



Mission Statement

Women of all ages who achieve change through personal growth, communication and education.

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Home & Country

Fall Issue

August-September 2023

President's Message

Linda Toews, AWI President



During the last triennium many changes have been seen in our lives. We have lived through an unprecedented time of pandemic engendering a wide mix of emotions like fear, unknowing, sorrow and relief. Just as we now look back on the Spanish flu epidemic of over a century ago, so too will future generations look back on this time and tell us we made history. It is too soon yet to tell exactly what history we made in these last few years, and it is always different looking back on it from actually living it. Future generations will let us know where we were right and where we made mistakes but when life is happening one is not aware of good choices and poor; one is only aware that one is trying one's best to live through the events and help oneself and loved ones, and the greater community.

In the past few years our activities dwindled to nothing. People were isolated in their homes watching the TV or listening to the radio eager for the latest news. Although we couldn't go out and visit each other in our homes or communities in those early days, people came up with ingenious ways to let those isolated people know they weren't alone. We saw drive-by parades to celebrate birthday and special events, meals and other items showing up on doorsteps, and

numerous other ingenious methods of communicating and helping each other. In Alberta some of our WI Branches and members participated in some of these activities, as well as other ways to provide care and support to other members and to people in the community. It was heartwarming to see how our ladies – and our communities – pulled together.

Our lives have changed considerably since the pandemic has waned. We are able to take up some of the things we used to do pre-pandemic and continue them as if they had never changed. Still others, however, are gone forever. For the most part, meetings have started up again and members are able to continue where they left off. Some of the things we used to do to help out in the community and to raise funds to help out more in the community are no longer available activities. To continue to support each other and our communities, we need to find new ways to generate funds, and new ways to help out.

Many of us have a new appreciation for life and what is important in life. Globally, it seems, the consensus is that family is most important: family, friends, and community. It could be argued that WI members always knew this truth. We

have always supported our families, our friends, neighbours, and larger communities. It is really why WI came about in the first place. It is why WI members are always active, strong supporters of their communities. United we are strong and can move mountains. Not for nothing is our motto "For Home and Country."

This is why WI matters, and why we need to make sure we continue to support our local Branches, our provincial organization, and beyond. It's why we need to make sure others know about and support Women's Institutes. Let's work together to seek new ways to promote our wonderful organization, gain new members, and find funding to keep our organization strong and vibrant.

I'd like to borrow from a famous quote from US President John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural speech. "Ask not what WI can do for you; ask what *YOU* can do for WI."

I look forward to being your President for the next triennium and for what we can all do together for Women's Institutes, for our communities, our country, and beyond.

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The Alberta Women's Institutes (AWI) form an educational organization for rural and urban women. Our aims are to promote leadership among women, to encourage local community development, and to assist women both locally and globally. AWI is affiliated with the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) and Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW).

Home and Country is published three times a year. Deadline for submissions are February 1, July 1 and October 1.

Submitted articles should be no longer than 300 words in length and are subject to editing. Submissions may be screened by the Editorial Board.

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It was great to have another in-person Convention. It was so wonderful to see everyone in person again. The Hotel looked after us very well as always and provided tasty meals.

We participated in great discussions on resolutions, and a workshop on writing resolutions. We had some terrific speakers on a variety of topics, all of which were very well received and generated many questions. It was so informative to hear more about other great organisations that many of our Branches interact with and make donations towards.

And it wasn't all learning and working, either. We had a great evening of camaraderie with our 'game night.' We were regaled with a report and stories about the ACWW

Convention Report Submitted by Linda Toews

Convention in Malaysia and got to see photos of the amazing event held at the palace. We heard some wonderful stories about members' memories of and experience in WI.

We had two impressive – and very well-attended - workshops on Crocheting and Junk Journals, as well as a fascinating tour of local theatres.

We were able to enjoy seeing skillful handicraft entries and reading well-written creative writing entries.

Our Silent Auction and Jewelry/Scarf Swap raised funds to go towards our Travel Fund. Our 50/50 raffles and cash raffle helped raise funds for AWI – and put a little cash in lucky winners' pockets.

All in all it was a great few days. I am so glad to have been able to share them with such a great bunch of ladies!



Camrose Boys & Girls Club—Convention Report

Submitted by Colleen Bianchi

Remember this B & G Club is from Camrose not sure about other Alberta Clubs.

