

In Memoriam May 7, 2009

At this time we remember, the faithful members of the W.I., who gave of their time, ability, energy and generosity, to make their community, and their Home and Country a better place in which to live. We pay tribute to these women.

(1) Dear Members you are not forgotten,
Though on earth you are no more.
Still in memory you are with us
As you always were before.
Deep in the heart lies a picture
of a loved one laid to rest,
In memory's frame we shall keep it
Because you were the very best.

(2) Softly the leaves of memory fall,
Gently we gather and treasure them all,
Some may forget now that you're gone,
But we will remember, no matter how long.

(3) Loving memories never die
As years roll on and days pass by
In our hearts a memory is kept
Of the ones we love and will never forget.

All you guests here to-day are representing someone who had been a big part of the life of the Wallacetown Women's Institute, we give thanks for all these women's contribution to what the Wallacetown Women's Institute has stood for over the last 97 years.

<u>Past Members names</u>		<u>Representer</u>
<u>Lucy Fox, Dorothy Lamb</u>	Grand daughter Daughter	<u>Beverly McCaffery</u>
<u>Irene Cairns</u>	Daughter	<u>Rose Lyons</u>
<u>Ermyrn Lucas</u>	Grand daughter Daughter-in-law	<u>Trudy Wilda Lucas</u>
<u>Muriel Stanfield</u>	friend	<u>Terese Bobier</u>
<u>Grace Mc Killop</u>	Daughter	<u>Betty Campbell</u>
<u>Jennette Cameron</u>	Daughter	<u>Anne White</u>
<u>Marjorie Blue</u>	Neice	<u>Jean Milton</u>
<u>Iva Crawford</u>	Daughters	<u>Anne Mc Sean Annis Strudell</u>
<u>Lilly Lackey</u>	Granddaughter	<u>Lois Rabbins</u>
<u>Mrs Lloyd Ripley</u>	relative	<u>Joyce Sutton</u>
<u>Margaret Mc Gregar</u>	neighbour	<u>Bessie Lyons</u>
<u>Mrs J.E. Pearce</u>	daughter	<u>Clisson Pearce</u>
<u>Annie Cameron</u>	daughter	<u>Mary Margaret Young</u>
<u>Mae Graham</u>	neice	<u>Phyllis Mc Callum</u>
<u>Mrs Clarence Small</u>	neice	<u>Helen Small</u>
<u>Connie Deikeman</u>	- living past member	<u>Helen Mc Cready</u>
<u>Gladys Shipley</u>	Daughters	<u>Jane Whitcroft</u>
<u>Margaret Gowen</u>	- Daughter	<u>Ruth</u>
	Daughter in law	<u>Sophie & Peggy Gowen</u>
<u>Viola Mc Arthur</u>	friend	<u>Jessie Lunn</u>
<u>Dorothea Monteith</u>	- living member	
<u>Margaret Mc Killop</u>	Daughter	<u>Maryagnes Hughes</u>
<u>Mrs Clarence Taylor</u>	friend Daughter	<u>Elsie Mary Lou Purcell</u>
<u>Mrs Andrew Mc Williams</u>	granddaughter	<u>Margaret Irvine</u>
<u>Marjorie Ripley</u>	neice	<u>Mary Manchester</u>
<u>Lola Davey</u>	Granddaughter	<u>Jackie Lidster</u>
<u>Emmily Mc Kellar</u>	Daughter	<u>Anna Cylon Doris Davis</u>
<u>Dorothy Robson</u>	Daughter	<u>Ellen Cyles</u>
<u>Lillian Lunn</u>	Daughter	<u>Jean Galloway</u>
<u>Mary Lapadat</u>	neighbour	<u>Beatrice Casey</u>
<u>Minnie How</u>	grand neice	<u>Jeanie Leitch</u>
<u>Jean Van Nuland</u>	living past member	
<u>Grace Page</u>	Daughter	<u>Iris Page neice Ruth Wight</u>

(1)

May 7th, 2009 Wallacetown Women's Institute History over the Past 97 years.

The Wallacetown Women's Institute;
What is it, and who are they? In the year 1912, Wallacetown and district had a group of women interested in rural and cultural activities. The men had their own organization, "The Farmers Union", which did not include women, who took a wide interest in farm activities. Thus, the Women's Institute was started in Wallacetown.

One of the objectives was to help women acquire sound and approved homemaking skills.

