welch, Cheryl Garvin and Pauline Silcox.

The next meeting will be held at Bethany United Church where a group picture will be taken of members. Dora McArthur, who is the Tweedsmuir curator is in charge of the April meeting and has invited Cassidy and Joelle Proctor to be the guest speakers for the meeting. All are welcome.

# Shedden women go to the dolls

*April 23, 2003*

BY PAT PALMER  
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

President Connie Silcox opened the April meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute with 13 members and five visitors present. She passed out words to a song about dolls which members sang heartily.

The motto for the meeting was presented by Dora McArthur. It was taken from the Ontario Reader's First book, which was the school reader used years ago and at the time cost six cents. She read a story called, My Little Doll. The roll call for the meeting was to bring a special doll and tell her story. Many members brought dolls from their childhood and told stories of the pleasure received from them.

Dora McArthur then introduced the guest speakers for the evening. Her granddaughter Annette Proctor and great-granddaughters Cassidy and Joelle Proctor spoke of the love they have for their many dolls. Each related stories about each doll and why it was special. Some wore roller skates, some were tenting Barbies and others were special because of who they were from. The speakers were thanked and presented a gift of appreciation from Pat Palmer.

The business portion of the meeting was then handled. Minutes and treasur-

er's reports were heard. Pennies for friendship for the year collected was \$57 which will be topped up to \$75. A request for donations was received from the Rehoboth home and members can bring needed items to the next meeting. Pauline Silcox reported having attended the 90th anniversary for the West Lorne WI.

Details regarding the strawberry social at the museum were discussed as well as details for the district annual. Denise Maton reported that three welcome books were handed out to new residents in Shedden. The annual meeting reports were then heard. The Shedden WI reported another successful and fun year of learning and sharing.

All reports were accepted and then Jean Palmer performed the duties of election of officers. She thanked Connie Silcox for her work as president for the past two years and to all other members who held offices and wished the new executive well. Incoming president is Brenda Silcox.

The meeting was adjourned and lunch served and enjoyed by all. The next meeting is May 28 when Joanne Summers is the guest speaker. All are welcome.



## Shedden W.I. Learns About the "People of the Standing Stone"

May, 2003

President Brenda Silcox opened the May meeting of the Shedden W.I, where 12 members and 1 visitor was present. Jean Palmer began with a native reading, followed by the Institute Ode and Mary Stuart Collect. The roll call was answered by a fact that we could share about the Oneida Nation of the Thames. Some remembered baskets sold locally which had been made by the people there, or plays that were put on in Oneida, or eating corn soup, visiting the Standing Stone School, while others had memories of ball games at the diamond. The minutes and treasurer's reports were heard. The members once again decided to make and sell rhubarb jam and also man the information booth at Rosy Rhubarb Days. Pat Palmer asked members to participate with the group display at Shedden Fair and all responded by offering to share their talents. Dorothy McLaughlin reported from the Elgin County Pioneer Museum. A display about Colonel Thomas Talbot is currently being shown at the museum, and a recent button display was successfully attended. Shedden W.I. will work with Calton W.I. and the IODE to plan the strawberry social being held at the museum on June 25th. Connie Silcox then reported on attending the District Annual. The Cancer Tea will be hosted this year by the Kensington Club on October 25th. Tickets were handed to members to be sold before then. Carol Gordon then introduced the guest speaker for the evening - Joanne Summers. She lives in Oneida and has three daughters and a son, and is the owner and operator of the Red Willow Eatery. She explained the council system where there are 9 chiefs and 3 clan leaders of which she is one. The Oneida people dress in native costume for special council ceremonies. During all ceremonies and council gatherings the people sit in a circle which represents unity. Some favourite recipes include corn soup, corn bread, fried bread and yellow eyes beans. Joanne is also one of many hosts who can be heard on the FM radio station 98.5. Approximately 45 children attend the Standing Stone School where they are taught the native language. Joanne was presented a gift of appreciation for sharing her community with us. Lunch was served by committee members Carol Gordon, Jean Palmer and Connie Silcox. The June meeting will be held at the home of Pat Palmer on June 25th when the guest speaker will be Emily Morgan who will share about her experience with a double lung transplant. All are welcome.

Very grateful

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## **SHEDDEN W.I. MEMBERS**

1. Maxine Silcox	1935
2. Jean Palmer	1955
3. Beth Vicary	1967
4. Dora McArthur	1976
5. Pauline Silcox	1988
6. Cheryl Garvin	1985
7. Connie Silcox	1986
8. Brenda Silcox	1979
9. Ruth Hunter	1981
10. Pat Palmer	1981
11. Sharon Welch	1993
12. Dorothy McLaughlin	1981
13. Ilene Orchard	1980
14. Kay Chamberlain	1982
15. Denise Maton	2000
16. Carol Gordon	1979
17. Joanne Does	2003







Shedden Women's Institute recently celebrated its 90th Anniversary. Enjoying the celebration, from left, are: front - Brenda Silcox, Carol Gordon and Joanne Does; middle - Dorothy McLaughlin, Beth Vicary, Jean Palmer, Dora McArthur and Pat Palmer; back - Connie Silcox, Kay Chamberlain, Pauline Silcox, Denise Maton and Sharon Welch. (Contributed photo)

*Saturday June 7, 2003*

# Shedden WI marks 90th

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

The Shedden Women's Institute recently celebrated its 90th anniversary.

