

Lambert and Van Raay win gold at all-Ontarios

Dance pair of Kaitlyn Lambert and Chris Van Raay of the West Elgin Skating Club received gold medals at the all-Ontarios March 11 in Waterloo. Thanks to their coaches: Patsy McGill, Kelly Lambert and Greg Knight they have won gold in all their competitions this skating season.



SUBMITTED

Atoms win

Cal Horvat celebrates a goal with Justin Delgado. The West Lorne Atom Travel Team won the "B" championship beating Lucan 5-4 in an exciting game. For every Lucan goal, the Comets responded quickly.

JEFF KEMPENAAR
THE CHRONICLE



Black and Gold draws hundreds

The 16th annual Black and Gold hockey tournament had West Elgin Arena a buzz this past weekend.

With 24 teams, 352 players and 458 - in total with bench staff, along with family and friends, filled the arena for the four-day tournament.

The Atom Travel team won the 'B' Championship Sunday afternoon in an exciting one-goal win over Lucan.

The Novice Travel team reached the semi-finals of the 'A' Championship and the Novice Local team reached the semis of the 'B' championship.

The tournament started Thursday night.

Boys playing ranged in age eight to 11 years old.

"It's been a lot of fun, a lot of fun for the kids," said Tammy Marshall, director on the Black

and Gold committee.

Parents with noise makers filled the seats while those not playing or watching strolled through the warm-room looking over the auction table or photos taken of the players in action by Bonnie's Photography.

"It's a big deal," said Marshall. For the kids, each player gets an engraved dogtag and the winning teams get a plaque.

Teams were guaranteed two games with a possibility of four if it reached the finals.

What goes into putting on the tournament?

"Ohh, a lot.. It's a lot of work. From getting the teams, to scheduling, getting sponsors," she said.

Many prizes were donated by local businesses and the parents association "did everything that needed to be done," said Marshall.



Lakers shutout Lancers

James Langford got his second shutout in a row last week as his West Lorne Lakers beat Lambeth 1-0 on home ice.

Oliver Shanks had the lone goal for the Lakers in the first game with less than three goals of the season.

Langford faced 32 shots as the Lakers won its fourth game of the season.

However, Oct. 26 in Exeter the Lakers were denied the third win in a row by losing in a

shootout to the Hawks 5-4.

Matt Willis scored twice to take the points lead in the Southern Ontario Junior Hockey League.

He has 11 goals and 14 assists.

Shanks and Karl Schramowsky also scored for the Lakers who went 0-3 in the shootout.

The Lakers return to West Lorne Nov. 14 for a tilt with Central Elgin at 8:15 p.m.



Bantams champions

BONNIE'S PHOTOGRAPHY

The Bantam house league girls hockey team won their league championship. Back row: trainer Wendy Jones, head coach Denis Hamelin, Zoey VanDyk, Ashley Willie, Breeann Carter, Nicole Collard, Nicole Vergeer, Brittany Jones, Nicolette Gowan, Samantha Hamelin, coach Jon Collard, manager Shelly Vergeer. Front row: Mardina Verboom, Madison Redman, Hayle Szabo, Stephanie Sutton, Brooklyne Jones, Steel VanDyk and Mikayla Myers. Goalie: Stephanie Campbell. Absent: trainer Dave Gowan.

Stars coming for skating carnival

WEST ELGIN SKATING CLUB NEWS

By Teri Knott

It's that time of year again, Carnival Time!

Our 53rd annual carnival theme this season is The Academy Awards.

We will be rolling out the red carpet for all our superstar skaters to strut their skills.

The skaters and coaches have been working hard on all the choreography.

The carnival crew has been pulling out all the stops to make the costumes and props for this spectacular event.

Our guest skater this year is Diane Szmiett from the Watford Skating Club.

We are thrilled to have her performing for us. She is a member of the Watford Skating Club. She represented Canada four times internationally, once as a member of the junior team.

She was 2006 junior ladies champion of Canada is only 16-years-old.

The West Elgin Skating board wish all the skaters good luck and have fun.

This will be a show to remember. You won't want to miss this star studded event.

There will be two shows at 1 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 31.

It will be a Hollywood evening and a chance to hang out with the stars.

Atom local win bronze

The West Lorne Atom Local League team had a great season. After regular season play they made it to the 'A' side of the Tri County Hockey League playoffs where they held their own and a good show considering the tough competitors.