The Wallacetown Women's Institute was organized July 3rd 1912 by Mrs. N. J. Hunter from the Department of Agriculture. The meetings were held the 1st Thursday of the month and still remain on the same day to this time.

The 1st President was Mrs. D. W. Graham and secretary treasurer was Maude Robb.

The 1st meeting was held in the Town Hall on Sept. 6th 1912 and it was decided to hold the meetings in the Hall during the summer and in the members homes in the winter.

There were 36 members the 1st year.

Miss Minnie Gow gave an excellent paper on "LABOUR SAVING DEVICES IN THE HOME". She was the 1st speaker.

In the early years a prize was offered at Wallacetown Fair - "FOR THE BEST WORKING MAN'S LUNCH" - the price not to exceed 15¢ and it was to be sold afterward.

It wasn't until 1927 that the "Institute Ode" was used in starting the meeting and in 1949 the "Mary Stuart Collect" was added.

(2)

These are still used to open our meetings to-day.
During World War I, Wallacetown Women's Institute went in with Dunwich and Southhold Township to buy a machine gun.

In 1923 they helped pay for the Street Lights in Wallacetown.

During both World War I and II the members knitted and sewed, made quilts and packed boxes for our soldiers overseas. They were on hand again to welcome them home from the war.

In World War II they sent women to the "Hostess House at Fingal Air Base" to serve lunches at night.

In 1947 the "Blue Cross" came into being, if you belonged to the Institute you could get coverage. Some women joined at this time.

In the 1950's and 60's Wallacetown W.I. had a "Triple Trio Group" with leader Mrs Clarence Small and pianist Dorothy Lamb, and they entertained at different functions.

Along with Tyreconnell W.I. we helped furnish a room at the Bobier Home, which is now the Victorian Manor in Dutton.

Contributions were made to a large number of funds during the war years and after and we still do to-day.

In 1996 we pledged a gift of \$1650.00 to furnish a single room at the New Bobier Villa Nursing Home in Dutton.

In 2002 we made a donation to the Backus-Page Heritage Society.

During the early years donations were given to Armenia Relief; Belgium Relief; Chinese Famine; French Red Cross; Greek Refuge; Children; Russian Relief.

(3)

To-days donations are made to a needy Family at Christmas; Daffodil Cancer and Welfare Society; Food Bank; Rehoboth Home for Unwed Girls; Elgin Museum; Local 4H Club; Medical Centre Dutton; Sunshine Foundation; West Elgin Dramatic Society; Canadian National Institute for the Blind; Christmas Toys and Clothes Shop; Up With People Organization; West Elgin Community Health Centre;

One can go on remembering the times the Women's Institute were on hand when the need arose in the community.

They entertained other W.I.'s in the past, as we do to-day, at one time having a picnic with Shedden and Fingal at Port Talbot.

In 2001 our Institute entertained our Twin W.I. "The River Road" to a picnic supper on the spacious lawns at the "Van Brenk Farms" and an evening of musical entertainment by the Presbyterian Youth and Adult Band.

In January each year we have a pot luck meal invite in people from the area with a game of euchare in the afternoon. This has been held for many years.

Our W.I. has celebrated their 15th, 25th, 35th, 50th, 60th, 70th, 75th, 80th, 85th, 90th, 95th Anniversaries. I guess everyone likes celebrating or maybe they didn't think they would reach the next big one.

It took 6 years of dedication on the part of our W.I. members, to raise \$7546.00 to go towards the Publication of our Tweedsmuir History Book of Wallacetown Community.

Most of our members worked at 2 Ontario Elections. In 1995 and again 1999, numerating; working at Advance Polls; and also Election Day.

(5)

Randy Lackey - Banking - Toronto

Mary Lippold - War Bride

Ann Lilly - Standardbred Horse Farm - Dutton

Dave Murray - OMAF - To-days Agriculture

Paul Lackey - Customer Service - World Wide & Travel
Experience - Thornbury.

Gail Johnston - Lung association

Donna Lunn - Rural Domestic Abuse

Jennifer Caley - Rotary Exchange Student to Bolivia
from Brantford

Ammie Lunn - Canadian Jersey Association

Exchange Student - New Zealand & Australia
from Belmont.