Grades 1-12 up to 30 years olds are involved in the Camrose Club which was founded in August 1989, they serve 204 children and youth. Five of the Camrose staff are former Club kids. Camrose in 2022 reduced or waived fees for 72 kids and youth. The clubs were established in Canada in 1929.

Core Values are: Belonging [We welcome everyone in a safe, accepting environment based on belonging and positive relations], Respect [We ensure that everyone – children, youth, families, volunteers and staff are heard, valued, and treated fairly], Encouragement and Support [We encourage and support every child and youth to play, learn, and grow to achieve their dreams], Working Together [We work together with young people, families, volunteers, our communities and government], Speak Out [We speak out for children, youth, families so that we can make our world better].

Signature Programs are: "Kids Way"—After school program for grades 1 to 5; Monday -Thursday 3 to 5:30 pm daily and offers transportation to the Club; "Youth Mentor"—Leadership and Mentor Program for youth grades 6 to 8, offers mentorship, training/leadership opportunities, participate in special activities and given opportunities to celebrate success; "Summer Adventures"—Summer Program for grades K to 8, there are theme weeks/'Fun Fridays'; "Keystone" — Youth Leadership Program for grades 9 to 12: concentrates on these 5 key areas (Leadership, Teamwork, Healthy

Choices, Service to Club and Community, Learning for Life); "Volunteer"—Volunteer Program for youth grades 9 to 12. This program starts in 9th grade and continues through adulthood, wide variety of volunteer opportunities and training, promotes personal development and growth, gives a sense of belonging and purpose, builds confidence, provides valuable experience and helps to expand resumes, contributes to enhanced services for our members.

Camrose Signature Programs have 39 youth on 'waiting lists'.

The Club knows that Music makes a difference in children. The Boys/Girls Club gives leadership skills and responsibilities. Activities give sports 'skills'.

There are other programs, activities, and services offered as needs are identified and/or opportunities become available. There are Home Learning Respite and Support, Peer Support Groups, Music Therapy, support Mental Wellness, Rural Fridays in Summer Adventures and a Mine craft Virtual Club.

Four Key Areas—Positive Relations, Healthy Living, Lifelong Learning, Leadership; is what the programs are geared for.

Camrose does a

"haunted house" for fundraising. There are only two employees which right now are a Mr./Mrs. pair. The Club has a waiting list, space is always an issue, no funds, and being able to deal with staffing.

They do surveys and their results are strong indicators that they are achieving their Primary Purpose. Camrose Boys/Girls Club knows that they make a difference and Camrose Community is also very aware.



Faye Mayberry received the FWIC WI Canada Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Woman of the Year Award for 2022
Congratulations Faye Mayberry!

Earl & Debbie Hagman Greg & William Hagman

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Stony Plain WI June Gathering



Stony Plain WI held their June Gathering at Karen Adlem's property west of Stony Plain.



Had a great turnout from district 2 at the June Convention. was great to get together in person.

Most Branches are not holding meetings during the summer but Darwell, Duffield and Stony Plain

continue to meet up for Ladies who Lunch and Stony Plain is hosting a Loonie Bingo night at a local seniors residence in July.

In August Stony Plain will be preparing a meal at Ronald Macdonald House in Edmonton for the families staying there.

Have a great summer everyone!

District 2 Report Submitted by Ina Webster

Thank You!

Donor Recognition Program

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BEAUMONT & DISTRICT AG SOCIETY
COLLEEN BIANCHI
DIANNE CAMPBELL
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Creative Writing —Convention Report

Submitted by Linda Toews

Once again, we had high quality entries for our 2023 Creative Writing Contest.

We had six entries in three different categories. There were two entries in each of Non-Fiction – Memoir, Non-Fiction – Travel Story and Non-Fiction – Essay.

It's always such a pleasure to read the well-written entries that our Women's Institutes members send in. Congratulations to the winners and special congratulations to our Overall Winner, Anne Teeuwsen from Half Way Grove WI. Anne won for her Travel Story – "A Camping Trip With the Girl Guides."

I encourage all of you to start now

on your entries for the 2024 Creative Writing Contest.

