

# SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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## MAY 31, 1913-2003

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## 90TH ANNIVERSARY



## LIST OF OFFICERS 2003-2004

PAST PRESIDENT - CONNIE SILCOX

PRESIDENT - BRENDA SILCOX

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT - PAT PALMER

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT - PAULINE SILCOX

SECRETARY - CAROL GORDON

TREASURER - PAULINE SILCOX

DISTRICT DIRECTOR - CONNIE SILCOX

ALTERNATES - SHARON WELCH, JEAN PALMER

BRANCH DIRECTORS-DORA MCARTHUR, DENISE MATON

P.R.O - PAT PALMER

REMEMBRANCE - CHERYL GARVIN, KAY CHAMBERLAIN

WELCOMING CONVENOR - DENISE MATON

PIANISTS - KAY CHAMBERLAIN, BETH VICARY

TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY CURATOR - DORA MCARTHUR

MUSEUM REP. - JEAN PALMER, DOROTHY McLAUGHLIN

EDUCATION COORDINATOR - JOANNE DOES

AUDITORS - SHARON WELCH, DOROTHY McLAUGHLIN

LOBBYING CONVENOR - DORA MCARTHUR

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## HISTORY OF SHEDDEN W.I.

Shedden Women's Institute was organized May 31, 1913.

The first officers were:

President - Mrs. W. Guest

Vice-President - Mrs. J. A. Orchard

Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. F. Trace

Directors - Mrs. C. Petit, Mrs. Dan Hamilton, Miss M. McKenzie

Auditors - Mrs. D. Russell, Mrs. M. White

During World War 1 all the war work for the community was done under the auspices of the Shedden W.I. Money was raised by various means, and hundreds of articles were knitted. At the first of the Second World War a Patriotic Society was organized under the Red Cross. This organization took charge of all the work, the Women's Institute contributing money to buy supplies. At the end of the war, the W.I. along with the Community welcomed the returning veterans with a banquet and a special Memorial tribute.

Over the years the W.I. sponsored special courses to the women of the community to improve their skills in many areas, such as quilting, needlework, millinery, baking and many other crafts.

An adult and child immunization clinic operated in the the United Church basement for a number of years, which proved to be very beneficial to all who attended.

In 1948 the Tweedsmuir History was established to record the history of the Shedden area. Mrs. Arthur (Mary Jane) McIntyre was the first curator.

Mrs. Arthur McIntyre also contributed a column to the St. Thomas Times Journal entitled "Janet's Saturday Column by Mary J. McIntyre" for 40 years that dealt with local issues, and in 1990 members of Shedden W.I. selected 100 of their favourite columns and printed a booklet that sold many copies.

In the year 2000 a book containing pictures and information about all the properties in the village of Shedden was prepared with a copy to be placed in the Shedden Library.

continued .....



## 4 HISTORY OF SHEDDEN W.I.

.....continued

When new families move to the village, a leaflet supplied by the Shedden W.I. listing community activities and businesses are taken to the home to welcome the family to the community.

Appropriate cards are sent to those who are celebrating a special occasion, those who are ill, or those who are bereaved.

Over the years Shedden W.I. has sponsored 4-H Clubs, contributed to St. Thomas Memorial Hospital, St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital, Pioneer Museum, and many local organizations and projects. Volunteering in many ways has contributed to the community. Along with UCW of Bethany United Church they have served meals at Shedden Fair for over 50 years. The flashing traffic lights installed in 1955 at the corner of Union Road and #3 Highway were the result of urging from the W.I.

For the past 10 years an information booth has been operated by the W.I. at the Rosy Rhubarb Festival, where they have sold homemade rhubarb jam and a variety of articles to support the Southwold Keystone Complex.

Shedden Women's Institute has been a thriving organization for almost 90 years and to all appearance will continue for some time yet serving "Home and Country".

Dora McArthur  
Tweedsmuir History Curator  
Shedden Women's Institute  
April 2002

## 5 MEMBERS 2003

**Jean Palmer**  
1955

'it was an inter-denominational society and Ralph's mother was a member'



**Beth Vicary**  
1967

'Madeline Parks a staunch supporter of the WI asked me to join'



**Dora McArthur**  
1976

'Maxine Silcox suggested I be on a committee, so I paid my \$2 and joined'



**Carol Gordon**  
1979

'thanks to Jean Palmer for asking me to come to the Shedden W.I.'



**Brenda Silcox**  
1979

'my mother Jean and mother-in-law Maxine encouraged me to join'



**Ilene Orchard**  
1980

'Payne's Mills W.I. just starting, needed musician-helped Vera Meek'



**Ruth Hunter**  
1981

'thanks to Margaret Turner for asking me to join the Shedden W.I.'



**Pat Palmer**  
1981

'my mother-in-law's gentle persuasion and I've never looked back!'





