

WI examines education

BY PAT PALMER

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — Education, South Korean style, was introduced to the Shedden Women's Women's Institute as seen through the eyes of Suny Young Lee and Jan Carder.

Suny, a recent landed immigrant to Canada, explained the difference and similarities of their school system in relation to the Canadian school system.

Korean children begin school at the age of six and complete six years of elementary school, three years of middle school and then finish with three years of high school. Students may then choose between two years

of college or four years of university. The school year commences in March through to the end of July; the month of August is vacation; September through to the end of December are school months with January and February being winter vacation.

South Korea has a very high demand for native-speaking teachers for private and international schools. Suny explained that the Koreans feel it is imperative that the children become fluent in the most universal language of the world, English.

Lillian Carder, daughter of Jane Carder, began her teaching career in South Korea to young school-aged

children at a private school and now is the principal and teacher to primary children at an international school.

President Brenda Silcox opened with a reading, Idea of a Friend.

The roll call — Your favourite subject in school and why — drew up many memories of school days.

Invitations were received to attend the 90th anniversary of the Clachan Women's Institute on Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 1:30 p.m. and to the Women's Institute Picnic on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at Fingal United Church at noon.

A social time concluded the meeting.

January 28, 2004

Feb. 25, 2004

COMMUNITY

Farm life has changed dramatically

Agricultural main topic at Shedden Women's Institute

BY PAT PALMER
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

There were 12 members and one guest present at the Bethany United Church for the February meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute.

President Brenda Silcox opened the meeting with a reading about farming and farm animals.

The roll call was, Name one of your favourite things to grow in your garden. Motto for the evening was, Friendship plants a garden in our corner of the world.

Program convener

Denise Maton introduced guest speaker Donald Miller, past president of the Elgin Federation of Agriculture and local farmer to the Shedden area. His family farm has been in operation since 1867 where he works over 200 acres. Mr. Miller has always hired students over the years to help, especially for the summer months, and he has been a good influence on them.

Mr. Miller spoke on the changes that have occurred over the years on the family farm and with farming in general. He began with the early years

where men cleared land built log homes, to the 1870s where railroads were built, to the 1920s where barn designs changed and silos began to be used, to the 1930s when electricity was discovered — no more lanterns. Tractors began to replace the horses and by the 1960s weed killer was used.

Now computer controlled machines are used in most farm businesses. For the future, Mr. Miller predicts more technology will replace people. He touched a little on the nutrient management and mad cow issues and new avenues for composting. Denise Maton thanked Mr. Miller for coming and presented him with a gift

of appreciation.

Dorothy McLaughlin reported about the winter picnic where each institute represented provided entertainment in the way of a reading, poem or skit.

Kay Chamberlain attended the 90th anniversary of the Clathan WI and reported a good afternoon of entertainment with bits of history and

musical entertainment by a group of five men.

A nominating committee was chosen comprised of Sharon Leeming, Denise Maton and Pat Palmer.

Elgin Manor volunteers were Kay Chamberlain and Jean Palmer.

Lunch was served by Sharon Leeming, Denise Maton and Ruth Hunter.

2004

COMMUNITY

Hoodless history shared at WI

BY PAT PALMER

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — There were 10 members and one visitor present at the home of Pat Palmer for the March meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute.

President Brenda Silcox opened the meeting with a little history about Adelaide Hoodless, who founded the Women's Institute in 1897 at Stoney Creek, Ont. Adelaide Hoodless had lost a child due to impure milk and from there felt women needed training and education in domestic science.

The Institute Ode and Mary Stewart Collect were read. The roll call for the evening was, Name a noteworthy Canadian

whose first or last name begins with your initials. Minutes and treasurer's reports were heard. Motto for the evening was, The life you live as a Canadian is the life you teach to others.

Jean Palmer and Pauline Silcox were thanked for volunteering at Elgin Manor. Invitations were received for the Iona Coffee Break to be held on April 24 from 10 a.m. to noon; and Crinan WI's 85th anniversary on April 21 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Pat Palmer attended the Yarmouth Glen WI's 45th anniversary celebration.

Dorothy McLaughlin gave the museum report. Six signature quilts are now on display

and more are available for viewing upon request.

