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# NETWORK NEWS

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## **PRESIDENT**



Hello Everyone,

The days are getting crisp and the leaves are falling. Some of you have already had frosty temperatures and a dusting of snow. Those thoughts alone gave me a bit of a nudge in getting ready for the Melbourne Conference. I've registered both Dave and myself for the Conference and tours. Now we have to find a place to sleep and things will really take shape! I'm really looking forward to seeing Australia. It has been on our bucket list for a long time.

Have you thought anymore about our Single Use Plastics Campaign? I've bought stainless steel straws and bamboo spoons for when I'm eating out.

Dragon Lake WI said that they were going to give presenter gifts of reusable mesh vegetable bags, straws, and cutlery. I suggested adding cloth napkins. I think it is a gift that all of our branches could consider. Brenda has added interesting posts to FaceBook about bottled water, plastic trash on our shores and plastic trash clean up in our oceans. Take a look and add your own links.

The Board has taken under consideration the 5% processing fee for cashed cheques that are returned to branches and/or districts and made the decision to rescind this processing fee. We always appreciate the generous donations made by members, branches and districts and had not intended on causing any ill feelings. Thank you for your understanding.

We continue to hold monthly Skype meetings. If you would like to bring anything to our attention please email Betty at the office "Talk to us so we can talk to you".

Until next time  
Don't forget to be kind  
*Colleen Hooper, President*

## **OFFICE**



Hi Ladies,

Here we go again with another year!!

In August I sent out packages to all branch secretaries. This package included forms such as: Annual Report/Financial Statement, BCWI Invoice, In House Raffle information, branch information for the BCWI Website along with a few other items. A reminder again that all membership dues are to be sent into the Provincial Office by December 31 or prior, if not there is a \$5.00 per member late fee.

The BCWI Board is in the midst of arranging our next AGM in 2019, which will be a face to face meeting. All information for the AGM will be in our February/March Issue of the Network News.

Last AGM 2018 there was discussion with regards to a 5% processing fee for tax receipts issued. The Board has discussed and decided to rescind this processing fee.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding anything, do not hesitate to call or email me, I will do my best to help in anyway.

I of course once again looking forward to another great year and seeing everyone at our AGM 2019.

*Betty Bartlett, BCWI Office Administrator*





## VICE PRESIDENT

I always look forward to the summers but I equally look forward to autumn and winter because that is the time I can work on projects, including WI, that I have not had time to do in the summer.

Regarding the Plastic Campaign I hope you are all eager to get involved, there are so many ways to do so. Our Central Interior District is applying for a grant in which if we get it, we are going to purchase cloth bags and distribute them throughout our community. I have become so much more aware of the plastic problem since the start of the campaign. When walking I pick up plastic garbage and I have been writing (not on behalf of WI, but you could) to different companies regarding their uses of plastics, mostly wrappings. If I receive answers back I will display them at the AGM, so you can all see what has been said.

I am also very interested in following the Plastic Recycling process, where it goes and what happens to it. I will be doing a future article on that because I believe the more knowledge we have the better.

Also we have our first advertisement on our website! Janet Bangs has put an advertisement on for her Department Store. If you go to the site, just click on it and it will take you to the Store's Facebook page. I encourage you to let others know that this service is available. Businesses such as Travel Agencies, Home based ones, Crafts, Face products, are just some of the types that would benefit from exposure through WI. Contact Betty at the office for more information if you are interested in knowing more.

Hope you all are well and can finally be outside now the smoke has gone!

*Brenda Devauld*

## Amalgamation with Other Groups

We recently received a letter from a WI member asking about the possibilities of amalgamation with other groups because of the declining registration in many organizations. In the Handbook on page 7 it states, "If authorized by an extraordinary resolution, British Columbia Women's Institute may subscribe to, become a member of and cooperate with another society or association, whether incorporated or not, if all or some of its objects are similar to the objects of British Columbia Women's Institute."

This could probably be done on an informal or formal basis depending on the desires of branches and or districts.

*Brenda Devauld*

## PROVINCIAL HISTORIAN

It's time for me to check in, and report on what I have been doing as your Historian.

We were away travelling for most of July, but once we recovered from our road trip, I started on the many, many pictures I had accumulated both from what Doreen Haughton had gathered, and what had come to me since I accepted this position.