2nd Anne Teeuwsen, Half Way Grove

Overall Winner
Anne Teeuwsen, Half Way Grove

CREATIVE WRITING WINNERS 2023

Non-Fiction Article 1000-3000 words: Memoir

1st Anne Teeuwsen, Half Way Grove

1st Elizabeth Rushton, Stony Plain

Non-Fiction Article 1000-3000 words: Travel Story

1st Anne Teeuwsen, Half Way Grove

2nd Diane Dammann, Argyle

Non-Fiction Article 1000-3000 words: Essay

1st Mary Leighton, Half-Way Grove



Junk Journals—Report from Convention

Submitted by Diane Dammann

I didn't know what to expect for a junk journal. Was it a collection of bottle caps, matchbook covers, dog hair? It was none of the above but it could be. We started with a 10 x 13 envelope, folded in half.

This we covered with a decorative paper. For the inside we made pages of construction paper to which we then added decorations, or sticky notes, or envelopes. We now had a booklet or journal that we could use for all matter of junk. Mine is going to sort out my used stamps before I send them to OXFAM.



The result of the Junk Journal Pre-Convention Workshop at the 2023 AWI Provincial Convention was held on Monday night. The other workshop topics were Cro-Hooking and Resolutions.



Carol Brown receives recognition for her entries to ACWW Contest for Tea Tray Cloth and Shoe Bag. There were many entries from around the world, well done! Congratulations Carol!

District 3 Report

Submitted by Yvonne Erickson



Camrose 2023, AGM, was my final function as D3D. I was presented with a card and gift, a hummingbird brooch, for my dedication to

District from my Branches, Argyle, Halfway Grove, Heather Brae, Ridgewood and Round Hill. I love it and will cherish my memories from all of you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Round Hill celebration of its 105 the anniversary was June 25. Guests were Past Presidents Diane Dammann, Faye Mayberry, and President Elect Marilyn

Wattenbarger. It was very well attended by members' families present and past.

Martha Early Bawden volunteered to fill D3D position at this time. Welcome Martha!

I texted all Branches, had no reply from any, if they had any news to report for Summer issue of the Home and Country. Let's hope the rain continues so we have good crops in all of Alberta as we feed a lot of people. Let's celebrate summer, have an awesome one folks!



Health Report—From Convention

Submitted by Yvonne Erickson

These were the following topics that were in display in Camrose at the AWI 2023 Provincial Convention.

Heart Health in Women, submitted by Creighton WI, District 2

Why heart health is different for women because women tend to put the needs of others first, experience heart attacks differently than men and face distinct risk factors depending on life stage. They are more vulnerable to heart disease, says Dr. Sherry Rambihar, cardiologist at Toronto's Mackenzie Health.

Book called 'Feeling Seen' by Jody Carrington, PhD

Feeling Seen is a timely work with a timeless message. Written on a

blueprint of theory, with a road map and reconnection (including the simple stops) and a way back for when we get lost, it leads to a place where we will truly see—in ourselves as well in one another—our differences, our sorrows, and our joys.

New Beginnings

Sylvia Wold spoke on what AWI have done and their accomplishments. She spoke how 'Women's Right to Vote' was achieved then compared to 'women views' of today as they now have their own funds and are multi-taskers. She explained the Generations and how these women can be what AWI needs. Sylvia told us who we are and to consider 'New Beginnings' in order to rise to these. Justice for women has to be fought

for and change has happened as the struggle for equality is never going to end.

These are the KEY issues faced by women around the world.

Access to education, employment opportunities, reproductive health and rights, unplanned pregnancies, maternal health, gender-based violence, child marriages, FGM-female genital mutilation, water and sanitation, gender and inequitably school-work-socially.

Freedom of 'Speech', Freedom of 'Worship', Freedom to 'Educate', Freedom to 'Vote', Freedom of 'Movement', Freedom of 'Health and Sanitation', Freedom of 'Property and Ownership'.

District 4 Update

Submitted by
Colleen Bianchi



I sent out an email to update District Four - WI Branches and Associate Members on the 2023 Camrose

Convention. Members donated towards the Camrose Convention even without attending. In District Four nothing has changed since the beginning of 2023.

We are planning to meet in the summer. I think a couple members plan on attending the FWIC virtual meeting. WI Branches have met or have been in contact with each other.

I'm still calling and emailing to keep WI members informed and keep me in contact with members.