The strawberry social is being planned as well as a bus trip to the Creative Sewing and Needlework Festival in Toronto. Anyone interested may contact the museum for details.

The remembrance committee reported having sent six cards.

Brenda Silcox reminded members about the dues for the next meeting as well as their program plans for next year were to be handed in at the April meeting.

Jean Palmer introduced Sheila Martindale, the guest speaker for the evening. Ms Martindale helps with many non-profit organizations and is

a lady of many talents. One of those talents is the writing of poetry which she has been doing for many years.

She entertained members by reading many of her poems written for different occasions and special people in her life.

She published her first book in 1977. She writes about many topics and themes and much of her work expresses spiritual and inspirational feelings. Before reading each of her poems she explained the history behind her reason for writing.

Many of her poems are read by the CBC and she has been asked to do a little commentary with the CBC as well. She teaches literature at the University of

Western Ontario as well.

Her latest book is called *Portraits Of Still Life*, and one poem in that book was a tribute to neighbours Bud and Clair Cummings who recently celebrated 50 years at Willow Rock their home farm.

Pat Palmer thanked Ms Martindale for coming and explained her way of expressing poetry was very real to life and easy to understand.

Lunch was then served by Jean Palmer, Brenda Silcox and Pat Palmer. The next meeting will be held at Bethany United Church where Dora McArthur will have the Tweedsmuir books on display for all to view. Everyone is welcome.

Grumbles at WI

April 2004

By PAT PALMER
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — President Brenda Silcox opened the annual meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute with a reading entitled, *The Grumble Family*, who lived on Complaining Street.

The 12 members present received a small bag gift from a WI friend to conclude the year. Minutes and treasurer's report were heard.

Motto for the meeting was, "Today is a gift, that's why it's called the present." A donation was received from Sheila Martindale from the sale of her poetry books at the previous meeting. She requested that we give it to a charity of our choice.

Pat Palmer explained about the next project. Fourteen members are currently enrolled and the project is, "A walk on the wild side." A donation was received for the project.

Jean Palmer and Dora McArthur related their afternoon spent at Crinan's anniversary celebration. Kay Chamberlain reported having attended the Iona Township Coffee Break, as well some members attended the Kensington Club celebration.

A newsletter was received from the Mount Elgin Home and members decided to join in their baby bottle drive. A baby bottle would be purchased and members would attempt to fill it with change donation.

A letter from the Victorian Order of Nurses, stating they would be glad to come to a meeting if we so wished, was received. Carol Gordon and Cheryl Martin volunteered to attend the District Annual on our behalf. Jean and Pat

Palmer volunteered to go to the Tuck Shop at Elgin Manor in May. Connie Silcox will head up the Rosy Rhubarb Information Booth for Rosy Rhubarb Days on June 11, 12, 13.

The annual meeting portion of the evening then took place. All reports that were read indicated a very successful year for members with many interesting speakers, activities and donations to our community.

Tweedsmuir curator Dora McArthur then displayed her Tweedsmuir books and reported any updated information she had added this year. In her books, she included a community events book, house log information, newspaper articles, and any historical item that pertains to the community. These books are available for viewing at the Shedden Public Library.

Jean Palmer performed the installation of officers for the coming year.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

To conclude the evening two members were presented with life memberships. Brenda Silcox and Carol Gordon received this honour. Jean Palmer, Dora McArthur and Connie Silcox read their biographies and shared many of their accomplishments during their years of WI members. Both recipients were very deserving and very surprised to have received this honour. Both have held many positions with the WI and have been on many committees over the years.

The meeting was concluded with lunch served by the executive. The next meeting is to be held at Bethany United Church when Scott Stafford will be the speaker.

Athletes emerge at Shedden WI

By CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — The May meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was opened by President Brenda Silcox with a poem entitled "He's Just A Little Boy."

"Name your favourite sport" brought out the athlete in all our members.

The 2004-2005 programs prepared by Sharon Welch were handed out.