There have been pictures of all sizes, mostly black and white, but some more recent ones in colour, many of them originating from Provincial and National Conventions. Very few were identified! I have had many of these pictures at Provincial gatherings, but the problem is some of the photos are so old that there is no one remaining in the membership who knows those pictured there! And even the photos that date from the 1970's and 1980's are becoming difficult to identify. It was a frustrating time, until I decided I could only do my best and hope that would be good enough.

These pictures are now in two good sized binders and identified as best I can. On the other had, I am still going through them about once a week, since there are members in some of them who look so familiar, and every once in a while, I am able to recognize yet another one or two.

So, I have a request of anyone who is working with Women' Institute history or pictures: please, please write (gently) on the back of each picture the date it was taken, what the event was, and who the people in the picture are. It will make another Historian's job so incredibly much easier to handle! Why do I say to write gently? So that the picture is not marked in such a fashion that it shows on the front!

I have been fortunate to be able to see younger versions of many women I have met and worked with over my 50 plus years in the WI. I have been able to see the fashions change, the hats and gloves pass from use and see our members graduate from high heeled shoes to something much more comfortable! Keep up the good work, and if you have questions related to your Historian work, please feel free to ask me. If I cannot help you, I will say so, but I am learning as I go along, so perhaps I will be able to offer some assistance.

*Yours For Home and Country, Ruth Fenner, Provincial Historian, British Columbia Women's Institute*



## CAMPAIGN—CALL TO ACTION

Welcome back Ladies hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are ready to get back to work! We are hoping that Our “ Single Use Plastics Campaign” is going to go strong this year and all Branches will participate in some ways. The following are suggestions of activities that your Branch or District can do. This is just a guideline and of course if you find other ways to get the word out please share with us.

1. If doing a Raffle Basket a good idea would be to do the basket with the Campaign in mind. Fill with metal straws, reusable mugs, cloth napkins, reusable wraps for food, shopping bags, a book or pamphlet on recycling in your area and whatever else would be appropriate. Also Why not attach to the basket an information sheet on WI and what we hope to accomplish thru this campaign. There is a downloadable information sheet on the BCWI website that you can use if you choose.
2. Have speakers for your members or the public. Speakers could be someone explaining the local recycling programs, how to compost (which also helps cut back on what we throw away), or any other relevant topic.
3. Host workshops either for your members or open them up to the public. Some suggestions could be making shopping bags, mesh vegetable bags, making your own reusable foods wraps,
4. Watch some informative documentaries with your members. The more we learn about the problem the better we are able to do something about it. A good one is “ A Plastic Ocean”, which is available on Netflix:
5. Do a tour of your local Recycling Facilities so all of your members can see what is involved and are clear on what can be recycled.
6. Write to your local MP’s or your Provincial, Federal Governments.
7. Meet with a local restaurant and local grocery stores ask what they are doing about single use plastics, express your concerns.
8. Explore other Groups and websites to get ideas. Take part in other initiatives such as The Great Canadian Shore Cleanup. Encourage your members to be observant and pick up plastics that are thrown away.
9. For WI week/month in February do a write up of what your branch has done and get the message out to your community by a local newspaper, Community Facebook page, other Service Groups in your area, by whatever recourses you have available to you.

I want to compile a report on the Campaign for the 2019 AGM, so please send me your thoughts and comments. Do you agree with Campaigning in general, did you learn something, should we as a Provincial BCWI continue with campaigns, if so what suggestions are there for future campaigns? Did your Branch or District take part in this campaign and if so what did they do. If they didn’t why not? Email me at [devauldb@bcwi.ca](mailto:devauldb@bcwi.ca) or [brendadevauld@hotmail.com](mailto:brendadevauld@hotmail.com)

*Brenda Devauld, Vice-President*



## RESOLUTIONS

Absentee Foreign Investments of Agricultural Land to government. Letters went to the Premier, the Minister of Agriculture, and the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy. We received replies from Honourable Lana Popham and Honourable George Heyman.

Our letter was definitely read carefully. First, we know this because the minister uses several of our talking points including: affordability of farm land, foreign absentee investments, and preservation of agricultural land resource in her reply. Second, Minister Popham also outlined what she is actively engaged in doing, as her mandated priority in the revitalization of the ALR. Included in this was the Advisory 9 Member Committee tasked with holding public consultations. (Peace River District made a presentation to this committee last spring.)