Dave Arn - Funeral Director - Dutton

Ron Campigotts - Pharmacist - Dutton

Leta West - Municipal Affairs - Dutton

Leslie Whittington - Nutrition

Myron Angus - Mouth Painter

Local Ministers - Christmas Speakers

Carol Chilvers - The Alzheimer Disease

Forest McFeat - Fire Prevention

Mary O'Hagan - Arthritis

Lorne Spicer - slides - Trip to Japan

Bonnie Rowe - Bed and Breakfast

Colin McHughan - History of Caynes Corners

Joyce Bezeau - War Bride - Dutton

Some Tours our W.I. Members have enjoyed are
Van Breck Orchards

Murray's House of Flowers in Xmas Theme - Arkona

Ride on Port Stanley Train.

Moore's Water Garden - Port Stanley

Herbal Touch - Otterville

Talbot Estate and Casey House Fingal

New Bobbie Villa - Dutton

Brenda Daniels - Meadow Sweet Farms - Avon

(6)

Parks Blueberry Farm - Bothwell
Palmer's Ostrich Farm - Boxall
Quaker Marsh Antique & Gift Store - Coldstream
Arva Flower Mills

North American Hall of Fame Railway Museum - St Thomas
Springfield 1st Post office - Home of Rhonda McNaughton
In a Jam - Debbie McCallum - Melbourne

There have been many Presidents during the many past years, each doing their very best with their talents, in their own way.

Our President is Helen Van Breuk, and the Secretary is Joan McLandress, assistant secretary and Press Reporter is Kathy Minnema, Treasurer is Louie Lackey.

Our Tweedsmuir Curator is Helen Van Breuk and she took over from Gertrude Sloan. Gertrude did a huge job with the Tweedsmuir History - getting pictures and records of a lot of homes in the area and Helen carried on. It's a big job preserving the history of the Community.

We now have a membership of 15 members.

We have served the Wallacetown Fair Meal on the Friday when everyone is working at the fair grounds - and it's also open to the public. This has been done for almost 90 years, when a hot meal is prepared and we serve around 100 people.

We look forward with anticipation and hope for the continuance of the Wallacetown Women's Institute, and we give thanks to all the great ladies who paved the way for us.

Written by Louie Lackey
Wallacetown WI Member
May 2009

**OFFICERS
2009 - 2010**

President - Helen Van Brenk
Vice President - Kathy Minnema
Secretary - Joan McLandress
Assistant Secretary - Kathy Minnema
Treasurer - Louie Lackey
District Director - Helen Van Brenk
Alternate District Director - Dorothea Monteith
Advocacy Convenor - Sally McIntyre
Rose Education co-ordinator - Kay Waite
Branch Director - Glady Graham
Tweedsmuir Curator - Helen Van Brenk
Auditors - Joan Johnson, Kay Waite
Press Reporter - Kathy Minnema
Rep. to Bobier Villa - Amarilis Drouillard
Rep. to Elgin County Museum - Helen Van Brenk
Card & Cheer - Kay Lilley

Standing Committee Convenors

Agriculture - Kathy Minnema
Canadian Industries - Darlene Ford, Joan McLandress
Citizenship & Legislation - Ruth Rueger & Mary Gillett
Consumer & Family Affairs - Kathy Minnema
Educational & Cultural Activities - Louie Lackey
Grandmother Meeting - Louie Lackey
International Affairs - Sally McIntyre
Tweedsmuir History - Helen Van Brenk

Mary Stewart Collect

Keep us, O Lord, from pettiness; let us
be large in thought, word and deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding and
leave off self-seeking.
May we put away all pretence and meet
each other face to face, without self-pity
and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgement
and always generous.
Let us take time for all things; make us
grow calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better
impulses, straight forward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize that it is the
little things that create differences that in
the big things of life we are one.
And may we strive to touch and know
the great human heart common to us all,
and O Lord, God, let us not forget to be
kind.



**Wallacetown
Women's Institute**

PROGRAM

2009-2010

ELGIN COUNTY DISTRICT

Motto - "For Home and Country"

INSTITUTE GRACE

**We thank Thee Father for Thy Care
Food, friends and kindness we share
May we forever mindful be
of Home and Country and of Thee.**

INSTITUTE ODE

**A goodly thing it is to meet
In Friendship's circle bright,
Where nothing stains the pleasure sweet
Nor dims the radiant light.
No unkind words our lips shall pass
No envy sour the mind:
But each shall seek the common weal -
The good of all mankind**

2009

Thursday, September 3rd - 1:15 p. m.
Meet at the South Dunwich Community Hall

Canadian Industries

Convenors - Darlene Ford, Joan McLandress

Motto - "Everything Old Is New Again"

Comments - Joan McLandress

Roll Call - Bring an apron and relate memories connected to it

Program - A tour of "Lavender Blue" at Wallacetown

Lunch - At the "The Farm"

Thursday, October 8th - 1.30 p.m.
Meet at the South Dunwich community Hall

Consumer and Family Affairs

Convenor - Kathy Minnema

Motto - "Your Health Means Everthing"

Comments - Kathy Minnema

Roll Call - Bring a recipe you use alot. Let's make it into a low -fat recipe.