Important coming dates include an old-fashioned Garden Party sponsored by the Middlemarch WI at the Spangenberg farm on Sunday, June 20, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.; the Strawberry Social at the Elgin County Pioneer Museum on Wednesday, June 23, from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.; and a Tweedsmuir workshop at Mount Elgin Community Centre on Tuesday, Aug. 10.

Members in attendance at the District Annual learned that Tryconell WI has disbanded. Volunteering at the museum is a great way for students

to gain their community service hours in completion of their credits for their diploma. The final Focus High for WI will have the proceeds to be designated for the Erland Lee Home Operating Fund.

One member has a submission to the Quincy the Bear story competition which will be sent to the Home and Country magazine.

Pat Palmer gave the members a sneak preview of the entries required for the Organized Group category for the Shedden Fair.

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 23.

911

... it
saves
lives

Use it wisely

Korean menu at Shedden WI

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

2004

Pat Palmer hosted the Shedden Women's Institute's September meeting and officiated as President. Each member answered the Roll Call: State a fact you know about Korea.

Some important dates to remember: the Cancer Tea at Wallacetown Hall on Saturday, Oct. 23 and the Remembrance Day Service at the Shedden Keystone Complex on Sunday, Nov. 7.

Sharon Welch gave the District Report and informed us Southwold Public School needs help with replacing and repairing musical instruments.

On Thursday, Sept. 30, Dora McArthur, Kay Chamberlain, Ilene Orchard, Dorothy McLaughlin, Ruth Hunter and Carol Gordon were receiving the Ontario Volunteer Award.

It was voted on to transfer all of our minute books from the Southwold township to the Tweedsmuir Archives in St. Thomas.

Pauline Silcox introduced our guest speaker, Lillian Carder, from Shedden who taught at the Gyeongnam International Foreign School, South Korea for over two years.

Lillian gave a brief history of Korea

with a map and pictures.

The man is the head of the household and boys are highly regarded more than girls and there are usually two children per family.

The people are very friendly and very willing to learn English.

At the movies, Lillian said popcorn and dried squid are common snacks.

Jane Carder visited her daughter, Lillian, in April 2004 and Jane decided to venture in teaching in South Korea starting in August 2004 for a year.

We all tasted a Korean lunch of Gimchi which is pickled cabbage, sea salt, vegetable mixture and hot pepper.

Gimbap with fish or pork and vegetables wrapped in seaweed and then green or chamomile tea.

Convener, Pauline Silcox and her committee Pat Palmer and Dora McArthur prepared small cakes with fruit. (We did not, however, experience eating while seated on the floor or using chopsticks.)

Dora McArthur thanked Lillian and gave her a cross-stitched picture made by Pauline Silcox.

The next meeting is at Shedden Bethany United Church on Wednesday, Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m. with Michelle Braam a registered massage therapist.

The movie 'Calendar Girls' prompted the roll call for the June meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute: 'Name something you have dropped everything for'. This movie served as the program for the evening. 'Calendar Girls' was inspired by a true story and revolves around the Knappley Women's Institute in England and tells the story of a member whose husband dies from leukaemia and the members desire to raise funds for the hospital where he had been a patient. This heartwarming and beautifully told story was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The baby bottle filled with coins was returned to the Rehoboth Home in completion of the fundraising drive held from Mother's Day to Father's Day.

One new member, Doris Molnar, was welcomed into our branch! Congratulations, Doris!

Volunteers to help out with the Shedden Fair entries for August 28th were noted by Pat Palmer.

The next meeting will be held on September 22, 2004.

Massage message at Shedden WI

By CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

The October meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was held Wednesday, Oct. 27, at Bethany United Church.

President Brenda Silcox opened the meeting saying the best way to relax is to laugh, and then shared a humorous reading with the members.

An invitation to attend the Winter Wonderland Coffee Break on Saturday,

Nov. 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Frome United Church was received.

Congratulations to six of our members who received service awards for various years of volunteering at the presentation at the London Convention Centre. Members included Dora McArthur, Kay Chamberlain, Carol Gordon, Dorothy McLaughlin, Ruth Hunter and Ilene Orchard.

Fundraising ideas were

presented and discussed. Volunteers for the Elgin Manor Tuck Shop for Monday, Nov. 8, were arranged.