Our point in sending our resolution to government was to seek legislation to give British Columbians the legal right to retain control of our food producing lands. The minister acknowledges that BC currently, does not have legislation regulating foreign ownership of farmland but she said that British Columbians have raised many issues in the consultation process, some regarding foreign ownership, and there is “significant support to ensure the Province continues to preserve the important agricultural land resource”.

I am cautiously optimistic, as the reply from the minister states that the committee is using this input to develop recommendations for the ALR and ALC, “including potential changes to the current legislative, regulatory and administrative framework”.

For members wishing to follow this issue I recommend reading Articles by Peter Mitham in Country Life in BC. Sept 2018 [ALR Report confirms agenda](#) and October 2018 [Local governments can’t undermine ALR rules](#). Mitham is reporting on the development of government agriculture policy. In the Sept issue he states that the preliminary report has” 17 specific recommendations... 13 for immediate legislative and regulatory change... and 4 steps that Victoria could take immediately to protect the land itself”. A final report is expected this fall.

*Norma Tilgner, Resolutions Chair*

Following the AGM, I reported my intention to forward the BCWI Resolution: Re

# Plan to Attend Our WI AGM and ACWW Conferences June 11 - 15, 2020 - The Shoal Centre in Sidney, BC

We want to see *you* there!  
Here are some ideas to help you save up



**SET UP AUTO TRANSFERS THRU YOUR BANK** - Open a savings account just for your WI travel fund. You can do this all online. If you save even \$25.00 a month, by the Fall of 2020 you will have \$500.00 (plus any interest you earn is a bonus!) And I bet you won't even notice the \$25.00 "missing", so to speak..

**MAKE A HOMEMADE PIGGY BANK** out of a box - tape it shut, cut a hole in the top and every Monday slip \$10.00 into it. \$520.00/year! (\$1.37/day)

## **RECYCLE BOTTLES:**

Stash any money from returned bottles into your special WI travel savings. It does double duty - you save money and you help the environment. WIN-WIN

**HAVE A GARAGE SALE**, downsize or use Craigslist or EBay for all those things you don't use anymore! Put the cash - you guessed it - into your WI travel fund.

## **INSTEAD OF:**

- \* Meeting a friend for coffee, have them over to your house, put \$5.00 into your savings.
- \* Inviting a friend *out* for lunch, invite them *over* for lunch - averages lunches out can cost \$15.00 with a tip. Slip *that* into your special savings.

**CLIP COUPONS** – don't forget to add the value to your savings

**TEAM WORK**- Get all the members in your WI branch to save together.

Hold a fundraiser for a branch travel fund- make it FUN!!

## **SAVE YOUR TWOONIES**

Empty your wallet and pockets of twoonies every day (or even just once a week) and you will be surprised how fast they add up!

**SACRIFICE:** Skip the ice cream cone or dessert when out to lunch– put \$5.00 into your savings. Another WIN-WIN - saving money and your waistline.



## “Women Inspiring Change”



What do think of the new logo “WI Canada”?

Many things happened at the FWIC Triennial held in Winnipeg July 2018. We have our very own Joan Holthe as the national president, a new logo, and a restructuring of the Board. I am now known as BCWI representative. The Provincial Presidents will still have input at some of the Skype meetings.

Did all the branches receive your new WI Canada table top flag? They were handed out in Winnipeg, I took flags for branches in my area and the rest were sent home with someone from your area that attended the Convention. If you have not received your flag please call me and all being well I will get you a flag.

WI Canada has t-shirts for sale. They are available from WI Canada office: [fwican@gmail.com](mailto:fwican@gmail.com)

See the enclosed brochure. It would be great if we could all wear one when South Vancouver Island hosts BCWI Triennial and Area Canada Conferences June 2020.

My highlight of the Convention: Three inspiring young women “Young People Who had Made a Change” Loissa Aquino – Peace of Mind 204, Praise Oluwafemi – Koats for Kids and Ayla Hamilton – Kids Helping Kids. These three girls gave such heartwarming speeches that touched the hearts of all the ladies. They said WI was an inspiration to them and they provided us with such hope for a younger generation to carry on our torch.