## MEMBERS 2003

**Dorothy McLaughlin**  
1981  
'Madeline Parks asked me to join Shedden Women's Institute'



**Kay Chamberlain**  
1982  
'joined in Cowal to get to know the ladies & for an evening out from three kids'



**Cheryl Garvin**  
1985  
'Barb Murphy said it would be interesting & I would meet the Shedden ladies'



**Connie Silcox**  
1986  
'my mother-in-law Maxine & my sister-in-law Brenda invited me to attend'



**Pauline Silcox**  
1988  
'my neighbour Carol asked me to come after I retired from working in T.O.'



**Sharon Welch**  
1993  
'joined as a new resident of Shedden for friendship and support. Thanks'



**Denise Maton**  
2000  
'to begin a new friendship with women of my community'



**Joanne Does**  
2003  
'because Pat Palmer asked me and I realized what fun the ladies were!'



## HONOURARY MEMBER



**Maxine Silcox - 1935**

Maxine was actively involved in the Shedden Women's Institute until 1998. She held many offices including secretary and pursued many short courses offered to members and brought them back to our branch. Maxine also encouraged members to display in the Group entry in the Shedden Fair.  
Maxine now resides at Elgin Manor.

## PROGRAM FOR 90TH

Saturday, June 7, 2003  
met at Bethany United Church

Victoria Playhouse Theatre  
Petrolia, Ontario  
"Menopositive"

The Palace Restaurant & Tavern  
Glencoe, Ontario  
Dinner



# Victoria Playhouse Petrolia

*"Professional Summer Theatre At Its Best"*

Summer 2003  
Official Program



***Menopositive! The Musical***

May 27<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>

# Victoria Playhouse Petrolia

*"Professional Theatre At Its Best"*

**Starring**



Catherine McKinnon



Dawn Wells



Heath Lamberts

Summer 2003

at Victoria Hall



Season Media Sponsor



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# SHEDDEN

# Fair Days

"The Talent of the W.I."

Great Work!

## ORGANIZED GROUPS

CLASS 14

No entry fee required.

Superintendent: ???

All exhibitors

## ORGANIZED GROUPS

### Rules

This class is open to all Women's Institutes, organized groups and local churches in the communities. No entry fee is required. No background required. Entries may be made in as many sections as desired. Name of group to be listed

1. Date squares (5) .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
2. 1 quilt block quilted, mounted, and named .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
3. Child's cushion made from panel .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
4. Child's cushion - novelty .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
5. Purchased denim shirt - decorated .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
6. Patio pleaser, flower arrangement suitable for outdoor garden .....	5.00	4.00	3.00

7. Decorated home crafted patio stone .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
8. A decoration for your bathroom vanity .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
9. Draft stopper - panel accepted .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
10. Doorstop - fabric .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
11. Grape vine wreath decorated .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
12. Small gift basket .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
13. Crib quilt .....	5.00	4.00	3.00
14. Crib quilt - panel .....	5.00	4.00	3.00

Crib Quilts to be donated to the Rehoboth Home

*August 2003*



Grape  
Vine  
Wreath



Draft Stopper







For Your Bathroom  
Vanity



Small Gift Basket



Patio  
Pleaser







Door  
Stop



Patio  
Stone





Child Cushion ♥

Child Cushion  
with Panel

Crib Quilt



Date Squares





Crib  
Quilt  
(panel)



Quilt  
Block

- quilted  
- mounted  
+ named!

"Dancing Star"



PROPER FOOT CARE IS TALKED ABOUT AT SHEDDEN W.I.

Sept. 2003.

Eleven members and two guests were present at the Bethany United Church for the September meeting. Vice president Pat Palmer presided in the absence of Brenda Silcox. Pat welcomed all members back after a busy summer and opened the meeting by sharing with members her experience of attending the Women's Institute's production of "For Home and Country" which was performed at the 4<sup>th</sup> Line Theatre in Peterborough. It was a play that had been repeated a 2<sup>nd</sup> year because of its popularity. Performed in comedy fashion it told the history of the Women's Institute which began over 100 years ago. The Institute Ode and Mary Stuart Collect repeated followed by the roll call which was "Tell how many hours you have walked this month". The motto for the meeting was "Better to slip with the foot than with the tongue. Minutes and treasurer's reports were heard and bills were paid.

Thanks was expressed to Jean Palmer, Dorothy McLaughlin and Pat Palmer for volunteering at the tack shop at Elgin Manor during the summer months.

As well to members who helped with the Shedden Fair Booth and entries for the group display. Many prizes were received. Members were reminded to prepare items for the Daffodil Tea being held on October 25 at the Lawrence Hall. Also the River Road Tea on Thursday Oct. 4. Delegates were chosen to attend the 90<sup>th</sup> annual London Area Convention being held in Embro on October 7. A donation was made to the Christmas Shoppe. Reports were heard from remembrance and welcoming committees.

