



NEWS & NOTES

May 2024

Monthly newsletter from President Linda Toews

Thank goodness for all the rain we recently had which knocked down the fires that were once again threatening homes and livelihoods. Although we still don't know what the rest of the year will bring, it has been rainy and much cooler for some time now. Our grass seems to have grown a foot almost overnight, and we will have to put the sheep on it soon. The lambs are already sneaking out of their pens to feast on it but so far they haven't made much of a dent. Once the ewes are out there it will disappear in a hurry. We are hoping to put them on grass just before Convention so there is less work to do while we are gone. Plus it saves a little hay for next year.

Let's hope that we get enough rain – at the right time, of course – that crops do well, livestock has plenty to eat, and the fires are kept at bay.

As always, feel free to contact me at any time at lindat4awi@gmail.com or 403-224-2881.

Upcoming Events

June 7&8 **AWI Convention, Norsemen Inn, Camrose**
Sept 17-19 **FWIC Convention, Truro, Nova Scotia**

AWI News *Convention*

The Convention is almost here, with some great speakers and great activities.

Resolutions

There will be no AWI resolutions brought forward to this Convention. We will, however, be discussing the 7 resolutions that will be presented at the FWIC Convention in September. We get 10 votes at the FWIC Convention, and we would like to get some direction from our members as to how you would like us to vote when these are discussed. Of course, there may be information brought up there that was not previously contemplated and which may totally change our perception of the resolution, but we would like to know our members' opinions, and perhaps there are thoughts that you have that we may wish to bring before the FWIC assembly.

Speakers

Friday morning we will be hearing from Kevin Machan, Union of Canadian Correctional Officers.

On Friday afternoon, Volunteer Archivist Mae Deans with Carol Muir will be presenting a session on archiving – what to keep, and how to keep it. Bring a document, photograph, or other memorabilia, and Mae and Carol will provide information, materials, and instruction on how to properly preserve it. This should be a fascinating session.

Our Saturday morning speaker was to have been on emergency preparedness. However, we are running into a bit of a problem with Camrose's Jaywalkers event to which local emergency workers are committed. We do try to have local speakers wherever possible to keep our costs down so we can keep convention costs as low as possible to members. So the speaker for Saturday morning will be on a different topic.

Activities

We have some great activities planned for the Convention, and for maximum enjoyment we are including additional information in this issue of News & Notes.

Jewellery Swap

We brought this back as so many people on the survey asked for it to continue. Bring your extra, unwanted, jewellery to Convention. If you bring some jewellery, you can trade it in for an item that someone else has brought. If you don't have any to bring, but would like to acquire some new-to-you jewellery, this is your chance! All proceeds to the ACWW/FWIC Travel Fund

Future Fashion

What do you think fashions in the future will look like? Will they be a throw back to previous fashions as seems to happen so often – the 20s perhaps? 60s? 70s? How about the middle ages? Or will they incorporate ideas no one has ever thought of before? You decide. And share it with all of us. Some of you have some great imaginations. There will be a People's Choice vote for this fun contest - \$1 per vote. All proceeds to the ACWW/FWIC Travel Fund. Can't wait to see what everyone comes up with!

High Falutin' Fashion

As part of the entertainment for the banquet, we will have a 'real' fashion show. Wear your fanciest outfit and model your outfit. You know how they do it in fashion shows or beauty contests – we've all seen enough on TV to know what that looks like. You will walk up on stage and "strut your stuff" to show off your beautiful outfit while our fashion MCs Mae Deans and Carol Muir will read off a description of your outfit that you will provide. You can write the description up ahead of time or once you get to Convention, just so long as it is ready to hand to the MCs before you go up and show off your fabulous attire. Make sure you start with your name so we all know who you are

before we learn all about your outfit, and be sure to demonstrate to us all the great points of your outfit and any accessories. If you need some help writing it up, be sure to see me, my daughter Alex, or Bernadette. Please let us know when you register if you will be participating in the fashion show. There will be a People's Choice vote for the most fabulous outfit - \$1 per vote. All proceeds to the ACWW/FWIC Travel Fund. Looking forward to seeing the fantastic outfits!!

Raffle Tickets

Remember to bring or send your cash raffle tickets, sold or unsold. We will sell any unsold tickets at Convention.

As usual, there will also be a 50/50 raffle on the first day of Convention.

Silent Auction Items

We ask each branch, Director and Constituency Convenor, as well as any member who would like to do so, to bring an item for the silent auction. Items should be at least \$10 in value. Money raised from the auction goes towards Convention expenses.

Coffee Breaks

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Round Hill WI for providing coffee supplies. Constituency Convenors and anyone else who would like to do so, please bring 2 dozen cookies or other treats to be put out at coffee breaks.

Table Centres

Another big thank you to Wild Rose Go Getters WI for providing the table centres for this year's Convention. Any branch who would like to provide the table centres for next year's Convention, please let me know.

If you haven't registered for Convention, there is still time to attend this annual event!

FWIC News



FWIC Triennial Convention, Sept 17, 18 & 19, 2024 in Truro, Nova Scotia

The theme is "Sailing into the future with a recipe for success!" Mark your calendars if you think you might like to attend. From May 1 to July 15, registration will be \$425. Rooms at the Inn on Price begin at \$164 plus 15% tax. There is an optional tour on the 20th. For more information, visit <https://www.fwic.ca/triennial-meeting>.

FWIC Contests Open to all WI members

FWIC has several contests which will be awarded at the FWIC Convention. Any Women's Institutes member can enter any of these contests: limit one entry per person per category. If you have an entry, they can be taken or sent. There are a number of AWI members going so one will likely be able to take and return your entry.

This triennium, the competitions are as follows:

Handicraft Competition Project: applique wall hanging in any medium, maximum size 30"x 42" (76.2cm x 106.68cm), by hand or machine, finished and ready to hang. The back must be visible for judging.

Cultural Competition: Project: "Your Memories of the Queen" – a short story of when the Queen visited your area. Maximum 6 typed and double-spaced pages in 12 pt. arial font. Pictures may be included.

History/Heritage Competition Project: Share a story of a family member or friend that was involved in a war: poem, song or short story. Length 300-1000 words, typed and double-spaced in 12 pt. arial font. Up to 2 pictures may be added.

Community Competition Project: Write an essay talking about a branch community project. Length 500-1000 words, typed, double-spaced in 12 pt. arial font. May include pictures.

Senator Cairine Wilson Competition (2021-2024) Topic: Empowered Woman – describe an empowered woman or someone who empowered others using an artistic medium. This could be an article in fabric, paint, sculpture, etc. Include a short description of the submission.

Past-President's Competition. For 2024 it is to contribute any item that can be sold at the Adelaide Hunter Homestead Store. There is no limit to the number of entries which will be judged by viewer's choice during the Convention. Prizes will be awarded in each of 3 categories: knitted or crocheted clothing for a child under 1 year; quilted table runner, under 40 inches long; set of two Christmas tree ornaments. Entries will be sold in the Store and not returned.

Good luck to all who enter.

For more information on entering, general rules, scoring, and awards, go to <https://www.fwic.ca/triennial-competitions>

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the AWI Convention!



PROUD MEMBER OF
ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