A question asked of the three girls was: “How would you recommend us to encourage you to join WI or create a youth organization”. These are their comments: Start with your own children and grandchildren; so much to learn from us, start a mentorship program for youth, treat youth as equals, show morals and values; show how to give back, never stop learning, never stop teaching; education is powerful.

I will keep you informed on how the new structure of the WI Canada Board will affect reporting from BCWI Provincial Conveners plus any other changes.

Resolution 1: regarding changes to the Constitution was only passed in part so I have my job cut out for me for the next triennial to help complete the revision.

Resolution 2: regarding Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead to be registered as a Charity under the Income Tax Act of Canada was passed by the majority.

Congratulations for placing in the WI Canada Competitions: Shirley Libby second with her re-cycled handbag and Tomi Wakabayashi third for the Past President’s competition.

If you have any questions regarding WI Canada please let me know and I will try my best to get answers.

*Jill Copes BCWI Representative*

## IN HOUSE RAFFLE



**Estelle Lefurgy—Ryder Lake WI**  
**Winner of a \$50.00 Canadian Tire Gift Card**  
**This Raffle raised \$150.00**  
**Next draw to be held—January 15, 2019**

## IN MEMORY

**Lucie Schaff—Coldstream WI**  
**Dorothy Leather—Cedar WI**  
**Gwendolyn Hazel (Cherry) -Gabriola WI**  
**Beatrice Elizabeth Meyer—Gabriola WI**





## WI Canada Polo Shirts

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# ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW)

**THE BIG NEWS** is that ACWW has now launched a new way to support projects that streamlines and yet broadens the scope of how we can support and help to empower women around the world.



It is called the WE Fund. WE stands for **Women Empowered**.

ACWW Societies, members and friends can now donate funds to one or more of the six **Priority Focus Areas** rather than trying to adopt or partially fund a specific project that might not be available and already funded.

This has limited our choices in the past.

When ACWW uses the donations to fund a project in the Priority Focus that you choose to support, you will be a part of the funding of that project **up front** and will receive regular updates and



The six Priority Focus Areas of the WE Fund are:

1. **Education & Capacity Building**
2. **Nutrition, Good Health and Wellbeing**
3. **Sustainable Agriculture Development**
4. **Income Generation & Livelihood**
5. **Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Energy**
6. **Maternal and Reproductive Health**



The amounts donated to the six pots that represent these six focus areas are continually updated on the ACWW website: [www.acww.org.uk](http://www.acww.org.uk), so that you can more easily decide which pot and focus you want to support. This will greatly increase our impact on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

From now on, when you send your donations to me to support our Canada Area Projects, I will be putting them towards focus area #4 **Income Generation & Livelihood**, unless you specify another pot.

It is your hard earned donation and so it will be your choice which focus pot or pots you wish to support!!

On behalf of ACWW I extend to you my greatest thanks for all donations, large and small, whether to Projects or Pennies for Friendship or Women Walk the World. I send a receipt for each and every donation that I receive.



We know that one of the most popular side activities of any Triennial Conference are the competitions that bring all our members together in celebrating their connection with ACWW, and of course give the opportunity to show off their craft or photographic talents.

For the 29th Triennial World Conference in Melbourne in April 2019, there will be two main competitions; the #WeAreACWW Photographic Competition, and the Tree Competition.

#WeAreACWW is the 'hashtag', or label, we use online to tag our posts on social media and forums, it unites our members and their interests and allows people to search the whole of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for posts that relate to ACWW. Some of you may remember that at the last conference in Warwick, we decorated large letters and presented them on the stage for all to see.

To enter the photographic competition, you will need to submit a photograph that meets the following requirements:

**Subject:** #WeAreACWW  
Any photo that features this hashtag and which demonstrates the relationship you or your society have with ACWW

**Format:** Must be your original work  
Image printed on plain, matt or glossy paper  
High resolution (at least 300dpi)  
Printed 6" x 4" (15cm x 10cm)  
OR  
Printed 10" x 8" (25cm x 20cm)

**Submit:** Bring to the Competitions stall in the Registration Area when you register, or as soon as possible thereafter.