Michelle Braam, a registered massage therapist, who operates her own business in Shedden at the

D.A. Monteith Medical Centre, was the guest speaker for the evening.

Massage therapy is one of the fastest-growing complementary therapies today. Massage therapy works directly to remove trauma from the muscle

and fascia and is recommended for relief of pain, improved circulation, improved joint mobility, and sciatica just to name a few.

One fortunate member became Ms Braam's "client" as she showed us some of the techniques

and practices she uses in a massage. Proper hand placement, pressure and position are all important. Each member received a mini-relaxation gift.

The next Shedden WI meeting is to be held on Nov. 24.

St. Thomas Times-Journal, Thursday, November 18, 2004 — 6

Shedden WI hears about McNabb farm

By CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

Gentleman's Creek Golf Course in Melbourne, Ont., was the setting for the November meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute.

Guests for the evening, Aughrim Women's Institute, joined the member in responding to the roll call: Tell a story about your favourite teacher.

The comment, "My goodness, haven't we come a long way" was heard when facts about school teachers in 1923 were given. A school teacher then made approximately \$75 a month, could not get married, could not keep the company of men, must be at home from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. unless at a school function, and could not smoke cigarettes nor drink alcohol, and had to keep the classroom clean including carrying out the ashes. These were a few duties in their job description.

The BEST Senior Exercise Clinics are being held

every Thursday at the Shedden Keystone Complex at 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. A nominal fee per class is charged. For more information call: VON Volunteer Programs at 637-6408.

Barbara McNabb, of Grape Shade (the old coach house) in Melbourne, was our guest speaker for the evening. Members walked down memory lane with Ms McNabb as she shared the family history of the McNabb family and her journey

in restoring the family farm when she was bequeathed the contents of the McNabb farm. She brought a plentiful supply of Osage orange from a 100-year-old tree on the farm to give to members to take home to decorate their homes for Christmas.

Members were reminded that the Christmas meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dorothy McLaughlin.

Shedden WI takes look at some Christmas carols

By CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — Shedden Women's Institute president Brenda Silcox gave insight into the history and year of publication of a number of Christmas carols — Away In a Manger, I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, All I Want for Christmas and O Little Town of Bethlehem — as the December Christmas meeting was opened at the festively decorated home of Dorothy McLaughlin.

The motto for the evening: "Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love" reminded members of the spirit of Christmas.

The Shedden 4-H sent a thank you for the sponsorship of their latest club Achievement night for the 18 members will be an evening at the Grand Theatre to see the performance of "It's a Wonderful Life."

Music filled the hostess's home as Lloyd and Vera Lampman, Bud and Joyce O'Connor and Glen Williams entertained members with music memories and Christmas carols such as Silver Bells and Silent Night.

A cookie exchange and Christmas lunch wrapped up an enjoyable evening.

Shedden Women's Institute's next meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 26, at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany United Church. All are welcome.

Picture perfect at WI

BY CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — Jeanette Fletcher, of Studio 19 Photography & Digital Imaging, spoke to the members of the Shedden Women's Institute at its January meeting.

A slide show showcased Jeanette's talents revealing digital images of weddings, engagements, birthdays, anniversaries and even before and after photographs. An engagement booklet and a wedding

album displayed Jeanette's talent for her work.

The roll call "What is your unique talent you do for your own personal strength?" was answered with responses such as playing the piano or needlepoint, showcasing the individuality of each member.

"All individual universes weave the canvas of societies and the whole of humanity. Each of us brings colour to this great painting," was the motto for the evening.

In the business portion of the meeting, the correspondence included an invitation to attend the Winter Picnic on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at Talbotville United Church at noon for a potluck lunch. Entertainment to be provided. Donation to the twoonie table would be appreciated.

Shedden Women's Institute's next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany United Church. All are welcome.

WI life membership presented

BY CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — Ilene Orchard was recently presented her Women's Institute Life Membership by the Shedden Women's Institute.

She became a member of the Shedden WI on Feb. 25, 1980. Prior to that she was a charter member of the Talbotville/Payne's Mills Women's Institute.

President Brenda Silcox and secretary Sharon Leeming extended congratulations and gifted her with a flower, her life membership pin and certificate.