The team competed in the Kanagio tournament in Port Stanley where they faced teams they'd never seen before.

In their fourth game of the day, they

beat Dorchester to bring home the bronze medal.

Teamwork and hard work throughout the year really paid off at the tournament.

Michael O'Neil recorded his first shut out of the year, playing fantastic in net for his team.

The coaching staff are full of pride for the team and how far they came this year.



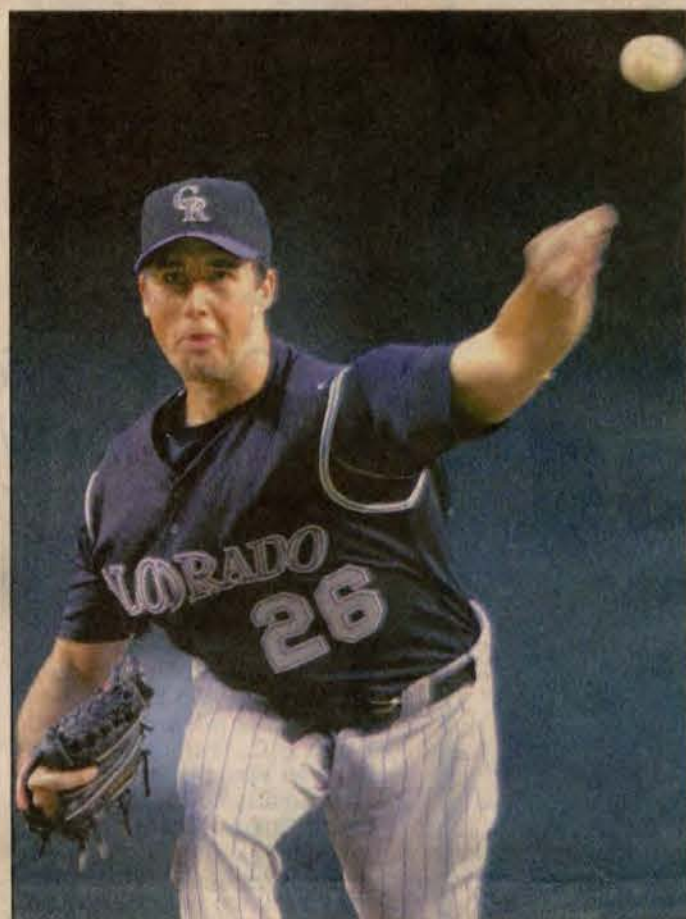
Atoms win bronze
First row: Tyler Hawke, Michael O'Neil, Steven Szabo, Michael Oliver, Derrick Somerville, Kyle Jones, Austin Arn and Dustin Van Hee. Second row: Quinn Cooper, Fraser Morton, Lawrence Ambrose and Coty Holman. Back row: Sherry Somerville, Richard Street, coach coach, Angelo Babuin, head coach, Shuan Szabo, coach, Steve Van Hee, trainer.

SUBMITTED

Family ties: Jeff Francis had a good excuse for missing his in-laws' Thanksgiving.



Allison Padfield and Jeff Francis, who married in London almost two years ago, attend a Denver Broncos football game. The pair live in that city, where she teaches at a university and he gives major league baseball sluggers lessons in humility as a star pitcher for the Colorado Rockies. At right, Francis, of North Delta, B.C., throws a pitch during the first inning of Game 1 of the National League championship series against the Arizona Diamondbacks in Phoenix on Thursday. Francis was the winning pitcher in the Rockies 5-1 victory.



Associated Press

LONDON FREE PRESS OCT 15/07

Drive to Series nixes trip to London



Jeff Francis is pictured on the cover of the latest Sports Illustrated magazine.

BY PATRICK MALONEY
Sun Media

There is one strike against the near-unbelievable winning streak of baseball's Colorado Rockies. It ruined a family's Thanksgiving plans in London.

But the Padfield clan is surely over the disappointment after the sterling performance of their most famous in-law, Rockies pitcher Jeff Francis, in Game 1 of the National League championship Thursday.

"They were supposed to come to London for Thanksgiving," Mary Padfield said of her Rodney-raised granddaughter Allison and her

husband.

Allison and Francis were married on New Year's Eve in London two years ago.

"He didn't realize (his team) would make the playoffs," Padfield said.