## #WeAreACWW Competitions for Melbourne 2019



ACWW has always had a close relationship with trees. Whether it has been planting them as part of projects work, or the use of the 'tree of life' in older logos or promotional materials, the tree reflects us putting down roots, building a community and the renewal of the passing seasons.

Our second competition is to use the theme of trees in making a beautiful tissue holder for the tissue travel packs size 11cm x 5cm x 3cm (4,5" x 2,5" x 1,2")

Make a tissue holder for a purse depicting the theme of "Trees" using the technique of quilting. It can be done by hand or sewn with a machine.

Use 100% cotton fabric (quilter's weight cotton) if possible. Any other good quality fabric like linen can also be used. Make sure the fabric is colorfast and washable. Use good quality thread to compliment the finished article.

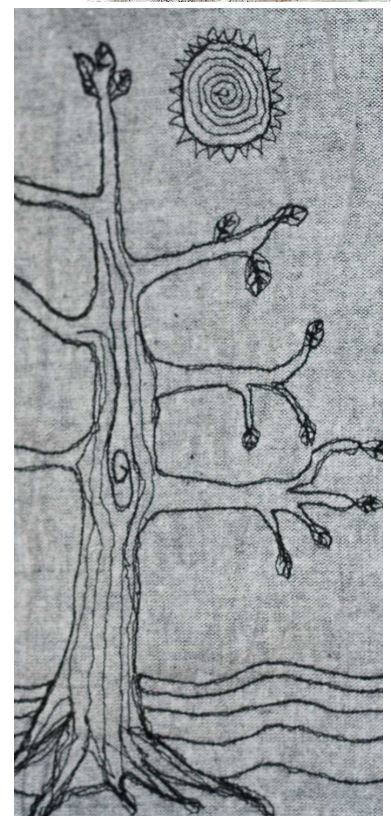
Fasteners like buttons or zippers may be used but it should be easy to open. The tissue holder should be lined. Be creative!

**Submit:** Bring to the Competitions stall in the Registration Area when you register, or as soon as possible thereafter.

For both competitions, please ensure that you remember to comply with the following:

- 1) You include your name, society and country on the back of the piece
- 2) You agree to allow ACWW free use of the image, or images of your artwork for promotion and publicity

We look forward to seeing your entries, and hope you will enjoy putting them together in time for April 2019!





## FWIC Competition Results at BC Level

Senator Cairine Wilson

Scrapbook with Journaling

Tomi Wakabayashi—Overlander WI

### Cultural

Recycle Handbag

Shirley Libby—Coldstream WI

### History

Which Famous Canadian Woman would you like to have dinner with and why?

“Beverly McLaughlin, Chief Justice”

Teri Lynn O’Donnell—Baldonnel WI



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**Save  
the  
Date**



### SAVE THE DATE

Associated Country Women of the World—

29th Triennial World Conference

Melbourne, Australia—April 4—10, 2019

BCWI Annual General Meeting

June 7 & 8, 2019

Chilliwack

BCWI 38th Triennial Convention

June 2020

Hosted by: South Vancouver Island District

**Save  
the  
Date**



**Save  
the  
Date**



**Save  
the  
Date**





# BRANCH NEWS



## COLDSTREAM WI

Before the “hazy days” of summer set in, we held our June meeting. We dealt with some business matters and did some planning. We also started sorting boxes of records that had been at a former member’s home. There were minutes, attendance and guest books as well as many photographs to organize. We knew there were gaps in our branch history. With “the boxes” we can now complete our long and unique history.

In the spring we donated to Variety Club; the money to go to the purchase of a van. The Kamloops Boys and Girls Club needed a 24 passenger bus. Along with our funds and those of other groups, their need has been fulfilled. We received a large photo of the bus and many happy children obscuring the donor names on the bus.

For our “Canada 150” project, we decided to have a granite bench made and installed at the Coldstream Cenotaph



Park. It was a long journey from Alberta and some challenges along the way. A plaque on the bench notes that CWI has been in existence since 1931. We received our charter on May 6 of that year. Our support and commitment to our community and Coldstream continues. The bench honours all CWI members past and present.