Speaker - West Elgin Community Health Center Dieti-tion - Angie Cornwall.

Lunch - Kathy Minnema, Louie Lackey at the center.

Thursday, October 15th - 8.30 a.m.
Meet at the South Dunwich Community Hall

London Area Convention

Car Pool - to the Oxford Golf and Country Club - Woodstock Area Registration 8.30 A.M.

Thursday, November 5th - 1.30 p.m.

International Affairs

Place - Home of Sally McIntyre

Convenor - Sally McIntyre

Motto - My Country My Home

Comments - Sally McIntyre

Roll call - What country would you like to visit

Program - Travel Tales by Sally McIntyre

Lunch - Kay Waite, Joan McLandress

Thursday, December 3rd - at 12 noon
Meet at the South Dunwich Hall

Christmas Dinner

Place - Lakeview Gardens, 9353 Graham Rd., Eagle (A Turkey Dinner : \$20.00)

No Meeting

No Program

Donation - \$10.00 to our Christmas Family

Guests - Clachan, Cowal, Crinan and West Lorne Institutes. The men are welcomed to join us.

2010

Thursday, January 7th - at 12 noon

Pot Luck Dinner

Place - South Dunwich Community Hall

Convenors - Kay Waite, Doris Barber

Program - Progressive Euchre Card Party

Invite your friends.

Mid February

W. I. Winter Picnic

Date and Location unknown at this time

Car Pool - to go to the Winter Picnic

Call Helen Van Brenk 519-762-6454

Bring your own dishes and your favorite dish to share

Thursday, March 4th - 1.30 p.m.

Agriculture

Place - South Dunwich Community Hall

Convenor - Kathy Minnema

Motto - Get involved, its helping others.

Comments - Kathy Minnema

Speaker - Rein Van Brenk - ELGIN COUNTY PLOWING MATCH - 2010 -VICE CHAIR.

Lunch - Ruth Rueger, Doris Barber

3rd Thursday April 15th - 1.30 p.m..

Annual Meeting and Tweedsmuir History

Place - Helen Van Brenk's Home

Convenor - Helen Van Brenk

Roll Call - Name a crop from another country

Reports - R.O.S.E. Co-ordinator - Kay Waite

Nominating Committee - Louie Lackey

Tweedsmuir Report - Helen Van Brenk

Installation Of Officers - Darlene Ford

Payment Of Membership Fees - \$20.00

Display - Tweedsmuir Book No. 9, Scrapbook and House Logs

Lunch - Joan Johnston, Darlene Ford

Friday, May 7th. - 1.30 p.m.

Educational and Cultural Activities

Grandmothers Meeting

Place - South Dunwich Community Hall

Convenor - Louie Lackey

Motto - "Moms and Grandmas" - "Before I was a Mom"

Comments - Louie Lackey

Sing Song - Keeping the old songs from being forgotten

Roll Call - Tell about your first home as a bride

Speaker - Tammy Lackey - Telling how they have coped with the needs of a "High Needs Child"

Guests - "The Monday Quilters" from the Dutton Dunwich Seniors

Lunch - Kay Waite, Kathy Minnema and Mary Gillett

Thursday June 3rd - 6 p.m.

Citizenship and Legislature

Pot Luck Dinner

Place - South Dunwich Cimmunity Hall

Convenors - Ruth Rueger, Mary Gillett

Roll Call - When was the school you attended built?

Speaker - Len Lynch on the "History of the Fingal School". Len will show a video prepared for the 40th anniversary of the closing of the school

Guests are welcomed.

Welcome to our new members - Ruth Rueger and Mary Gillett



Reunion of Wallacetown W.I.

On May 7 the Wallacetown Women's Institute had a reunion at the South Dunwich Community Hall for past members. The event included guest speaker Margaret Hulls who spoke on subjects including the VON, Tai Chi, the Trans Canada trail and the Backus Page House Museum.

