



A Christmas Message from your Provincial President

*On behalf of IODE Ontario, I feel privileged to be able to connect and express special greetings to the members of all primary chapters all across this wonderful province of ours. Aside from sending you the traditional but heartfelt wishes for **Christmas Joy, Love, Peace and Happiness to you and your loved ones.***

*I would like to let you know that **YOU** are appreciated and thanked most sincerely for your commitment as an IODE volunteer! **Because of you...Many:***

- * School children have something to eat through your work and donations to your local community school nutrition programs
- * Infants and children in the far northern Ontario communities are kept warm and clothed with your donations of booties, hoodies, sweaters and layettes
- * Children can read and enjoy stories through your chapter's literacy programs and donations of books
- * Canadian arts and literary achievements are encouraged through your contributions to the Education and *IODE Jean Throop Book Awards*
- * Needy students are able to attend school through the bursaries and scholarships that are supported through the donations to the IODE Lucy Morrison Memorial Fund for Education
- * Members of the OPP and First Responders are recognized for their dedication to their communities through your generous donation to the Citizenship Fund
- * Children are able to enjoy playground and sports equipment because of your contributions to IODE Ontario's 100th Anniversary's **Project Fun** and its phase two program, **Play it Forward**
- * Women's shelters and sexual assault victims centres are able to assist clients through your contributions
- * Boxes and boxes of clothing, footwear, toys and school supplies are packed and shipped throughout the year to remote northern Ontario communities and Labrador thanks your continued donations to the Services Footwear and Shipping Funds
- * PTSD-afflicted men and women are encouraged and given hope by your kind words and visits.

*In order to continue all our good works, to make a difference in the lives of others and to make our communities a better place, **thank you** for recognizing that we need to look after the sustainability of IODE by sharing IODE with others and helping grow our membership.*

*Thank you for your continued support of IODE Ontario and IODE Canada programs. I personally invite each of you to **YOUR** Provincial Annual Meeting on April 24th & 25th, 2020 at the Best Western Brantford Hotel & Conference Centre, Brantford, Ontario when **TOGETHER**, we will celebrate 100 years by "Honouring our Past and Embracing the Future".*

May 2020 be the start of a healthy, happy, peaceful and productive century for IODE Ontario members everywhere!

Best Wishes to you my IODE Sisters,

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HOLIDAY RECIPES

Start the holiday season off right with these simple, sure-to-please holiday treats. Enjoy!!

Cranberry Red Wine Sangria

Ingredients

- 1 750 ml bottle Malbec
- 4 cups cranberry juice
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 cup fresh cranberries
- 1 orange cut into thin slices
- 1 apple cored and sliced



Instructions

Combine liquid ingredients in pitcher. Add remaining ingredients. Chill for 4-6 hours or overnight. Stir well and pour into individual glasses over ice. Garnish as desired.



Candy Cane Fudge



Ingredients

- 2 (10 ounce) packages vanilla baking chips
- 1 1/2 cups crushed candy canes
- 1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 dash red or green food colouring
- 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract

Directions

1. Line an 8 inch square baking pan with aluminum foil. Grease the foil.
2. Combine the vanilla chips and sweetened condensed milk in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir frequently until almost melted, remove from the heat and continue to stir until smooth. When chips are completely melted, stir in the peppermint extract, food colouring and candy canes.
3. Spread evenly in the bottom of the prepared pan. Chill for 2 hours, then cut into squares.



HOLIDAY CRAFTS WITH THE GRANDKIDS

Paper Plate Snowman Garland

Here is a fun and easy way to keep the grandkids busy over the holiday! Great for fine motor-control and learning about shapes. Scissor-work can be done by you in advance for the very young kiddos. So grab a hot chocolate and away you go!!

For this craft, you'll need:

- * Paper plates (white)
- * Coloured paper (for eyes, nose, mouth)
- * Glue stick
- * Scissors
- * Hole punch
- * Yarn/String to hang garland

It's easy!!