"A Shedden Women's Institute" memory as the roll call, included such events as one member's first meeting, our 80th anniversary, and the "Baby Clinic."

Motto for the February meeting was "True friendship is like sound health, the value of it is seldom known until it is lost."

Excerpts from videos of the 1993 and 1994 Rosy Rhubarb fundraising talent shows and 1996 Rosy Rhubarb Days brought back memories as Jean Palmer, family, community and consumer affairs convener, gave everyone glimpses of community recollections.

One skit, entitled "Don't Pet the Pig," and another, entitled "Wanted: A Housekeeper," were performed by the ladies of the Shedden Women's Institute. Laughter, comments about the talent and the effects of time abounded among the members.

The 4-H is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. The Shedden 4-H has decided to "Explore 4-H" in its next club and has planned several exciting meetings according to one of the leaders, Pat Palmer.

Two members have volunteered to go to the Elgin Manor and operate the Tuck Shop the afternoon of March 14.

A nominating committee was formed and a report of our new officers and directors is to be given at the next meeting.

All are welcome to attend the next meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute on Wednesday, March 23. Canadian industry convener Pat Palmer will host members in her home to hear Roy Chamberlain speak about his job as a meat inspector.

A social time of fellowship was enjoyed as the February meeting was adjourned.





2005

Article for St. Thomas Times Journal

Roy Chamberlain, a Meat Hygiene Officer from OMAFRA, spoke in answer to the roll call for the evening; 'What do you feel a meat inspector's role is in an abattoir on a daily basis'. Inspectors ensure and verify the sanitation, animal welfare and proper building atmospheres according to the Food Safety & Quality Act. There are approximately 600 abattoirs in Ontario that are provincially inspected. The meat from these abattoirs do not leave Ontario. Types of meat inspected are beef, sheep, pork, chicken, turkey, buffalo and on a couple of occasions, yak! Daily uniform include a hard hat, hairnet and lab coat while tools of the trade include tags, mesh gloves and a laptop computer. A lengthy question and answer period followed Roys' presentation.

A dessert luncheon was served by Pat Palmer; who opened up her home for the meeting, and her committee, Denise Maton and Sharon Leeming. The men had been invited to attend this meeting and Murray Silcox thanked the members of the Shedden Women's Institute for the invitation.

Motto for the March meeting was 'It's so much easier to suggest solutions when you don't know too much about the problem' quoted from Malcolm Forbes.

A 'Lost Wallet Kit' pamphlet was distributed to members.

A thank you note from Ilene Orchard expressing her sentiments about receiving her life membership at the February meeting.

The Elgin County Pioneer Museum has relocated to its original address. Events to remember in regards to the Museum:

March 31-April 3	Display @ the Home & Garden Show	
April 23	Grand Opening @ the Museum	1:30-4:30 pm
June 22	Strawberry Social @ the Museum	1:30-4:30 pm

The 2005-2006 Nominating Committee report was given by Connie Silcox. All offices have been filled.

Members were reminded of the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 27th at Bethany United Church.

respectfully submitted,
Connie Silcox
Shedden Women's Institute





Ilene Orchard, centre, receives her 25 Year Life Membership pin and certificate from secretary Sharon Leeming, left, and president Brenda Silcox of the Shedden Women's Institute. (Contributed) 2005

Shedden WI meeting opens with poem

By **CONNIE SILCOX**
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

A poem, Friendship Flowers, by Helen Steiner Rice, read by president Brenda Silcox, opened the April 27 meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute held at Bethany United Church. Members sang the Institute Ode accompanied by Kay Chamberlain on the piano.

There is no pillow so soft as a clear conscience, was the motto for the meeting.

The Elgin County Pioneer Museum will hold its annual Strawberry Social at the old museum location on Wednesday, June 22 from 1:30-4 p.m. Boxall and River Road branches will help host the event.

Correspondence in-

cluded a thank you from the Shedden 4-H for our support of their club, an application for the Lincoln M. Alexander Award for youth between 16-25 who work for racial discrimination, a newsletter from the Elgin Pioneer Museum regarding memberships.