District 5 held their Annual Conference at Elnora Legion Hall on April 22, 2023 which was a resounding success. Hogadone WI was the host Branch with over 48 people in attendance. Guest Speakers were Peggy Johnson, "Rec-cycling, Land and Water use" and Michelle Sterling, "Residential Schools—unmarked or mass graves, Epidemic or Genocide" and both speakers were a great success, so much so that we are entertaining having them speak again at other functions we are planning. Greetings were brought to our Conference by Elnora's Deputy Mayor, Jul Bissel and Red Deer

Camrose Women's Shelter

Submitted by Yvonne Erickson

One of our guest speakers at Convention was Judi Beebe. Judi is a Social Worker, who has worked in the fields of Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence for over 45 years. She is presently a Family Violence Specialist with AHVNA (Alberta Home Visitation Network Association) providing training and support to individuals across the province who provide family support in individuals homes.

Judi worked at the Camrose Women's Shelter for twelve years as a Crises Counsellor, and as the Community Awareness Co-ordinator. She is presently the Board Chair of the Camrose Women's Shelter Society in Camrose, AB.

The Shelter has evolved through the years as the city of Camrose has grown, serving the community and surrounding areas as needed.

Judi has worn a variety of hats, at this moment works for Victims Services. She gave a dozen examples of abuse

and we tried to rate 1-12 for seriousness. She said they were all equally psychologically damaging to those victims involved. It was quite an eye opener! Judi said she could easily talk for days on both of these subjects. Both topics can be researched online for more precise information. These are serious family issues.

Our keynote speaker was Jackie Lovely, MLA Elect for the Camrose area, who spoke on how the Government of Alberta is focused on tackling systemic issues faced by Albertan women across our society, such as possible sexual harassment or assault. Bill 14 was introduced and passed to help those seeking justice be more confident in the system and ensure they are treated with respect. As well as, future judges' training which will be essential for survivors satisfaction with the system, the government has invested \$1 million to support survivors of sexual assault in rural areas, this includes funding for the Rural Sexual Assault Support Project.

District 5 Update

Submitted by Linda Mason

County Councilor, Philip Massier and Carol Brown provided a tribute display for Queen Elizabeth along with a fun fact game which everyone enjoyed partaking in. Many handicraft items made by our WI Members were displayed and the Silent Auction brought in immeasurably needed funds.

Hogadone WI has been busy this spring, attending meetings, AWI Conference, DNA Gardens as well as helping plan and host the District 5 Conference. I would like to thank all of their members for their hard work and time spent on helping make the conference such a resounding success!

Verdant Valley & Dorcas this past

spring have donated to the Salvation Army and baby items for the Hospital. They celebrated Founder's Day by inviting past members and their guests for a pot luck meal. Their members attended the District 5 Conference in April and I would like to give loads of thanks for all their help!

It is so wonderful seeing everyone in person again and I look forward to keeping in touch during my next term as District 5 Director. It is such a pleasure to receive all their monthly reports and reading about all the wonderful work they have been busy doing, holding many functions and raising funds to donate to many organizations in need of help.



Resolutions submitted by Linda Toews

We had great discussions on the three resolutions presented to Convention this year. The first two resolutions were passed by the assembled members with ease as there were speakers in favour but no speakers against. There was some lively discussion on the third resolution regarding cursive writing and many good points were raised as to adding or not adding it back in to the curriculum. In the end, it, too, was passed as more members were of the opinion that it needed to continue being taught. You may be interested to know that other provincial

jurisdictions are, in fact, adding cursive writing back into their school curricula.

Here are the resolutions that passed.

Resolution 1: BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Women's Institutes urge the Government of Canada to remove the "gold-digger clause," Section 31(1), from the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act to allow the spouse of a Canadian Armed Forces retiree marrying after 60 to be eligible for Survivor's benefits without reducing the amount of superannuation payment to the retiree.

Resolution 2: BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Women's Institutes petition the Alberta Government, and in particular, the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General, and Alberta Premier, to maintain support of the 62 Victim Support Units currently in the province, and any future local units.

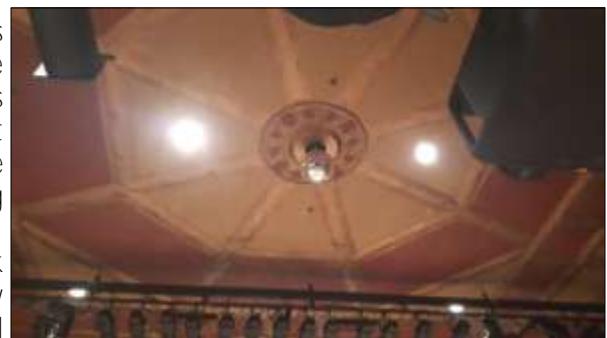
Resolution 3: BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Women's Institutes urge the Alberta government to reinstate cursive writing into the Department of Education curriculum for grades 3-5.