SUBMITTED

Reunion of past members of the Wallacetown W.I.

*The Chronicle
May 21st 2009*

The May meeting of the Wallacetown Women's Institute was held at the South Dunwich Community Hall. Twelve members were in attendance along with 39 ladies who were past members or family members or close acquaintances of a past member. The hall was set up with Tweedsmuir books and pictures of earlier days of our members. Also, a hand painted picture of the original place where the first meetings were held was brought in.

President Helen Van Breuk opened the meeting with the Institute Ode, the Mary Stewart Collect and the Lord's Prayer. President Helen introduced Louie Lackey the convenor for this meeting.

Louie gave a history of the Wallacetown W.I., going back 97 years and the reason to form the Institute was to help women improve homes. The first president was D.W. Graham and there were 36 members. We now have 15 members. Over the years there have been many meetings, trips, speakers, and workshops. The Institute has supported many charities in our community and all over Elgin County. Amarilis Droquillard lead a sing-song while Louie played on the keyboard. All the songs were written by Institute members from across Ontario sung to popular tunes.

Louie introduced her speaker for the afternoon; Margaret Hulls from Dutton. Margaret entertained the ladies on four different topics to which she is very dedicated to now that she is retired from teaching. To introduce each topic she put on a T-Shirt. The first topic was through the VON and it was their Seniors Maximizing Active Rolls Training (SMART) program, and there are different locations in West Elgin where this is available. The second topic was her involvement of the

Education at the Backus-Page House held May 22 for school children from Grades 3 and 7 and open to the public May 23. The third topic was teaching Tai Chi, which was a set of 108 moves to help improve balance. This brings a life force into your body; the movements are silent, soft, graceful, and named after birds, butterflies and

clouds. The fourth topic was about the Trans Canada Trail Group, which is the trail that goes across Canada from east to west and to the north. Margaret organizes walks across the trail through Dunwich Township about five times a year. Everyone is welcome to come on these walks.

Louie thanked Margaret for sharing with us all the interesting information.

We sang the Institute grace and enjoyed lunch and visiting with guests.

The next meeting is June 4. Meet at the South Dunwich Community Hall at 1:30 p.m. and carpool to the Eagle Water Plant. Convenors are Kay Lilley and Joan Johnston. Lunch will follow at Joan Johnston's home. Men are welcome.

-Submitted by Helen Van Breuk, Wallacetown W.I. Pres.



photo taken May 7th 2009

- (from left)*
- 1 Kathy Minnema - a member.*
 - 2 Amarilis Droquillard lead in a sing-song.*
 - 3 Louie Lackey on keyboard.*
 - 4 Margaret Hulls - Speaker.*

Women's Institute Songs - May 7, 2009

The Women's Institute Ode

(tune: "Auld Lang Syne")

A goodly thing it is to meet
In Friendship's circle bright,
Where nothing stains the pleasure sweet
Nor dims the radiant light.
No unkind word our lips shall pass,
No envy sour the mind,
But each shall seek the common weal,
The good of all mankind.

Institute Grace

(tune: "Old 100th")

We thank Thee, Father for Thy Care
Food, friends and kindness we share;
May we forever mindful be
Of "Home and Country" and of Thee.

Celebration

(tune: "Lead on O King Eternal")

We celebrate our history
Rejoice to know our past
And work for Home and Country
In action, word and deed,
Thus challenged by our purpose
We strive to fill the needs
Of others in this country
And in those far away.
We look toward the future
And joyfully we go
With faith into tomorrow
The deeds of life we know
We follow still that vision
Of others long ago
And following their footsteps
We work to fill our goals

A Smile is Quite A Funny Thing

(tune: "Old Lang Syne")

A smile is quite a funny thing,
It wrinkles up your face,
And when its' gone you'll never find
It's secret hiding place.
But far more wonderful it is to see
What smiles can do,
You smile at one, she smiles at you
And so one smile makes two.
She smiles at someone, since you smiled,
And then that one smiles back,
And that one smiles until, in truth,
You fail in keeping track.
And since a smile can do great good,
By cheering hearts of care,
Let's smile and smile and not forget,
That smiles go everywhere.

W.I. True

(tune: "Oh, Susanna")

Oh, we're the Women's Institute
This country is our home.
With neighbours all around us here
We never are alone.
We work from early morning
Till the stars come in the sky
We never waste an hour
As time goes rushing by.