Crinan Women's Institute has been selected as our twin for the year 2005-2006.

The annual meeting followed with the 2005-06 installation of officers performed by Jean Palmer. Secretary Sharon Leeming proclaimed an entertaining and eventful year for our branch of the Women's Institute.

Dora McArthur,
Tweedsmuir History Cu-

ratory provided our traditional annual meeting. Dora brought out several volumes of our Tweedsmuir history and enlightened the members with the many additions made to these books on our behalf. What a commendable effort! And how fortunate we are to have Dora who is so interested in our community and its history and to compile and update the records for future generations enjoyment! Dora shared an article from the Talbotville Star dated Friday, March 4, 1966 entitled, Residents of Shedden, are proud of their village.

Shedden WI shares travel experiences

By CONNIE SILCOX

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

The home of president Pat Palmer welcomed 12 members and three guests for the June 22 Shedden Women's Institute meeting.

"An interesting travel experience" was the roll call and answers circled Earth with such destinations as Panama, Hawaii, Mexico, Scotland and even our own great country, Canada.

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the number that take our breath away," was the motto for the evening and Christopher Palmer (our guest speaker) did just that as he relived his six-month adventure in Australia.

Christopher vacationed and worked during his sojourn. Jobs included fruit picking, factory liquidation worker and even rose delivery person on

Valentine's Day.

Holiday experiences included a three-day sailing adventure, rappelling in the Blue Mountain area, skydiving with a 70-second free fall, a cricket match and even feeding kangaroos at a petting zoo.

One interesting souvenir brought back to Canada was a didgeridoo. It is a long, wooden, flute-like musical instrument used by the aborigines of the continent. Australia is sure to be added to everyone's list of desired vacation spots.

A letter of thanks was received from the Rosy Rhubarb Days committee for our part in volunteering during the festival weekend. Another successful result was realized from the sale of our homemade rhubarb jams, Janet columns and rhubarb pins. Reports and discussion on the week-

end followed with a big thank-you to everyone who pitched in and help make the weekend such a success.

Members were informed about the Elgin County Pioneer Museum formulating new bylaws and a new advisory committee. The new committee is to be named "Friends of the Museum." Any comments to these impending changes will need to be heard at the meeting on Sept. 6.

Shedden Fair articles for the group display were reviewed and discussed by Pat Palmer. Shedden Fair is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 27.

Strawberries were on the menu for a delicious lunch while members quizzed the guest speaker once again and enjoyed a social time.

The next meeting is Sept. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany United Church.

'Big doesn't necessarily mean better,' WI hears

By CONNIE SILCOX

FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — Ways To Love A Child, read by president Pat Palmer, opened the February meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute.

Members sang the Institute Ode and repeated the Mary Stewart Collect before answering the roll call for the evening: a childhood memory. Memories included life without electricity, leaf houses and sleeping out in the great outdoors, playing ball, hiding with a friend from a brother, and even hunting groundhogs.

"Big doesn't necessarily mean better, sunflowers aren't better than violets," was the motto for the family, community and consumer affairs meeting.

Registration forms for the FWIO Provincial Conference to be held Aug. 11-13, at Fanshawe College, London, Ont., were handed to each member. Early-bird registration deadline is March 31. Final registration date is June 1.

Our Tweedsmuir curator gave an interesting report of some pictures that have come into her possession. One was a photo of Shedden, another of the Shedden school and an-

other at the school with Shedden school children — all from bygone days. They will be added to our Tweedsmuir books.

A story about Beautiful Becky, was emotionally read as seen through the eyes of her mother as our program for the evening. Becky has been a special gift to her family and to her surrounding community as well. Becky brings many smiles to the faces of the people she meets along her way. Indeed!

The next meeting is to be held Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., at Bethany United Church. All are welcome.

Farmer's Creed opens Shedden WI meeting

By CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

The Shedden Women's Institute met Jan. 25 at the home of Connie Silcox.

Members and the men were welcomed by president Pat Palmer and, to open the meeting, read a poem entitled Farmer's Creed, from A Voice of

Church at noon.