In fact, no one thought Colorado would be in the postseason. But the red-hot Rockies have won 19 of their last 20 games, riding stars like Francis into the NL championship series.

The Rockies and Arizona Diamondbacks met again last night in Denver in Game 3. Colorado led the series 2-0.

Francis, a Vancouver native, frustrated the Diamondbacks hitters and their 48,000 fans in Game 1 by

allowing just one run on seven hits over six strong innings in the opener.

With his two victories in the playoffs, Francis became the first Canadian starting pitcher to win a postseason game, according to information obtained from the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in St. Marys. He was also the fifth Canadian pitcher to win a postseason game. The other four Canadian pitchers all won in relief roles.

Francis, reached in Denver last night, said he has been to Rodney for a couple of Thanksgivings.

"Allison's grandma is a good cook," Francis told Sun

Media's Bob Elliott. "If I'm going to miss Thanksgiving, I can't think of a better reason to miss it."

Did he phone and tell them he was not coming?

"They were watching on TV. They pretty much figured it out on their own.

"It's too bad we had to miss it. It's one of those few times where you get to see everyone in the family. Allie's brother Jared just had a baby girl (10 months old) and we don't get a chance to see them very often as they live in Huntsville.

"Maybe we'll see everyone at Christmas."

See PITCHER Page A2

Blue Devils repeat as champs

The South Western Ontario Soccer League finals began Sept. 11 in London.

A torrential rain would be whipping through the smog filled air and never seemed to let up all game long. The ground was slippery and the uniforms and equipment were water logged and muddy as the players maintained composure.

London Hot Tubs were grateful for the storm because it saved them from the slaughter the Blue Devils could have inflicted.

West Elgin dominated throughout and worked as a collective unit.

The London keeper would make some glorious saves to keep his team in the game.

The Blue Devils defence was an impregnable Spartan wall of unflinching human sacrifice.

With about 15 minutes to spare, Shawn "I Am a Man of My Word" McCallum gathered the ball in a goal mouth scramble and bulged the twine behind the keeper.

Finally the whistle would blow to end the game and the West Elgin Blue Devils would lead the series and look toward their home

field to put the nail in the coffin.

On lucky Sept. 13, the two top teams gathered on the West Lorne field to finish what they started.

This time weather would be cooperative and the Blue Devils could show their diehard fans (many painted their faces blue & white in support) how deserving they are as the undisputed SWOSL Champions.

It wouldn't take long for the Blue Devils to get on the scorecard as Lee "Velcro Shoes" Wilson chased down a sideline ball, cuts towards the keeper who challenged him, and unselfishly dished it off across the goal mouth for an easy tap in by Brian "One Touch" Azevedo.

The Hot Tubs began to panic as the Blue Devils seized control.

Bradley "Still Waiting for My Defining Goal" Oliveira cut to the middle of the field, pulling two defenders towards him, and left the ball for Wilson who directed a shot in.

The second half would be like the first with the Blue Devils displaying their soccer dominance.

Wilson took the ball up the field, lost it, got it back, lost it



Champs

SUBMITTED

Front row (from left to right) Brent Fletcher, Bradley Oliveira, Adam Ecker, Nate Girardin, Aaron Cowell. Back Row (from left to right) Joe Circelli, Lee Wilson, Shawn McCallum, Josh Duplessis, Brian Azevedo, Garret Littlejohn (Coach/GM/Scout/Waterboy), Shawn Loveland. (Absent): Mike Lyons, Joe Lyons, Brett McGill, Simon Ecker.

again, recovered it, and glanced up seeing the keeper 7 yards off his goal line.

He chipped the ball and it sailed over top of the goalie.

The fourth and final goal began with Nate "Boogie Nights" Girardin working his tail off as he lost the ball, then got it back again with his patented slide/dance move. Girardin

would then get knocked down.

As Nate gave an icy stare toward the referee, Aaron "Hulk" Cowell gobbled up the ball and bent it better than Beckham into the far top corner.

The 4-0 victory would be enough for the West Elgin Blue Devils to repeat as SWOSL Champions as the crowd erupted in euphoria.

