

Winter Picnic (cont)



Clachan Skit

(L. to R.) Betty Alderton, Julie Morden, Willa Johnston,  
Shirley Johnston, Lois Woolner, Doris McIntyre,  
Kathy Johnston, Jill Morden.



Iona Station Skit

(L. to R.) Nancy Smith, Clara Codling, Norma Rivers,  
Helen Beecroft, Marg. Carroll (hidden).

Community Outreach Seminar.

held in February, 1988  
at Southwold Public School.



"Pat Ferraro."

President of "Well Said" a public speaking service company, was the main speaker at the seminar.

### Community Outreach Seminar

Participants in the second annual Community Outreach Seminar held recently near St. Thomas were told to aim for a goal in order to get the most from what was offered.

Pat Ferraro, president of Well Said, proposed the 125 women attending from across Southwestern Ontario set a goal they felt so strongly about they would not want to give it up.

"That's how I want you to feel about today. Succeeding is fun but, to get the most life has to offer, you have to contribute, aim for goals and motivate yourself to succeed," contended Ferraro.

The owner of Well Said, a public speaking service company which offers consulting, guest speaking and seminars, has spoken at Women's Institute conventions and meetings.

She suggested the trouble with human beings is they don't motivate themselves to take great challenges.

She felt participants could turn the day into a success for themselves by taking a challenge or go home with it being mediocre.

She pointed out they wouldn't learn from the workshops unless they set a goal to learn.

"A big mistake in life is to believe you only learn in school," she said. "I have learned more from people I have met than any other source of education."

She returned to school at 34 after having quit in grade 11. She received a degree in Business Administration with a major in Sales and Marketing from Sheridan College of Applied Arts and Technology and an English credit from Guelph University.

Ferraro said people involved in her seminars differ very little since most are concerned with increasing their ability to verbally communicate.

"If you want to succeed today or at any goal in life you have to put some effort into it," she suggested.

The workshops available provided not only that motivation, but some unique and unusual experiences.

The program which was organized by last year's committee made up of Women's Institute members, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food personnel and Women for Support of Agriculture representatives provided diverse and interesting topics for the day.

They included learning how to stencil, various aspects of interior decorating, expressing oneself with confidence, make-overs, aspects of the Ontario Family Law Act and "incredible edibles" which included dandelion root coffee, rosehip syrup and Day Lily stir-fry.



Dallas Taylor of London,  
owner of the London Craft  
Store "Henry Penny",  
displayed some of her  
stencilling work during  
the workshop at the  
seminar.



Ethel M. Nea,  
of St Thomas, was one of  
the participants in the  
workshops at the seminar.  
She is shown tasting the  
delicacy of Day Lily  
stir-fry.

WEST LORNE W.I. HOSTS 80th  
ANNUAL ELGIN WEST DISTRICT MEETING

West Lorne Women's Institute hosted the 80th annual meeting of the Elgin West District Women's Institute at Grace Anglican Church on May 18, 1988, with 1st vice-president Mrs. Bruce McMillan presiding. Representatives from thirteen branches attended.

Mrs. Betty Walther, Provincial Board Director, in her address, reminded of the bus available to attend the induction of Mrs. Dorothy Futcher's name in the Agriculture Hall of Fame on June 5. You may contact Mrs. Robt. Van Patter, R. R. #8, St. Thomas for details. Mrs. Walther told that Miss Helen McKercher will be inducted into the Hall of Fame as well, and that Mrs. Bernice Noblitt, past president of FWIC will receive the Order of Ontario. Mrs. Walther installed the officers of Elgin West District for 1988/89 as follows:

Past president, Mrs. Ivan Beecroft; president, Mrs. John McIntyre; 1st vice-president, Mrs. Bruce McMillan; secretary, Mrs. Nelson Johnston; treasurer, Mrs. Earl Morden; P.R.O., Mrs. Harold Johnston; District Delegate, Mrs. John McIntyre; Alternate District Delegate, Mrs. Bruce McMillan, Resolutions convener, Mrs. Walter Robson; Tweedsmuir History Curator, Mrs. Harold Sloan; assistant Curator, Mrs. Donald Vicary, program co-ordinator, Mrs. Len Palmer, Pioneer Museum delegate, Mrs. Garnett Cowell; assistant Museum delegate, Mrs. Duncan McCallum; Farm Safety delegate, Mrs. Nobel Tufford; elected delegate to Area Convention, Mrs. Nelson Johnston; alternate delegate to Area Convention, Mrs. Ralph Palmer; auditors, Mrs. Bruce Stalker, Mrs. James Lawrence; nominating committee, Mrs. John Hauser, Mrs. Gordon Gow, Mrs. Ralph Auckland.

Mrs. Irene Richardson, London area president, spoke of the need for a positive attitude, Miss Valerie Clark outlined her duties as Rural Organization Specialist. Greetings were brought by Mrs. Pauline Lindsay, Elgin East president, Mrs. Linda Hammond, Oxford South president, and Mrs. Helen Beecroft, Elgin County Rally vice-president.

The usual reports were given, attesting to the number of hours of volunteer work that W.I. members contribute to our organization and to other organizations in our district. A special guest was Miss Hedwig VanAsten, winner of a Petro-Canada Youth Leadership Scholarship. Hedwig entertained with the presentation of a personally filmed video featuring Elgin County.



Skit presented at Elgin West District Annual, May 18, 1988 - L.-R. Betty Rodgers, Dorothy Robson, Pat Palmer, Shirley Johnston. "Women of the 80's"



Hedwig VanAsten of Rodney, showing her personal video of Elgin County, winner of a Petro Canada Youth Leadership Scholarship.

## DOROTHY FUTCHER HONORED

Were she still alive, Dorothy Futcher would have felt humble on Sunday, says her son Allison.

The Elgin County woman, who was active in the Women's Institute and worked hard to improve the quality of rural life before she died in 1984, was inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame.

"She just loved a challenge," said Allison Futcher. Mr. Futcher, his brother, John, and sisters Robin Jeffery and Isabel Martin attended a special ceremony at the museum in Milton, located about 50 kilometres west of Toronto. With the exception of Mrs. Jeffery, who now lives in Belleville, Ontario, all the children still live in the St. Thomas area.

Mrs. Futcher held executive titles in all levels of the Women's Institute, and was concerned about education, religion, history and the quality of life in the country throughout her life.

She was president of the Middlemarch Women's Institute, West Elgin District, director and president of the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario and travelled to Copenhagen and Toronto to take part in two world conferences of the Association of Country Women of the World.

She was given the Ontario Agricultural College Medal after sitting for many years on the board of directors of the college, and was appointed by the province to the Archeological and Historical Sites Board. She also served as director of the women's division of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto.

She founded the Elgin County Pioneer Museum in St. Thomas in 1954 and put in many long hours to develop the facility. She served as its chairman from 1954 to 1980. Mrs. Futcher was named woman of the year by the St. Thomas University Women's Club in 1971 at the Talbot Shivarree.

A member of First United Church, Mrs. Futcher was an active member of the United Church Women. Her husband was J. R. Futcher, a prominent Elgin County farmer. Mrs. Jeffery said Mr. Futcher would have been proud of the recognition his wife had received.



The children of Dorothy Futcher attended a ceremony at the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton, Ontario on Sunday June 5th, 1988 during which their mother was inducted into the museum's Hall of Fame for her work with the Federated Women's Institute. Reading the inscription on their mother's plaque are, from left, Isabel Martin, John Futcher, Robin Jeffery and Allison Futcher.