On September 11, we attended the funeral of one of our members, Lucie Schaff. She had been a member of Valley WI. When they folded she joined CWI. Lucie held several positions in the district. She often shared her knowledge and experiences with us. Lucie was devoted to her family, supported the Catholic Women’s League, and the Women’s Institute. Lucie was active in her church family. She will be missed.

We had our AGM on October 9. All positions were acclaimed. We hope you all have an interesting and fulfilling year, good times and good friends as we dedicate ourselves “For Home and Country”.

*Submitted by Shirley Libby*



## OVERLANDER WI

Where has our summer gone as it was a very smoky one here in Kamloops. Now it is October and we are busy planning for our ACWW Rural Women’s Tea. Hope everyone has tickets on the Provincial Raffle as it will be drawn on Oct. 29 at our Rural Tea at the Heffley Creek Hall.

In June our members had a tour of the Ted’s Trout Farm on the Bridge Lake Road Hwy 24. We saw the various stages of development from unfertilized eggs being sorted out to the channels where the swim-up, fry and fingerlings grow to the ponds where the fish get larger and to Campbell Lake where

the trout finished off. The family owned business has been supplying trout in fresh, frozen, smoked, whole and filleted form to local area consumers for over 25 years. The trout have been stocked abundantly in many small private lakes and ponds throughout the province.

In July four of our members went to WI Canada/FWIC convention in Winnipeg. Good conference and the speakers were excellent along with their entertainment at night with our meals. Manitoba WI certainly did a great job for all of us to be part of. We even had a bus tour of the International Peace Gardens.

In September we had our member Lynda Krupp speak to us about her trip to South America and cruise around Cape Horn. She had her trip chronicled by day with the daily activities and pictures of each day. Nothing like an arm chair cruise that all our members felt like they were on with all the adventures and shopping.

We have had our election of officers and Cathy Inskip will lead the Overlander WI again for another year.

As I often say, our WI Ladies are a very energetic group as this Fall we are going to have a Workshop to make cards, name tags and center pieces for our Rural Tea. In November we will be planning and having our Christmas Bake and Craft Sale on Nov. 24, 2018.

## FRASER RIVER DISTRICT

### RYDER LAKE WI

On April 4th, this was one of the many events that took place this year for the Ryder Lake Women’s Institute. The competition was initiated by Ann Shepherd and the winner of the Easter Bonnet hat was Sharon Hatten. Also on this evening the R.L.W.I. hosted a potluck dinner with the Atchelitz and South Sumas Institutes for the Joint Spring Conference.



The evening event finished off with a most interesting display of Peruvian textiles, photos and a talk by Carrie Hinterberger following her journey to Peru.

## KETTLE RIVER DISTRICT

Our fall workshop was an enjoyable day for all the ladies that attended. We started at 9am with coffee and muffins. This gave us time to bid on the silent auction items, the book and plant tables and to meet the members from four WI’s and a few new guests.



Jennifer Houghton from Grand Forks gave a very moving account of her experiences of having her home flooded in 2017 and again in 2018. She talked about being resilience in the face of disasters and

# BRANCH NEWS



then taught us deep breathing for stress relief. We were all impressed with her passionate talk. Sam Hall, a local food expert from Rock Creek, demonstrated how to make Samosas.

She uses butter in the pastry and fills them with potatoes, peas, onions and spices. She bakes them in an oven rather than deep frying. We all got to taste them at lunch time, complete with her home-



made pear chutney. She gave us the recipes to take home.

Lunch was a variety of home made soups, open face sandwiches and fantastic desserts.

Our local WI board member,



Norma Tilgner, gave a brief talk on her trip to Winnipeg and informed us that she is now the resolutions convenor and can help us with that.

After lunch, Pam Cousins of Angels N Stitches of Midway,

displayed her many wonderful creations in needlework. She never follows a pattern and invited us to learn some of the stitches that she uses. We were all impressed with her beautiful work. She had yarns and kits available to purchase.

We appreciated being funded the Victoria Salliss Legacy Fund. It is a wonderful opportunity and legacy that is available to WI groups. Everyone enjoyed the day.

*Submitted by Louise Fossen, Bridesville WI*



## PEACE RIVER DISTRICT

Patsy Nagel and Ruth Veiner overlook the prize winning fairy garden contributed by one of their members. Peace River District had a fun and informative fall rally hosted by Baldonnel WI on Oct. 6, 2018. Some events were a first aid demonstration and a centrepiece workshop using foliage and grasses.