Shooting Stars win cup



Skaters win gold

SUBMITTED

West Elgin Skating Club's dance partners of Kelsey Fratscher and Matt Westelaken (front), and Kaitlyn Lambert and Chris Van Raay are on their way to the all-Ontarios competition as part of the Western Ontario Provincial Team. Both teams won gold at the Boston Pizza Competition, on Saturday in Aylmer, in their dance categories. Kelsey and Matt - coached by Patsy McGill and Kaitlyn and Chris - coached by Patsy McGill, Kelly Lambert and Greg Knight, will be in the all-Ontarios in Waterloo, March 10-11.

The West Lorne Shooting Stars completed a successful playoff run in capturing the under 17 Girls Challenge Cup.

The girl's first game was against the Oakridge Vortex, one of only two teams to actually beat the Stars in league play. Emma Wilkins opened the scoring by putting her corner kick directly in the net. Oakridge responded almost immediately and tied the game.

Allison Borton responded for West Lorne with a great goal to give the Stars a 2-1 lead at half.

The Stars never looked back and dominated the second half with a great all around team effort. Allison Borton added her second of the game and Debbie Levesley and Caroline Levesley each scored to bring the final score to 5-1.

The Stars next opponent was the Southwest Bobcats the second team that had beaten the Stars earlier in the season.

This was a very entertaining and intense end to end game.

Allison Borton scored the opener for the Stars and the girls held onto a 1-0 at halftime.

Southwest quickly responded with an equalizer in the second half

before Nicole Hilliard scored a beautiful goal from the left wing to give the girls the lead once again.

The Stars generated numerous good scoring opportunities but were unable to add a third goal.

In the final few minutes of regulation Southwest benefited from a fortunate bounce to tie the game.

Although the girls were disappointed they quickly refocused for the two periods of sudden death overtime.

The girls controlled the first overtime period and generated several scoring chances but were unable to capitalize.

Early in the second overtime period the girls completed several great passes and finally threaded a lead pass through the Bobcats defense to Allison Borton who slid the ball past the Southwest goalie for the victory.

In the final West Lorne faced the Dorchester Storm. Dorchester opened the scoring early in the first half but Nicole Hilliard quickly responded for the Stars to tie the game.

The first half was a relatively even affair with both teams generating a number of good scoring chances, but neither team was able



Shooting Stars look for third title

SUBMITTED

The West Lorne Shooting Stars recently won the under 17 girls challenge cup and look forward to challenging for the league title.

to pull ahead.

The second half was entirely different and West Lorne began to control the play. Stephanie Leys scored in the first few minutes of the second half to give the Stars the lead.

The Stars dominated possession for most of the half and began to wear down the Dorchester team. Nicole Hilliard added a second and Lindsay Laing and Melanie Ganhadeiro each added goals to secure a comfortable 5-1 victory.

The girls are now focused on also winning the under 17 league title as well.

To date the girls have 12 wins and only two losses which places them in second place just behind the Southwest Bobcats.

The Stars have three games

remaining and need victories against the Greater London Bandits, Southwest Bobcats and the Goderich Tempest to win their second consecutive league title and their third league title in six seasons.

Returning players this season are Emma Wilkins, Debbie Levesley, Chloe Steele, Allison Borton, Stephanie Leys, Melanie Ganhadeiro, Nicole Hilliard, Shelby Kemp, Kristin Mylrea, Vanessa Paiva, Meghan Schneider, Morgan McCulloch, April Kueneman and Jessica Varga.

New additions to the team this year are Caroline Levesley, Alanah Sutton and Lindsay Laing. Amanda Knapp a former Stars player has also helped by filling in when the team was short of players.

Conway places at Walton

Jeremy Conway, 18, of West Lorne can now say he's done something that he's wanted to do for years.

He qualified to race in the Grand National Motocross Championships at the Walton Trans-Can held Aug. 14 - 19.

Out of 42 riders, Conway finished ninth overall in the 125 Junior B Division.

"It was truly amazing competing against all those great riders," he said.

Riders came from across the country and the U.S. to compete in various divisions throughout the week.

Conway has been racing with the Thames Valley Riders since 2001.

This season he finished

first in the open intermediate class.

The season starts in early April and runs to the end of October with most races being held Sundays. Races are held in Grand Bend, Wheatley, Tillsonburg and Auburn Hills.

Conway started riding at the age of four on a Honda 50 cc and has advanced to riding his Yamaha YZ 250 four-stroke.

"This summer, all I've been doing is riding. It's been awesome," he said.