In spring time we are full of hope
In summer how we glow-
The autumn brings our harvest rich
The winter brings the snow.
The seasons come, the seasons go,
The future days look bright-
We are the Women's Institute
We work with all our might.

Oh, we are the Women's Institute
We like our countryside,
We look across the field to hills
Where streams in hills abide.
There's wealth in every foot of land
In this our fair domain,
That's why we work, we never shirk
We never once complain.

The future lies ahead of us,
The future-yours and mine,
Although the storms must come and go
The sun will always shine.
We put our shoulder to the wheel
We do the best we can
To help our country and our home
And every fellow man.

A Teacher's Lament

(tune: "When You and I Were Young Maggie")

I wandered today to the school, Maggie,
To watch how lessons are taught.
The work's not exactly the same, Maggie,
The course has been changed quite a lot.
The writing is out of this world, Maggie,
And our final dirge will soon be sung,
But at least what we wrote could be read, Maggie,
When you and I were young.

The old recitations are gone, Maggie.
The poems no longer are heard,
The work that they do in eighth grade; Maggie
Is much what we did in the third.
And now we're decrepit and grey, Maggie,
And our fling in life is nearly flung.
But we passed on our marks, not our height, Maggie
When you and I were young.

June 25th 2009

Wallacetown W.I. tours treatment plant

-By Kathy Minnema

There were nine members and three guests at the June meeting of the Wallacetown Women's Institute. Convenors were Kay Lilley and Joan Johnston. Members and guests met at the South Dunwich Community Hall and car-pooled to the municipality of West Elgin water treatment plant south of Eagle. Operations manager Dale LeBritton gave us a talk to explain the where's, when's, and why's of the process of this "state of the art" technology.

There are only five people employed at the plant which purifies 12,000 cubic meters of water a day; out of which 95 percent is used and the remaining five percent goes back into waste products. This plant supplies Dutton-Dunwich, West Lorne, Rodney, Melbourne, Glencoe, Bothwell and Newbury. Co-worker Cindy Sigurdson gave us a tour of the facility explaining the five different treatment processes the water travels through to get to the final stage before it goes out to other communities. Joan Johnston thanked both Dale and Lisa for their time. Our group was the first to tour through the new facility, which was very meaningful to all of us.

We then went to the home of Joan Johnston for our meeting. President Helen Van Brenk opened the meeting with the Institute Ode, Mary Stewart Collect and the Lord's Prayer. Joan McLandress read the minutes from the May meeting and were approved. Louie Lackey gave the treasurer's report. Home and Country spring and summer were passed out to all members. It was announced of the disbandment of Paynes Mills W.I. in April. Helen reported on the Elgin County Museum exhibits for this year.

The District Annual Meeting was held on May 13 with 56 ladies attending. There are 12 branches remaining and we had a total of 10,508 volunteer hours throughout the county. Wallacetown put in for 1466 hours. It was decided Helen Van Brenk and Sally McIntyre will organize the Daffodil Tea for April 10, 2010.

New business: June 22 at 1:00 p.m. at Kay Waite's home to set up meeting agenda for next years monthly programs. August 4 - Tweedsmuir Workshop at the Keystone Complex. Louie Lackey and Kay Waite registration at 8:15 a.m. bring a bag lunch 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and Louie will supply muffins for our group.

We welcome a new member to our organization, Mary Gillett from Dutton area.

The meeting was turned over to convenors Joan and Kay. The Roll Call: How do you conserve water? Answers: Reuse of water, shut off the tap while brushing teeth, water gardens from a well or rain barrel, have new efficient machines, repair leaky taps.

A lovely lunch was supplied by Joan Johnston and Kay Lilley, Helen thanked Joan for opening her home for this meeting. The meeting was adjourned.



