

1934.

33.

CRINAN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

1934

Grandmothers' Day in Crinan was as usual an interesting event. Mrs. Flora Campbell, Crinan's oldest grandmother, lent her home for the occasion. Mrs. J. C. McMillan presided and gave a short address.

The program included the response to the roll call, which was a display of relics of bygone days. Interesting exhibits were earrings a century old, chinaware and silverware of the early days, a charcoal iron, an old-fashioned quilt 75 years old, a sampler 116 years old and a grandmother's cape.

Mrs. John McPherson contributed old-time fiddling selections.

Mrs. Alfred Morrison, of Alvinston, gave an exceptionally fine reading entitled "Bairnies, Cuddle Doon." Mrs. James McPherson read an article by Sandy Fraser entitled "Here's to Our Grandmothers," which told of some of the pioneer achievements of our grandmothers.

"The Old Spinning Wheel" was then dramatized. Miss Florence McEachren turned the wheel while Mrs. Frank McLarty and Mrs. Allan McLean, all in old-fashioned garb, sang "The Spinning Wheel." Mrs. McLarty played the violin.

Several fine readings were given by the girls. Miss Florence McEachren read "The Little Parlor Organ." Miss Merle Andrews read "Grandmother's Garden." Miss Sarah McCallum read "A Portrait of Grandma," and Miss Norma Carroll gave a reading entitled "Grandma."

Mrs. Neil McEachren then conducted a contest in rhyme, "Things Our Grandmothers Missed." Mrs. Burrows was the winner and was presented with a metal dish-washer.

At the close of the program little Mabel McColl and Lachlan McLean presented the grandmothers, on behalf of the society, with lovely linen handkerchieves, which was followed by all singing "They Are Jolly Good Fellows" and "Auld Lang Syne." The grandmothers were then seated around a table centred with a beautiful two-storey birthday cake made by the president, Mrs. Walter Cadogen. An old-time luncheon consisting of crackers and cheese, gingerbread, cookies and peppermints was served.



Apr 1934





GRANDMOTHER'S MEETING

BACK ROW L - R: Mrs. N. McEachren, Mrs. Beaver, Mrs. M. Livingstone,
Mrs. Elizabeth Gilchrist, Mrs. Hibbard, Mrs. Walter
Cadogan.

FRONT ROW L - R: Mrs. Earl Dawson, Mrs. Frank McLarty, Mrs. Jim Andrews,
Mrs. John McPherson, Mrs. D. M. McCallum, Mrs. Archie
McMurphy.



1947.



W.D. Grandmothers meeting

1953

1953.



1971.

Crinan Women's Institute
1919 - 1979
(60th Anniversary)

It was during the First World War, while the women of the Crinan community were doing Red Cross work, that the Women's Institute movement was first discussed. When the wartime work ended, a group of enthusiastic ladies decided that a local Institute group should be formed.

The Crinan W.I. was organized on April 24th, 1919, at a meeting held in Argyle Presbyterian Church. As we look back over the past 60 years, we feel a deep sense of pride in the accomplishments of our organization.

The first regular meeting was held on May 19, 1919, at the home of Mrs. Neil McCachren. Mrs. John C. McMillan was chosen as president, and the first secretary-treasurer was Mrs. George Carroll, a charter member of our Institute today. Another charter member, Mrs. James Andrews, also acted as a secretary-treasurer of the W.I. shortly after Mrs. Carroll. We deeply appreciate the service these two ladies have given our organization down through the years, and we are so pleased that they are here tonight to help us celebrate our Diamond Anniversary.

During the past 60 years, the Crinan W.I. has contributed greatly to church and community activities. The very first money earned was spent for linen covers for the communion table, plus the purchase of a baptismal bowl and coal-oil

stove for the church. A fence was built around Simpson's cemetery, which has been repaired and repainted since its erection.

Our Institute has always been most generous in its donations to many charitable organizations. Our members have always been willing to offer their services in assisting local senior citizens homes, the county museum, the cancer society, etc.