Conway works full-time at the West Elgin Arena and last year started driving the Zamboni.

He raced this past weekend in a Canadian

Motocross Racing Association event in Auburn Hills.

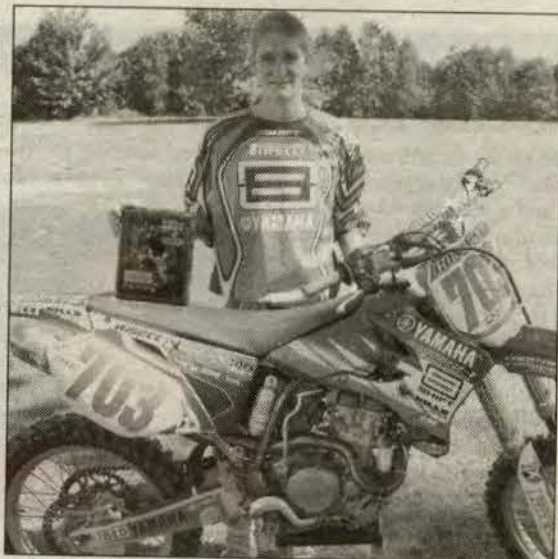
He said the community, friends and family have been supportive, travelling to Walton to cheer him on.

"Ever since we can remember, Jeremy has talked about motocross. He lives for the sport," said mother Karen.

"I just love watching him ride," said his father Brad, who helps prepare the bike.

Conway will spend his winter racing at an indoor track in Tillsonburg.

While his solid finish at Walton this year came better than he expected, he hopes to finish even higher next year.



JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

Motocross

Jeremy Conway shows off his 9th place plaque that he won at national motocross event in Walton recently.



Skating season ends

SUBMITTED

West Elgin Skating Club had a competitive season this year with participants competing in the Dennis Silverthorne Memorial Invitational, Boston Pizza StarSkate Championships, Pat Abela Memorial Invitational, Future's West and the Trillium StarSkate Championships. Skaters have been practicing with their coaches, Patsy McGill, Renee Bergey and Pam Parezonavic since the skating season began last September. Although the West Elgin Skating Club's primary focus isn't on the competitions, we are extremely proud of every one who chose to show off their stuff against other clubs at competitions this year.



JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

Award

Melanie Laing received the Beth Evans Memorial Award for skater of the year from Beth's parents Carolyn and Allister Cameron.



U6 have a fun summer

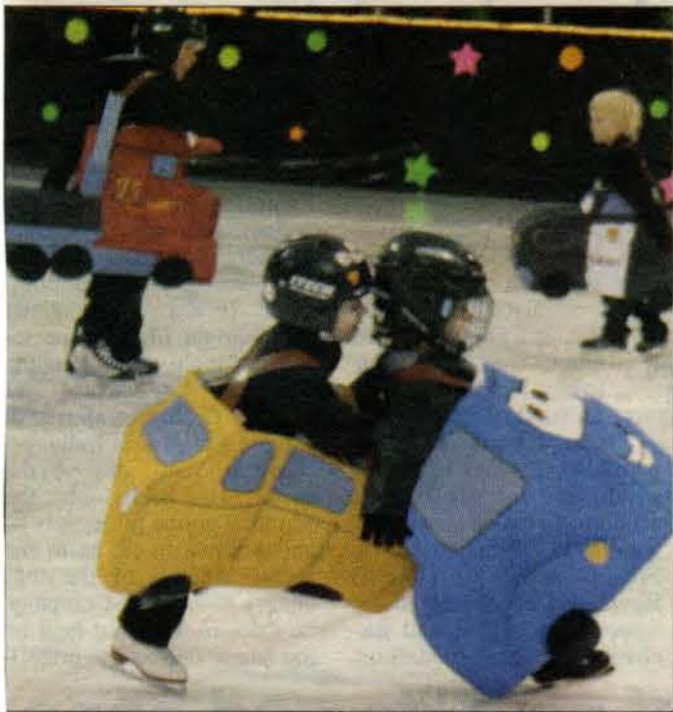
SUBMITTED

U6 soccer had a fun summer and placed 2nd on Cup Day in West Lorne. Pictured (back left to right): Tim Grexton (coach), Noah Heard, Connor Grexton, Jacob McQuade, Linda McQuade (coach). Front row: Natasha Beiswegger-Mooney, Sophie Neyens. Absent from photo Benn Dunn, Emily Sowden, Caleb McCullough, Kailin Pyka.