A mystery trip was arranged for members of the group and members left on the journey from Shedden with contests to keep them interested for their travels to the small picturesque town of Petrolia, Ont..

While there, they went to the Victoria Playhouse Theatre and saw the production, Menopositive, a delightful comedy about four high school classmates years later remembering and reliving.

Following the theatre, members travelled back to Glencoe to the Palace Restaurant where the table was adorned with souvenirs of the day. Special candle holders had been individually painted

for the occasion, as well as a special program presented to each member with a history of the Shedden WI. Each member also received a shasta daisy plant to plant as a memento.

Shedden WI has been an active group in their community since the First World War when members knitted articles and helped financially by providing supplies where needed.

The first president of the group was Mrs. W. Guest and Mrs. F. Trace served as secretary-treasurer. Over the years WI has sponsored special courses for the women of the community in many areas such as quilting, needlework, baking and crafts.

In 1948 the Tweedsmuir History was established

to record the history of the Shedden area. Mary Jane McIntyre was the first curator. She also contributed a column to the St. Thomas Times-Journal entitled, Janet's Saturday Column, for 40 years.

In 1990, members of the Shedden WI compiled a book of 100 of their favourite columns and printed a book.

Another project which the WI began was to hand out Welcome Books to newcomers in our community which contained lists of businesses, organizations and activities in the community.

The Institute has also sponsored 4-H Clubs, contributed to local societies, hospitals and museums.

Shedden WI has been a thriving organization for 90 years and will continue for serving for some time. Certainly members of the Shedden WI joined over the years for lots of reasons and we always welcome new members.

Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of every month in a member's home or at Bethany United Church. For fun, learning and a great evening out join the WI in your community.



**Shedden Women's Institute recently celebrated its 90th Anniversary. Enjoying the celebration, from left, are: front – Brenda Silcox, Carol Gordon and Joanne Does; middle – Dorothy McLaughlin, Beth Vicary, Jean Palmer, Dora McArthur and Pat Palmer; back – Connie Silcox, Kay Chamberlain, Pauline Silcox, Denise Maton and Sharon Welch. (Contributed photo)**

## Shedden Women's Institute



Help us celebrate 90 years



## **PASSPORT**

CAROL GORDON

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

for our

*90th ANNIVERSARY*

of

*SHEDDEN W.I.*

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Departure @ 11:45am

Allot one relief break

Program begins @ 1:45pm

Finishes approx. 4:30pm

Dine @ 6:00

Tentatively arrive home @ 8pm

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## **PASSPORT**

CONNIE SILCOX

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

for our

*90th ANNIVERSARY*

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*SHEDDEN W.I.*

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## **PASSPORT**

DENISE MATON

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

for our

*90th ANNIVERSARY*

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*SHEDDEN W.I.*

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## PASSPORT

BETH VICARY

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

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*90th ANNIVERSARY*

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*SHEDDEN W.I.*

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## PASSPORT

BRENDA SILCOX

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

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## PASSPORT

CHERYL GARVIN

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

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## **PASSPORT**

DORA MCARTHUR

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

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## **PASSPORT**

DORTHY MCLAUGHLIN

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

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## **PASSPORT**

JEAN PALMER

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

*MYSTERY TOUR*

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*SHEDDEN W.I.*

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# PASSPORT

JOANNE DOES

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2003

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*SHEDDEN W.I.*

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PAT PALMER

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June 25, 2003

# UNITY

## Emily Morgan visits Shedden WI

By PAT PALMER

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

The June meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was held at the home of Pat Palmer with 11 members and five visitors in attendance. President Brenda Silcox opened the meeting with a short comical reading from the Elgin Manor Gazette, written by a resident.

Pat Palmer then introduced 10-year-old Emily Morgan, a Port Stanley girl who recently received a double lung transplant. She has cystic fibrosis which is a disease that attacks the digestive system and respiratory system. She suffered from many bouts of pneumonia and other medical complications before being diagnosed.

Emily was told she would have to have a lung transplant and the wait began for a donor. The "call" came in mid-February 2002 and the process began. She was transported to the airport via ambulance and then by air to Toronto Hospital. The seven-hour long operation followed and then the healing process began.

She was discharged and taken to the Ronald McDonald House approximately one month after the surgery and it was nearly two months later

before she returned to her home in Port Stanley, where many welcome home parties were held by neighbours, friends and classmates at Wellington Street School.

She spoke very confidently and knowledgeably about her procedures and the way the surgery has changed her life. She continues to be on medication, but also is able to have a more normal life.

During her recuperation she was able to attend Raptors games, meet celebrities, eat at her favourite restaurants (Planet Hollywood) and she gave back by helping to teach kids at Ronald McDonald House.

Beth Vicary thanked Emily for coming to share her story with the members.

Treasurer's report and minutes were then heard. Thanks was extended to the committee in charge

of the 90th anniversary celebrations. Also a report of 70 people attending the strawberry social was heard from Jean Palmer and Dorothy McLaughlin.

Connie Silcox reported on Rosy Rhubarb. Twelve dozen jars of jam were sold and all proceeds were given to Rosy Rhubarb.

A committee was chosen to organize our booth at Shedden Fair, where members will work with the Bethany United Church Women.

Lunch of angel food cake and strawberries was prepared by committee members Beth Vicary, Dorothy McLaughlin and Pat Palmer.

The next meeting will be Sept. 24 at Bethany United Church where the guest speaker will be Carol Arbour, a registered chiropractist. All are welcome.