Pauline Silcox introduced the guest speaker for the evening. Carol Arbour, a registered chiropodist spoke on her work and expressed the importance of foot care. She works at the medical building on Elm Street and has been in private practice for 5 years. Previous to that she worked in Elgin County as well as at the Elgin General Hospital. She explained why proper foot care and foot wear is important for many reasons. A simple blister can cause weakening of the skin and infection can set in. For diabetics, foot care is extremely important. Going bare foot around your home is also not a good idea. There are many retail outlets where good foot apparel is available and Carol is glad to direct anyone with problems to a specialty shop that suits their needs. Dora McArthur thanked the speaker and presented her with a gift of appreciation.

Lunch was served by committee members Dora McArthur and Pauline Silcox.

The next meeting will be held at Bethany United Church where the program will be the Care Clowns. All are welcome.



Oct. 22, 2003.

UNITY

## Shedden WI opens with 'Wear a Smile' poem

BY PAT PALMER  
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

Members of the Shedden Women's Institute met at Bethany United Church Oct. 22 with president Brenda Silcox opening the meeting by welcoming 12 members and reading a poem called *Wear A Smile*.

The Mary Stewart Collect was repeated and the Institute Ode sung. The roll call, *How do you clown around*, was answered by members. Their true colours showed by their answers. Motto for the evening was, *True nobility comes of the gentle heart*.

A donation was given to Shedden 4-H Club. An-

nouncements were heard for community bazaars, etc.

Pat Palmer and Sharon Welch volunteered to help with the Daffodil Tea and members were asked to donate articles of baking, crafts and items for the country store. Jean Palmer reported having attended the River Road coffee break and Pauline Silcox reported her day on the car caravan. Dora McArthur put a display up for the Remembrance Day service held at the Keystone Complex. A donation will be made to the forest fund due to recent fires in western Canada.

The Elgin Manor Tuck Shop volunteers were

Jean Palmer and Pat Palmer. The Elgin County Pioneer Museum coffee break will be held on Dec. 6 the museum's present location.

The meeting was then turned over to Clown Connie, dressed in a bright yellow costume with a red nose. Connie Silcox conducted an old fashioned Halloween party which involved relay races, contests, eating a cookie off a string and lots of clowning around. The only thing missing was dunking for apples.

The meeting closed with lunch served by Connie Silcox, Pauline Silcox and Kay Chamberlain.



*Shedden W.I. Learns About Dental Technicians*

*Nov. 2003*

*President, Brenda Silcox opened the November meeting held at the home of member Joanne Does with a reading called "Volunteers". The Mary Stuart Collect was repeated and the Institute Ode sang followed by 12 members answering the roll call which was Name a home based business that you know about. Shedden and area have multiply successful home based businesses which are available to them. The minutes and treasurer's reports were heard. Treasurer Pauline Silcox read a list of many donations that normally are given to during the Christmas season. As well some area seniors will be remembered and a family which has had some hardships this year. We wish all those who have health problems all the best for the Christmas season. Members were reminded to bring monetary donations to the December meeting for a local charity. A thank you was received from Helen Slee on behalf of the Shedden 4-H Club and an invitation to attend Bethany Church Country Christmas bazaar. A reminder to members to make cookies for our annual donation to the Elgin County Pioneer Museums's bazaar being held December 6. Also anyone wishing to bring mittens for the mitten tree at the museum could do so. Brenda Silcox thanked members for volunteering at the tuck shop at Elgin Manor and for attending many local bazaars this fall. Remembrance committee send out 9 cards, and 4 welcome books were reported being given to new neighbours. Tweedsmuir curator Dora McArthur recently set up a display at the remembrance day service. Brenda Silcox and Pat Palmer will make loaves for museum coffee break and Jean Palmer and Carol Gordon will work at the coffee break. Denise Maton offered to decorate a tree on our behalf at the Keystone Complex. The meeting was then turned over to Joanne Does who spoke of her work as a dental technician. Joanne graduated from George Brown College in Toronto and has been working in the field for 25 years. She works for several dentists in the*



London area and has a lab set up in her home. She also works in her husbands dental office in London part time. She demonstrated to members how she makes crowns, dentures and orthodontics. She also makes devices to prevent small children from sucking their thumbs and mouth guards for hockey players. Joanne is one of very few people who does this type of work and from watch her work, members decided it took skill and patience and it seemed to be very tedious work that had to be done to perfection. Joanne certainly seemed to be a natural. Following the demonstration Joanne, Cheryl Garvin and Denise Maton prepared a lunch and all enjoyed some time to visit. Connie Silcox gave the courtesy remarks and reminded all members of the next meeting to be held at the home of Sharon Welch. All members are to bring 2 dozen cookies for an exchange.

Any questions please  
call

Pat Palmer

764-2368

work: 764-2460