Begin by cutting out the eyes, carrot nose and mouth. (Depending on the age of the child, you might wish to prep this bit yourself but if the child is up for it, have them practice their scissor skills!)

Create your snowman face on the paper plate. Glue into place when its just right!

Punch two holes near the top of each plate so that the yarn/string can run through and



Ta-da!! You have a Snowman Garland!



Let their creativity shine!!

For example, use glitter for a snow effect, buttons, buttons for eyes , yarn for mouth and carrot nose!!

Have fun!!



Looking for a Special Christmas Gift?

Can't find that 'Perfect Gift' for someone special??

Make a donation in their name to: **Play It Forward**

The focus of **Project Fun: Phase Two** is to provide play and/or sports equipment to schools in remote communities in Northern Ontario.

A **Play It Forward** donation is a great way to support children *and* teens at our Northern Ontario Adopted Schools! Tax receipts are given for all amounts over \$20.

Project Fun Phase Two: **Play It Forward**

With your continuing support, **Play It Forward** will be able to provide play and sports equipment for remote communities in Northern Ontario.

IODE _____ Chapter Members enclosed a donation of
\$ _____ to provide play and sports equipment for the youth in Northern Ontario
IODE Ontario's 100th Anniversary's Project Fun Phase Two: **Play It Forward**

President: _____ Email: _____

Please make Cheque payable to:

IODE Ontario
45 Frid Street, Suite 9
Hamilton ON L8P 4M3



Are your members missing out?

Do you know a member who is not receiving any email from IODE Ontario? Please take a minute at your next meeting to check with your members.

Email us at: iodeontario@gmail.com to report new email addresses and corrections.



Can I really keep this book?... forever?

For the IODE Walter Baker Chapter, its all about the joy of giving.

IODE Walter Baker Chapter presented "Own a Book, Share a Book" to grade 1 and 2 students at two Ottawa area schools. Each child received a hardcover book with an IODE bookplate inserted. The books were presented to the children in a red book bag with 'This Bag has a Story' and www.IODE.ca printed on the front. A copy of each child's book and numerous science books were also donated to the library.

Value of this project was \$4,000.

On receiving his book, one little boy stated "I can really keep this book? forever?"

Thank you ladies, for a job well done!!



(Left to right) Principal Karen McMorine, WBC member Linday Smiley, Carlingwood librarians Wendy Leak, school librarian, Wendy Kenney, and Clarissa Arthur, Executive Director - Education Foundation of Ottawa.

(Right) Janet Leak, Librarian at Carlingwood Library, reads the story "Not Your Typical Dragon" at the beginning of the "Own a Book, Share a Book" presentation.

Laughter filled the room!



YOUR IODE...



A great **BIG** IODE Ontario “Thank you” to Area Vice President, **Dr. Patricia Kresan** for taking some of our knitted donations to Labrador while traveling on personal business.

Dr. Kresan received a thank you note from Grade 3 teacher, **Diana Lawrence** along with a photo of her “marvellous Grade 3’s”

Thank you from Natuashish, Labrador:

“Good morning Dr. Patricia Kresan,

We received many wonderful gifts from you and the ladies of IODE. My students so enjoyed receiving them. They especially liked the hats as you can see from the photo. We want to thank you very much for your thoughtfulness.

You have mentioned in your note if there was anything else we would like in the future. My students said it would be nice to receive more hand knitted mittens and scarves from you.

Thank you again.

Take care. Thankfully,

Diana and the Marvelous Grade Threes”

...At work!



Thanks (again) to our Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) partners!

On November 20th, OPP Constable Frances Endanawas (OPP Sudbury Detachment) stopped by our office to pick up donated items. Six rolling backpacks filled with clothing and boots along with eight boxes of donated items were quickly on their way to remote northern schools and health clinics!

We can't say enough about the generosity the OPP officers who donate their time to make some of our deliveries possible.

Thanks to our members for their amazing donations!



A fountain of pride, patriotism and progress

Originally published in *GuelphToday*, November 16, 2019.