Joan Holthe: FWIC/WI Canada President I would like to thank BCWI for their attendance and participation at the recent WI Canada convention this past July in Winnipeg. It was wonderful to have friends by my side to support me into this new and importance milestone in my life. I look forward to greeting you in my new position, but assure you that I am the same old Joan!

## BALDONNEL WI

Baldonnel has had a busy fall season. Collecting items for the fill a shoe box for the Ukrainian Church, hosting the district fall rally, and our Annual AGM meeting! We have collected a lot of items to fill the boxes and the rally was a lovely day spent learning new first aid techniques, a pot luck lunch showcasing the fancy pies as one of our competitions and a nice afternoon exploring



flower arranging techniques! Our AGM went smoothly and we all enjoyed the tradition of Chinese buffet before elections.

## S. VANCOUVER ISLAND DISTRICT CEDAR WI

Something special is happening in Cedar; maybe it's happening elsewhere, maybe everywhere, sort of like the theory of the 100th monkey. Although we're not dealing with monkeys here, we're talking about kids, and about the 94 year-old Cedar Women's Institute and Kids Save the World.

A brief explanation: A few years back, in 2014, a wonderfully community-spirited activist, a humble and sweet soul named Laurie Gourlay wrote an article about our Cedar group turning 90. The piece was published in the local magazine Take5,

online with Island Woman Magazine, and I'm pretty sure it also went National & International. At that time I was not a member of the Cedar WI, just tagging along when Laurie was the guest speaker at the SVIWI AGM, talking about water & food security for the Island. I would become a member soon after this. Laurie, the Love of my life and husband of 41 years, would pass away suddenly last year on November 14th. Our nephew Chris and his young family would come to live on our farm this spring, helping me in ways they will never understand or dream possible. One huge way - carrying on Laurie's legacy of championing community & the environment... in his own words *seeking local solutions to global challenges*. Meadow and Quinton took over their great-uncle's monthly column in the community magazine, now calling it 'Down on the Farm'. And have wasted no time in singing the praises of the Cedar WI. Here's a few excerpts from their newest submission:



*"The Earth does not belong to man. Man belongs to the Earth." ~ Chief Seattle*



# BRANCH NEWS



The world is changing. We think that some people have forgotten how we're all connected to the land and to one another. When we were living in Ontario, we got the idea to start a club, Kids Save the World. We built our own rain barrel to collect rainwater for our thirsty plants, which conserved water. Then we picked up litter around our neighbourhood, which helped keep the animals safe. After that, we raised monarch butterflies so that our plants could be pollinated...We shared our ideas with some of our friends who wanted to help out too... We felt like these things were making a difference in our community and it made us feel good inside as well!

When we moved to Vancouver Island, we wanted to keep Kids Save the World going, but weren't quite sure how. When we told our Aunt Jackie about what we had done back in Ontario, she leapt into action, phoning her friends from the Cedar Women's Institute. She had an idea! What if, we were able to sell fruit from our farm alongside the Women's Institute at the Crow and Gate Cedar Farmer's Market? We could sell things we grow on our farm to raise money for local school food programs.

The Cedar Women's Institute welcomed us with open arms, giving us our own side table. For the past six weeks, we've sold plums, pears, apples, garlic, wee apple pies, and even homemade dog biscuits. So far, we've raised over \$500! We like spending time at the market with the Women's Institute, getting to know people in our community and our parents like that we are practicing our math!

Our Aunt Jackie always says "Giving is contagious!" So, now it's your turn!

[then they gave 11 ways for kids to get involved], ending with their wee bio:

Quinton and Meadow live in Cedar on Thistledown Farm with their 13 pets, parents, and Great Aunt. This next generation dynamic duo are continuing their Great Uncle Laurie's legacy of seeking local solutions to global challenges.

With the state of our earth - the wars, the cruelty, the ignorance, along with the ever-present effects of global warming, I was always in awe of how Laurie remained so optimistic about the future. But these kids have started me thinking...and hoping. Maybe, just maybe kids WILL save the world.