June 4th 2009 Photos taken.
Wallacetown W.I Members



Welcome to the annual

LONDON AREA TWEEDSMUIR WORKSHOP

**Tuesday August 4, 2009
Shedden Keystone Complex**

**Theme : "Antique Toys and Games"
Hosted by Elgin County District Women's Institute**

- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Registration, Cost \$ 2:00 Wallacetown WI
Coffee and muffins Cowal WI and Middlemarch WI
- 9:30 a.m. Welcome Grace Campbell , President, Elgin County District Women's Institute
Institute Ode, Mary Stewart Collect
Introduction of Mary Nicklas, Curator of London Area Women's Institute
- 9:45 a.m. Speaker : Brian Massechaele , Elgin County Director of Cultural Services
Importance of preserving history
- 10:15 a.m. Light and Lively: Middlemarch W.I. Donna Lord
- 10:30 a.m. Speaker : Mike Baker, Curator of Elgin County Museum
- 11:00 a.m. Roll Call : each of the 7 Districts bring one antique toy or game or doll
with history to share with all present
- 11:15 a.m. Speaker : Marie Nancarrow , Old toys, games, doll
- 11:45 a.m. Comments – Grace Campbell
W.I. Branches have set up displays of toys /games/dolls.
Carol Down, Grace Campbell and Mary Clutterbuck have displays.
- 12:00 p.m. Brown Bag Lunch, Lug a Mug
Beverage supplied Boxall WI
- 1:00 p.m. Announcements
- 1:10 p.m. Break into groups of 10 to discuss Tweedsmuir histories
- 2:00 p.m. Brief report from leaders of each group
- 2:30 p.m. Courtesies and invitation for 2010 Curator's Workshop in _____
O Canada pianist Shirley Walker



LOCAL HISTORY: Women's Institute members gather for annual Tweedsmuir workshop



NATASHA MARAR Times-Journal

Barbara McNabb of Melbourne, Ont., checks out the antique toy displays at the annual London Area Tweedsmuir workshop held in Shedden on Tuesday.



NATASHA MARAR Times-Journal

Grace Campbell, president of Elgin County District Women's Institute, left, with Helen Van Brenk, Elgin County District Women's Institute Tweedsmuir curator, and speakers Brian Masschaele, Elgin county director of community and cultural services, Marie Nancarrow, Elgin County Museum advisory committee member, and Mike Baker, curator at Elgin County Museum, at the annual London Area Tweedsmuir workshop.

History is child's play

NATASHA MARAR
Times-Journal

SHEDDEN — Antique toys, dolls and games highlighted the annual London Area Women's Institute Tweedsmuir workshop here Tuesday.

Around 90 women attended the event, which was hosted by the Elgin County District Women's Institute. There are more than 800 Women's Institutes in Ontario, and 12 in Elgin. Women's Institutes have been documenting local history in scrapbooks, called Tweedsmuir Histories, since the 1930s.

The all-day workshop featured presentations by Brian Masschaele, director of community and cultural services for Elgin county, Mike Baker, curator at the Elgin County Museum, and Marie Nancarrow, a member of the Elgin County Museum advisory committee.

Masschaele spoke about the role of archival records in the county, and the importance of preserving local history. He said the county is looking to create a holistic vision of its history by combining libraries, archives and tourism.

Masschaele also presented old military records, petitions, bylaws and newspaper

clippings. The Elgin County Archives is now home to 51 volumes of Tweedsmuir Histories, which are also available on the archives website.

"We almost doubled the size of our Tweedsmuir holdings since publishing that they were being digitized," Masschaele said. "The connection we've had with the archives and Women's Institutes has been instrumental to our success."

Baker and Nancarrow's presentations focused on the day's theme of antique toys and games. Baker brought collections of antique toys from the museum.

"We have some of the best pieces with us today," he said. "Many of the toys played with in the early 19th century are still with us."

Baker spoke about the evolution of childhood play and toy-making since the 1800s.

"It's the real world made miniature."

WI member Barbara McNabb of Melbourne, Ont., enjoyed the workshop.

"When they (Masschaele and Baker) do a presentation, it's beautifully done," she said. "I just remember being delighted."

The workshop wrapped up with an antique toys show-and-tell, group discussions of Tweedsmuir Histories and reports from each branch.



TOYING WITH HISTORY

Aug 5th 2009



NATASHA MARAR Times-Journal

Helen Van Brenk, Tweedsmuir history curator for Elgin District Women's Institute, shows off an antique toy milk wagon she found at a yard sale, at an annual London Area Tweedsmuir workshop in Shedden on Tuesday. Coverage, page 4.

W.I. WORKSHOP

Aug 7th 2009



NATASHA MARAR Times-Journal

Women's Institute member Lorne Spence shows off an antique, handmade card game at the annual London Area Tweedsmuir Workshop in Shedden. Members from seven districts brought antique toys, games or dolls to show around 90 women who attended the workshop.



Grace Campbell with her Princess Diane Dolls.



Mary Clutterbuck -