The Resolutions Committee will be following up with the applicable provincial and federal governments.

Pre-Convention Tour#1 Submitted by Odette Dionne, Argyle WI



general and also offers its theatre hall at an affordable price that encourages fundraising for different groups of presenters while the patrons are enjoying great performances. Tour#1 also took us back in time via the Bailey Theatre built in 1911, and then called the David



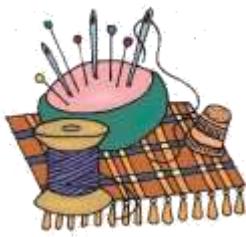
Theatre always had a great part to play in my life. Theatre people were my family when I came to Edmonton 46 years ago. Tour #1 brought 5 participants to Augustana U of A Campus to the Jeanne and Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre which was built in 2013. It hosts the Cargill Theatre with all its modern LED light systems; it plays a vital role in the community and the Mayer Family Community Hall for non-theatrical events.

The Centre encourages arts in



Theatre. It was sold to Stan Bailey in 1912. Only in 1921 when the front lobby was built that it became the Bailey Theatre. It is now a non-profit theatre. We can still admire the rows of spotlights, the original decorative tin wall and ceiling coverings. An exterior brick wall proudly evokes the past in the back of the stage. One of the dressing rooms hidden underneath the stage unveils the past on a framed wall where actors left their marks by signing their names and dates. Not

(Continued on page 9)



Handicraft Report

Submitted by Marilyn Wattenbarger

on June 4-7, 2023. The Handicraft competition was held at Camrose, AB. The number of articles entered to be judged was down this year; from 228 to 166. Thank you to all who entered. The quality of these items was exceptional as in previous years. Following are the standings:

Knitting:

- 1st Karin McCracken/Argyle
- 2nd Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters
- 3rd Sharon Molzan/Stony Plain

Crochet:

- 1st Ruth Twerdun/Roundhill
- 2nd Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters

Sewing:

- 1st Grace Scheffelmair/Ridgewood
- 2nd Martha Early/Roundhill
- 3rd Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood

Quilting:

- 1st Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood

2nd Grace Scheffelmair/Ridgewood
3rd Martha Early/Roundhill

Stitchery:

- 1st Denise Campbell/Roundhill
- 2nd Elizabeth Rushton/Stony Plain
- 3rd Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters

Felting:

- 1st Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters
- 2nd Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood

General Handicrafts:

- 1st Randy Wickstrom/Argyle
- 2nd Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters
- 3rd Ruth Twerdun/Roundhill
- 3rd Elizabeth Rushton/Stony Plain

Over 70:

- 1st Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood
- 2nd Ruth Twerdun/Roundhill
- 3rd Martha Early/Roundhill

Over 80:

- 1st Mable Hunter/Stony Plain
- 2nd Sharon Molzan/Stony Plain
- 3rd Grace Scheffelmair/Ridgewood

Photography:

- 1st Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood
- 2nd Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters
- 3rd Lena Toews/Wildrose Go Getters

Artwork:

- 1st Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood
- 2nd Diane Campbell/Roundhill
- 3rd Denise Campbell/Roundhill

Myrtle (Olsen Roberts) Heyer
doily: Ruth Twerdun/Roundhill

Branch Standings:

- 1st Ridgewood 61.0
- 2nd Wildrose Go Getters 30.1
- 3rd Stony Plain 5.35
- 4th Roundhill 5.0
- 5th Argyle 4.71

Outstanding:

- Knitting: Karin McCracken/Argyle
- Crochet: Ruth Twerdun/Roundhill
- Sewing: Grace Scheffelmair/Ridgewood
- Quilting: Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood
- Stitchery: Denise Campbell/Roundhill
- Felting: Linda Toews/Wildrose Go Getters
- General Handicrafts: Ruth Twerdun/Roundhill
- Over 70: Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood
- Over 80: Mable Hunter/Stony Plain
- Photography: Dena Toews/Wildrose Go Getters
- Artwork: Marilyn Wattenbarger/Ridgewood

Congratulations to all who entered and to the winners of each category. In some cases, it was a difficult decision for the judges to pick an outstanding article. Keep up the excellent work and I encourage everyone to enter a category. Thank you all for your support.