A letter was received from the Guelph area Women's Institutes. They are presently volunteering at the County Heritage Museum in Milton, Ont., and are looking for more volunteers from other WI areas. Volunteers are needed for either Saturday or Sunday. The Provincial Convention

will be held in London, Ont., this year Aug. 11-13 at Fanshawe College. Many interesting workshops, such as Put Your Best Face Forward, and Painting a Landscape, are being offered and all registration forms are now available. Early-bird registrations are due by March 31 and final registrations are due by June 1.

Shedden 4-H groups have started a sewing club and are presently working on making body pillows.

A nominating committee was selected and will report at our March meeting.

The next meeting is to be held Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m., at Bethany United Church.

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Pat Palmer, President welcomed members to the first fall meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute on September 28th, 2005. Members were treated to a few highlights from the Quilts, Quills and Bears Show held during the summer in Toronto. Winner of the storybook contest was won by Loreen Ambler with her children's book entitled 'Quincy and his Quilt'. Several war quilts were also on display including a Red Cross quilt dating back to 1942. Sharon Leeming made and donated a bear to the cause.

'State something you knew about tsunami before the destruction last year' was answered honestly by members in attendance. The majority of those gathered had not heard this particular word before.

A Christmas Coffee Break will be held at the Elgin Pioneer Museum on Saturday, December 3, 2005 from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

The Children's Hospital of Western Ontario are in need of white baby outfits.

River Road Institute will be hosting the Cancer Tea on Saturday, October 15, 2005 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Elgin Manor.

North Yarmouth Women's Institute will be celebrating 75 years on Thursday, October 20th at 1:30 p.m. at Townline Church.

The Christmas Shoppe in its 15th year will be operating on December 2nd and 3rd at First United Church.

The Area Convention will be held in Mount Brydges and members from our branch will be attending.

Mrs. Lesley Porter of Save a Family Plan spoke on this organization and her role in it. SAFP is a Canadian-based international non-governmental organization founded in 1965 by Monsignor Augustine Kandathil. SAFP is committed to seeking justice and working with the marginalized and poor of India irrespective of caste, creed, gender or political affiliation. Lesley travels to India each year in January and works along with the people to help improve their lives. Her last visit, shortly after the December 24th tsunami, was the most devastating. Poverty in India will never be eradicated in our lifetime. SAFP has a Sponsorship Program and a Disaster Management Program and 100% of all donations go directly to the project.

Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday, October 26th at 7:30 pm. at Bethany United Church.

respectfully submitted,
Connie Silcox
Shedden Women's Institute

We're all human, WI realizes

BY CONNIE SILCOX
FOR THE TIMES-JOURNAL

SHEDDEN — The March meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was opened with a reading entitled *Oh Have You Got A Minute*, by president Pat Palmer.

All members repeated the Institute Ode and Mary Stewart Collect before responding to the roll call, *Something Important I Forgot To Do!*

It did not take long for everyone to realize that we are all human.

The motto for the meeting was, *If you want to leave footprints in the sands of time, don't drag your feet.*

Carol Gordon gave the nominating report and the convener's report. Carol thanked all who volunteered to hold office and/or take a convenership and congratulated our branch as all offices were filled.

Members were reminded to have their convener report to the secretary for the April meeting.

The Shedden Branch

will enter the FWIO Spring Challenge with a ROSE program we had in the past year.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Daisy of Hope Campaign. This campaign assists Second Stage Housing and Violence Against Women. Dates for this campaign are Friday, May 26, and Saturday, May 27.

Several members received an invitation to attend the 2006 volunteer awards ceremony on Wednesday, April 5, at the East Elgin Community Centre in Aylmer.

The Shedden 4-H has started an animal friends club. Our branch will sponsor this new club. Their first meeting was at the Beaver Creek Animal Hospital.

Luella Monteith and Joan Mansell are our District WI representatives on the advisory committee for the Elgin County Museum.

Biographies of each member present were read and some important things we forgot, were re-

freshed in our minds. As well, we remarked at how our lives have changed since these biographies were written. These "Noteworthy Canadians," were congratulated by program convener Jean

2005
Palmer on their accomplishments!

A delicious angel cake luncheon and social time ended the evening.

The next meeting is Wednesday, April 27, at Bethany United Church.