During the Second World War, the W. I. was active in Red Cross work and in sending boxes to district soldiers overseas.

Through the years, the W. I. has sponsored courses in sewing, cooking, interior decorating, etc. What happy times have been shared at sewing and quilting bees! Frequently our organization has presented exhibits at local fairs.

In 1947, a Tweedsmuir Book was started to record the history of the community. In 1966 Crinan's Book won a prize at the District Annual meeting. In 1974, the second edition of the History was begun. We are still awaiting an appointment to have the first volume microfilmed.

A highlight of each August is the annual Grandmother's meeting when these special ladies are honoured and past history is relived.

Many happy social events have been enjoyed during the years. Bus trips have been sponsored on several occasions to visit many places of interest. Each year the Institute plans a Halloween

costume party for both young and old. Many family night gatherings have been enjoyed - also the annual summer picnic held in recent years on the grounds of our community centre. During the past few winters, card parties have been held on a regular basis. Just this year a 4-H group for young women has been organized under the sponsorship of our Institute.

In December, 1965 the St. J. purchased the building of U. S. S. #3, Aldborough and Dunwich, to be used as a community centre. A sign was placed over the entrance.

Now, 14 years later, the Crinan community spirit is still very much alive, as witnessed by the recent renovations to our hall. All members of the community are deeply indebted to the local volunteers who have spent long hours to make our Community centre an important asset to our community life.

So as we face the years ahead,
 May we remember those who lead
 In founding and guiding our St. J. -
 May those memories never die!

Now let each member pledge anew,
 To try by all that she can do,
 To keep our community well and strong,
 And Crinan Institute moving along!

Crinan Women's Institute

(Guests at both Anniversary)

John Carmichael

Stewart McIntyre

Edna McIntyre

Marion Carmichael and John Carmichael

Georgina Livingstone

Mary Andrews

Laura McAlpine

Bud McCallum

Mildred McCallum

John McTige

Norma McBill

Kathleen McLarty

Archie & Tom McLarty

Dunc & Grace McPherson

Gladys McMurphy

Sally Dale. (Wallace Dale)

Walter & Dorothy Robson

Geber & Madeline Livingstone

Ag & Ida May Simpson

Ross Simpson

Rose and Frank McMurphy

Steven McMurphy

Sharon McMurphy

John & Rogina Becker Tyrconnell

Mary & Lada Gow Tyrconnell

Jean M. MacEwen Dutton

Beretta Carroll "

Marion Forsyth "

Franky Walker

Annie Zoller

Jean & George Jamieson

Jean & William Mackenzie Cowal

Mrs & Mrs Thos. F. Ripley West Lorne

Bruce & Eleanor McMillen Cowal

Berta Casper West Lorne

Annie Gilchrist
Geo & Eva Cook
John Gilchrist
Janie Carroll
Lorne & Lila Carroll
Blair Walker
Frances McCallum
Beth Carroll
Murrell & Harold Carroll
Alan & Karen Carroll
Glynis & Jaid
Cinnie Isabel Tait
Margaret Dymock
Ray Dymock
Grace Campbell Coual H. I. Elgin West President
Russell Campbell
Bonnie Howe
Lynn & Shirley Lashbrook
Phyllis Tait
Mary A. Andrews
Lohel McAlpine
Gleta McCallum
William D. McCallum

PIONEER SETTLEMENTS

1. Map of Area Farms (1877) p.36.
2. History of the Community p.37.
3. Pioneer Settlements p.38-41.
4. Poem - "This is our Farm" p.41.
5. First Women Jurors in Elgin Cy. p.42.
6. Settlers and Early History p.43-45.
7. The Story of the Crinan Mail p.46-48.
8. Warden D.K. Andrew p.49.
9. Crinan Store + Cheese Factory p.50.
10. M^cAlpine Hall p.51.
11. Doing the Wash p.52-53.

PIONEER
SETTLEMENTS