Pre-Convention Tour#1 **cont'd**

(Continued from page 8)

always clearly visible, but it's there, bringing back those ghostly memories, the graffiti of the time, and even the drawing of...a bottle of gin. Who said a picture is worth a thousand words? There you go and let your

imagination wander. Follow their events on their website: baileytheatre.com.

The Spotlight Bistro is a small friendly bistro at the Bailey Theatre and was displaying quilted arts at the time of our visit, worth seeing.





Provincial Office Report submitted by Bernadette Logozar

There are a number of fundraising opportunities as always at the AWI Provincial Convention, and this year was no different. We held the cash raffle, as well as 50/50 raffles with drawings on Tuesday and Wednesday. Alongside the raffles, there was the annual Jewelry & Scarf Swap, Live Silent Auction and Sales Table.

The results are in and the financial reporting all submitted to AGLC, so things are nicely buttoned up. Cash raffle results are as follows: Gross revenue was \$4310 (862 tickets sold). Thank you to everyone who sold their tickets and asked for more! And of course thank you to those who also returned their tickets (sold and unsold) to the Provincial Office.

After prizes (\$1,000) and other expenses (\$250) taken out, our profit or net revenue is \$3060! The 'other expenses' include printing and mailing costs. Excellent work everyone! This is so much better than last year, there were only 138 tickets unsold/not returned to the office (value is \$690). I should mention that of the cash raffle sales, \$1,810(362 tickets) worth of tickets were sold on site at Convention!

50/50 Raffles – We held two 50/50 cash raffles at Convention with drawings on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Tuesday 50/50 raffle brought in a total of \$128, with a prize of \$64. The Wednesday 50/50 raffle brought in a total of \$186, with a prize of \$93. Congratulations to our prize winners, Merla Richards (Stony Plain) and Diane Smith (Berwyn).

The Live Silent Auction brought in a bit less this year than last year, but it was still a healthy contribution, with over 60 items to bid on, there was a

lot of activity! The silent auction brought in \$792 that will go towards the AWI Travel Funds. Thank you to all who donated items to the auction and those who made bids. We did not run an online silent auction during Convention this year.

Rural Women Empowerment Fund formerly Pennies for Friendship collections were set up during meal times, and we were able to collect \$133.25 in funds to send to ACWW. Thank you ladies!

Jewelry & Scarf Swap: this was another active site at Convention. Thank you all who contributed to the wares made available at this location. The Jewelry & Scarf swap generated \$114.50; proceeds go to support the ACWW/FWIC Travel Fund. An additional \$31 was donated during the Convention towards the Travel fund bringing this year's Convention collection for the Travel Fund to \$145.50.

The Sales Table had nice activity this year as well. We sold \$319.50 worth of items. This is our gross

revenue that was brought in not the net profit.

Mae Deans spoke about updating the President's Panel at our 2022 Convention, in 2022 we collected \$88 towards the panel, this year were able to add an additional \$58 towards this project, raising that grand total to \$146, bringing us almost 60% towards reaching our goal of \$250 with only \$104 to meeting our goal. The funds collected this year were from direct contributions as well as the Thimble Collection activity, with a jar of thimbles donated by Diane Smith, and the creative get to know you game run by Diane Dammann.

Thank you to all those who manned the different 'action' areas throughout Convention, I sincerely appreciate all your efforts and your attention to detail and excellent record keeping made tabulating all the results very seamless! And with one more in person Convention under my belt, I can admit that I feel like I just might be getting the hang of things.

New Alberta Rep. to FWIC submitted by Donna Henderson

My name is Donna Henderson and I thank you all for choosing me to be your Representative to FWIC.

My first event came on July 11th for the FWIC AGM where my term began.

I am looking forward to connecting and sharing what FWIC can offer Alberta WI and how Alberta WI can contribute to our National organization.

I'm interested to know how many of our members get and read "WI Connections".

And finally, it's never too early to

start planning
your trip
to Truro,
Nova Scotia,
September
2024. FWIC
Conference.





FWIC Report from Provincial Rep.

Submitted by Linda Mason, Past Provincial Rep



FWIC BOOK CLUB: The Book Club will continue in September. More details will be available in the fall.

EBOOK: Reminder that the FWIC E book is available for purchase from the FWIC online store.

FWIC AGM: was held as a hybrid event on July 11, 2023. Cost will be a donation to FWIC (donations of \$20 and above will receive a charitable tax receipt). Lunch will be \$15.