*Submitted by Jackie Moad, Vice President, Cedar WI*

## COLWOOD WI

We have had a busy year fundraising in many ways, and along with our annual March garage sale, we were able to make donations to: Queen Alexandra "kids first" program, and BC Children's Hospital. We also sponsored the "spuds in tubs" program in our local elementary schools. Last spring, we also helped to sponsor a project initiated by a grade 3 class to plant a garden at their school.. We are continuing to support the BCWI call to end disposable plastics by working to craft some reusable fruit/veggie bags out of mesh material. We are also focusing on recruiting and retaining new members by offering a mini-series of evening fall/winter workshops based on the idea of "A Reason for Women to Get Together". We are going to explore the topic of "What do women of today need" at our first evening workshop. We are hoping to attract new members of all ages. We will also continue to host our regular monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm. Our current president is Linda Townsend. We look forward to a busy upcoming year!

*Submitted by Kim Coy*

## SALT SPRING ISLAND WI

WOW!!! The Salt Spring WI just completed our best year ever-735 pies sold whole or by the slice. 504 sold at Fall Fair (a rainy and cool event), 38 at Heritage Day, and 193 at a cool and wet Apple Festival. At our 3 pie bees we had



members, family, friends, Pathfinders and leaders, Scouts and leaders (helped lift boxes of apples). These day long events were full of laughter, sharing, teaching, singing, great food plus preparing fruit (apple peeling) and learning to make pies



on an assembly line. Our coordinators Connie Cudrak, Lisa Dahling and



Sharon Hawke once again did a stellar organizing job for all events. Next comes the dispersing of all monies raised to our yearly donations. We wish all a very Merry Christmas and a rewarding in every year ahead.

*Submitted by Margaret Reid*



(left) In Honour of Evelyn Lee's 100th Birthday the Salt Spring Island WI donated 6 fruit trees to the local community gardens

(Below) Celebrating Evelyn Lee's 100th Birthday at a meeting. 78 years a WI member on Salt Spring Island



## Provincial Calendar

January 15—Branch Convener Reports to District Convener  
February 15—District Convener Reports to Provincial Convener  
March 15—Provincial Convener Reports to FWIC &  
BC Provincial Convener Chair—Cathy Inskip  
April/May—District Spring Conferences/AGM  
July/August—Break from WI Activities  
August 31—Branch Financial Year End  
August 31—Erland Lee Award Application Deadline  
September/October/November—Branch Annual Meetings  
December 31—Membership Dues to Provincial Office

## Special UN Days

February 1—28—Women’s Institute Month  
February 27—Adelaide Hoodless Birthday  
March 8—International Women’s Day  
March 22—World Day for Water  
April 7—World Health Day  
April 29—ACWW Day  
May 15—International Day for Families  
May 21—UNESCO’s World Day for Cultural Development  
May 28—International Day of Action for Women’s Health  
June 1—International Children’s Day  
June 5—World Environment Day  
July 11—World Population Day  
3rd Tuesday in September—International Day of Peace  
September 8—International Literacy Day  
1st Monday in October—World Habitat Day  
1st Monday in October—Universal Children’s Day  
October 11—International Day of the Girl Child  
October 15—World Rural Women’s Day  
October 16—World Food Day  
October 17—World Trauma Day  
October 24—United Nations Day  
October 24—World Development Information Day  
October 24—30—Disarmament Week  
November 25—International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women  
December 1—World AIDS Day  
December 10—Human Rights Day

## BCWI Office—Sales Items

BCWI Handbook	\$10.00
<b>(handbook being revised)</b>	
History Book Set	\$30.00
<b>(add \$20.00 shipping for above set)</b>	
History Book	\$20.00
100 Women Book	\$15.00
Winning Ways	\$2.00
BCWI Business Cards	20/\$1.00
Mail Network News—4 Issues	\$10.00

## Sundry Items

Tartans	\$3.00
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## Pins

ACWW	\$6.00
FWIC	\$10.00
BCWI “collector” Centennial	\$3.00
BCWI Member	\$6.00
BCWI Logo	\$6.00
BCWI Branch Service	\$10.00
BCWI District Service	\$10.00
BCWI Provincial Service	\$10.00
BCWI Bar (plain)	\$5.00

## Stationery

WI Logo Sticker	\$1.50
WI Bumper Sticker (see below)	\$5.00



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