Sports

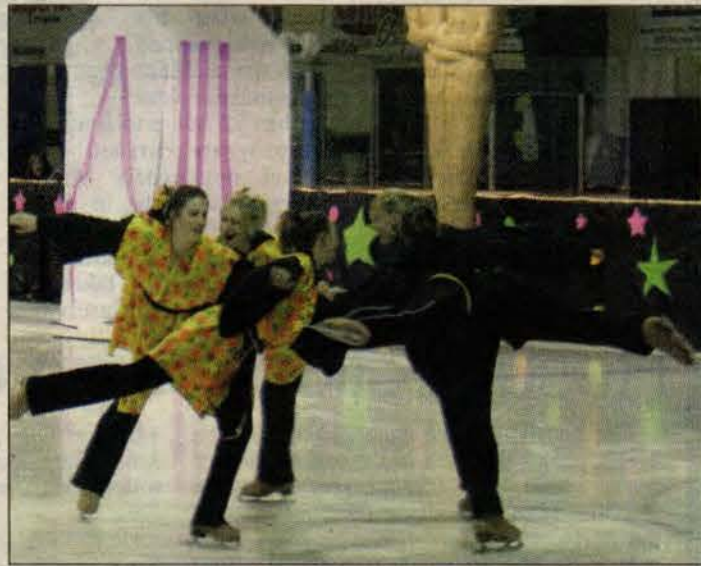
Stars come out for annual Skating Carnival

Photos by Jeff Kempenaar



Cars a hit

Coleton DaSilva, Kenneth Gowan, Benjamin Buchanan, Robbie Fratscher in Cars.



Crouching Tiger

Melanie Laing, Candice Conway, Kristen Mylrea, Karlie Willcocks, Lindsay Laing perform Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon.



Dream girls

Murranda McCallum skates in Dream Girls



Finale

Anita Rastapkevicius and Tara Wilson skate together in the finale.



Solo

Shelby Pyka performs her solo.



West Side Story

Lucille Gowan, Mackenzie Fink, Jennifer Long, Samantha Fletcher, Sean Ricker, Chantel DaSilva, Paige Gowan, Agnes Gowan perform West Side Story.



Havana Nights

Right to left: Kelsey Vandenberg, Nicole Pelcz, Amy Oliveira, Candice Conway, Kelsey Conway, Alicia Oliveira, Jenica Slaats.



Madagascar

Khloe Beer, Ryan Fink, Marcia Pelcz perform in Madagascar.

WEST LORNE W.I. 2006

- January - We held a pot luck lunch, then watched a video of the Mounties musical ride.
- February 5 - We hosted the Winter Picnic, with Clathan at the Anglican hall.
- Mar - Olive Chambers and Shirley Walker are to represent the W. I. on Heritage Board
- May - We met at the West Elgin Health Centre
- donated to second stage housing. and
- Rick Hansen Man in Motion.
Peggy Wheeler was our guest speaker.
- June - We toured the Qylmer Police College then
- lunched at the Green Frog.
- September - Held a pot luck lunch, guest speaker Sue Gregory, a nurse with Care Partners
- donated bird house, made by Angus McLain to Rodney Fair and Daffodil Aux for golf tour.
- Oct 5 - London Area Convention in Thorndale.
- Shirley Walker + Leola Lawrence attended Tweedsmuir
- The Rev. Andy Kaups spoke of his life growing up in Estonia and Sweden. He is retiring from the West Lorne Baptist Church
- November - Met at the Health Centre.
- Guest Speaker Glorah Fleming. She is employed by the Abused Women's Shelter
- we donated items for the shelter
- December - We met at the home of Helen Mooser for our Christmas Party. A delicious pot luck was enjoyed by all.