ONLINE AUCTION: FWIC will hold its second online auction from Oct 10 to Nov 14th. Auction items are to be a minimum of \$25 and each province is invited to contribute a minimum of three items. A picture and description of the items are to be

sent to Lynn at president-elect@fwic.ca.

FWIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: The Communication Committee is looking for three volunteers to help with the website, liaising with the provinces and working on promoting resolutions. This would be about four hours per month.

NATIONAL CONVENTION PIN 2024: Reminder of the competition that is being held to create a Convention pin to commemorate the 23rd national Convention. Entries should be emailed to info@fwic.ca or mailed to the National Office. Entries will close on January 1, 2024. The winner of the

design will receive free registration for the national conference in Nova Scotia.

DONATIONS: President Margaret Byl would like to receive information on the amount and types of donations that are made by provinces and Branches. Please send to info@fwic.ca.

WI Connections: Reminder that submissions from Branches and members are encouraged from each province. Please submit them by the 20th of each month to angela.beth.scott@fwic.ca.

Looking Back — Past Resolutions

Collected & Submitted by Elizabeth Rushton

Editor's Note: At Convention, Elizabeth & I had a conversation about past resolutions and how these are interesting to look at through today's lens. As well as to see how we got to where we are today. Here are some that Elizabeth has collected and sent along. Enjoy!

1922 – BE IT RESOLVED that the Women's Institutes of Alberta urge upon the Minister of Justice the enactment of legislation providing for the abolition of capital punishment and the substitution of more adequate public safeguards.

1930 – BE IT RESOLVED that we ask the Federal Government to expedite the work of producing a distinctly National Flag.

1931 – BE IT RESOLVED that October 1st be called 'Alberta Peony

Day'.

1931 – BE IT RESOLVED that May 18th be observed as Universal Peace Day in all schools.

1931 – BE IT RESOLVED that this Conference respectfully urge the Provincial Government the necessity for immediate restoration of Government aid for school library purposes and the desirability of administering Government aid to school libraries in accordance with modern practice and needs.

1937 – RESOLVED that a gavel be presented to each new Provincial President when she takes office. The gavel, with name and dates of office suitably placed thereon, to be her own property at the conclusion of her term of office.

1937 – WHEREAS under the present system of clearing the land of all brush and bush, the southern portion of the Province has become subject to drought;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we are in favour of legislation being enacted making it compulsory to leave at least ten acres of bush land on every quarter section, the same to be preferably in a strip on the north and west sides of the quarter; and in cases where the bush has been all cleared off, it shall be planted to a shelter belt.



Member Update

Thank you Elizabeth Rushton for sending in this update. Winnie Hammerlindl – for those of you who remember Winnie, she is now 105 years old, unfortunately has dementia but is well looked after in a care home in Calgary, and still has a good appetite! From time to time she recognizes her family who visit her.

Elizabeth received this update from a lady she knows in Drayton Valley where Winnie lived for many years, was active in their WI and continued an Associate Member when she moved to Calgary to be nearer her family.



Wanted: Volunteer Editor for Home & Country: Interested?
Contact the Provincial Office for more information or submit resume.

Food for Thought

Submitted by Elizabeth Rushton

Have you ever wondered how many times you have said the Mary Stewart Collect over the years at Branch meetings, Constituency, District and Provincial Conventions and even a Federated Convention? You might be surprised! How often do different phrases come to mind in your daily life and perhaps even influence your words or actions? It can become part of your life – it certainly has for me.

Recently I was putting together my wishes for my final service and one part of it I always knew I wanted was to include the Mary Stewart Collect in the service and printed on the back of the handout folder for people to take home. As my daughters unfortunately are not WI members they would not know that unless I included it along with various hymns, readings and prayers I chose. If you haven't done that for your family, I recommend it as it can make things so much easier for them when that day comes, as it will for all of us.

The other request I made was for donations to go to Alberta Women's Institutes, FWIC or the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. I agree that organizations like the Cancer Society and many others are very worthy causes, but they can draw donations from many people, whereas Women's Institutes rely on donations from their members. Maybe consider including them in your will. Did you know that there is a plaque in the office with the names of those who have made a bequest to AWI?

Think about it!

Dates & Deadlines:

- *Book of Remembrance:* No deadline
- *Provincial Dues Deadline:* January 15
- *Spring Home & Country:* February 1
- *Creative Writing Deadline:* March 31
- *Resolutions Deadline:* March 31
- *Report Book Deadline:* April 1
- *Fall Home & Country:* July 1
- *Winter Home & Country:* October 1