WEST LORNE W.I. 2007

2007-2008 Executives

WEST LORNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

2007-2008



Honorary President : Mary Liepmann
 President : Shirely Walker
 Vice President : Gwen McLain
 Secretary : Anita VanRaes
 Treasurer: Mary Liepmann
 Tweedsmuir History : Fran Graham, Leola Lawrence
 District Convenor: Leola Lawrence
 Rose Program : Mary Liepmann
 P.R.O.: Mary Lippold
 Pianst : Shirley Walker
 Sunshine Commitee: Mary Liepmann, Gwen McLain
 Auditor : Leola Lawrence , Bob Walker
 Program Co-Ordinators : Mary Liepmann, Mary Lippold, Shirely Walker, Anita VanRaes, Gwen McLain, Leola Lawrence

Meetings 1st Tuesday of the Month

1:30 PM

West Lorne Town Complex

MEMBERS

Olive Chambers :519- 762-6022
 Donna Driver : 519-768-2614
 Fran Graham : 519-768-1798
 Dorothy Japoc: 519-768-1506
 Myrtle Joyce: 519-768-2757
 Leola Lawrence:519- 768-1526
 Mary Liepmann : 519-768-1224
 Mary Lippold : 519-768-1244
 Gwen Mclain : 519-768-0787
 Twila McWilliam :519- 785-078
 Anita VanRaes : 519-768-1819
 Shirley Walker :519- 768-1095

MEETINGS FOR 2007-2008

| | |
|--|-----------|
| SEPTEMBER 4: Organization meeting | VOLUNTEER |
| Motto: The life you live is the motto you teach. | HOURS: |
| Roll Call: Where did you go in the suumer. | |
| Program: All members | |
| <hr/> | |
| OCTOBER 2 - Local History | VOLUNTEER |
| Roll Call: Bring an item from the past. | HOURS: |
| Motto: He who forgets the past loses the key to the future.. | |
| Program: Shirley Walker, Twilla McWilliams, Dorothy Japoc | |
| <hr/> | |
| NOVEMBER 6- Rose Program | VOLUNTEER |
| Motto: Never too old to learn. | HOURS: |
| Roll Call: 1st hard cover book you read as a child. | |
| Program: Mary Liepmann & Anita VanRaes <i>Article - women's shelter.</i> | |
| <hr/> | |
| DECEMBER 4 - Christmas Party. | |
| <hr/> | |
| JANUARY 8: 95th W1 Anniversary | VOLUNTEER |
| Roll Call: Memories of your 1st W1 Meeting. | HOURS: |
| Motto: Value the past appreciate the present, anticipate the future. | |

April - donated to Heritage Home
 14 - Cancer Tea at Bobier
 May 26 - 100 W.I. Anniversary
 in St Thomas.

- District Annual held
 in Wallacetown - pot luck
 - Toured the De Kort Goat farm - very interesting
 - Wallacetown W.I. celebrating 95 years - We gave
 them a plaque.

June - We went to the Mandarin in London for our
 yearly outing.

Sept - Centennial Celebration - Our Institute
 served the cakes in the complex. The cakes
 were made by Mary Liepmann & decorated
 by Leola Lawrence.

Oct - Alice Patterson spoke on the Backus Page Home

Nov - Julie & Wentworth Newman spoke on Jamaica

Dec - We held a pot luck lunch, exchanged secret pal
 gifts and had a sing song.

Newmans share stories of Jamaica

The November meet-
 ing of the West Lorne
 Woman's Institute was
 held at the West Elgin
 Community Complex
 recently.

Mary Liepmann introduced the guest
 speakers Julie and Wentworth Newman
 who gave an interesting program on
 schools in Jamaica.

They have collected a great amount
 of books and supplies and shipped them
 to a school they have visited.

Julie thanked all the people who have

**WEST LORNE
 WOMAN'S INSTITUTE
 NEWS**

contributed.
 They showed a film of
 the town that Wentworth
 grew up in before com-
 ing to Canada.

The meeting followed with minutes
 read and approved and a treasurer's
 report.

A wreath was to be laid at the West
 Lorne Cenotaph Nov. 11. A lunch was
 served by Mary Liepmann and Anita
 Van Raeyes.

A pot luck lunch is planned for our
 Christmas party Dec. 4.

Nov 15/07

WEST LORNE W.I. 2007

Parade Labour Day
West Lorne 100 Anniver.



BANNER MADE BY
LEOLA LAWRENCE &
JANICE LAWRENCE



ANGUS MCIAIN, PRESIDENT OF
KIWANIAN'S



L-R - MARY LIEPMANN
DAUGHTER ANITA VANRAES
LEOLA LAWRENCE, DAUGHTER
JANICE LAWRENCE. WE WALKED
THE PARADE ROUTE PASSING OUT
CANDY.