Author: Troy Bridgeman

In this *Rooted* feature, we visit the I.O.D.E. Fountain across from the Guelph Public Library and talk with retired journalist Helen Brimmell about the significance it holds for women in the community.

Queen Victoria reigned for 63 years from 1837 to 1901 during the height of British imperial power. She was a source of great pride and patriotism for women across the British Empire including the founders of the Victoria Guelph chapter of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire or the I.O.D.E

“The organisation was extremely patriotic,” said IODE archivist Helen Brimmell. “Guelph was named after the royal family and our chapter took the name Victoria Guelph, which was Queen Victoria’s maiden name. There is no hyphen between Victoria and Guelph because it is her name.”

The I.O.D.E. was formed in 1900 and established chapters in communities across the country to help the wives and children of Canadian soldiers fighting for Britain in South Africa during the Boer War. When that war ended in 1902 the order focused more on local causes.

The Victoria Guelph chapter was the 142nd to register with the order and its members were, primarily, “unmarried” women. They adopted the motto “Right must prevail” and set the annual membership fee at 50 cents.

“The Guelph chapter was formed in 1909 and the first thing they did was raise money to build a fountain,” said Brimmell. “The fountain was opened in 1914 and named in honour of King Edward VII who had just passed away.”



Brimmell has done extensive research on the order and published an exhaustive history of its activities entitled *IODE in Guelph 1909 - 1997* for the Guelph Historical Society.

The article recounts the early efforts to create the fountain.

“It was built in 1914, after the members had spent two years raising the money for it,” she wrote. “Constructed by the city's works department, it cost \$1,200, and was designed by architect Mr. B. Lund who was drowned before the work actually started. The fountain sits on a stone and cement base and is topped by a charming four-gable shingled roof and a small spire.”

They erected it in a central location downtown where it could be easily seen and used by the public.

It remained a public drinking fountain at its present location, near the confluence of Yarmouth and Norfolk Streets, for many years.

“It isn’t a fountain anymore because the medical authorities began to think years ago that there was too much danger of exchanging germs with a public fountain,” said Brimmell. “So, they had to end the fountain part of it, but it was very popular in its day and it even had a dog drinking fountain at the bottom, which was also popular.”

Victoria Guelph chapter treasurer Marie Laidlaw recalls when it was a working fountain.

“I remember as a young girl going downtown to the movie theatre to see the latest western or whatnot and stopping at the fountain for a drink of water,” she said. “We are very proud of that fountain.”

Laidlaw was the chapter regent in 1993 when the fountain was designated an important historical landmark.

“I was regent for three years,” she said. “I am 83 and I have been a member for more than 40 years. I tell people I have two passions in life, my husband and the IODE. Bill and I met in high school and have been married 63 years.”

Brimmell, who is a retired journalist, turned 99 in May. She moved to Guelph in 1954 and has been a member of the Victoria Guelph chapter since 1986.

“I was with Canadian Press for a long time and I covered the national and provincial IODE activities for them,” she said. “My husband, Dick Brimmell and I both worked for the Mercury so, I covered the local IODE and they were always asking me to join the chapter. So, I joined just after I retired. That was 33 years ago.”

By 1995 there were five chapters in Guelph with a combined membership of 181 women.

“This year in October we celebrated our 110th anniversary, which was a gala day,” said Brimmell. “We had a reception in the big room at Dublin Street Church and invited all the people connected with the chapter.”

Dublin Street Church is where they hold their regular meetings.

“We meet once a month on the first Tuesday of the month,” said Laidlaw. “There are only 17 of us left in the Victoria Guelph Chapter. There were five chapters in Guelph at one time and there are only two left.”

The other one is the Royal Wyndham chapter that was established in 1985.

The status and influence of women in Canadian society has changed significantly since the I.O.D.E. was established. Women didn’t have the right to vote until 1922 and weren’t recognised as persons under the law until 1929. The I.O.D.E. provided opportunities for women to organize and exercise their influence in the community.

“It was a very strong influence on the city and did a great deal of work for it,” said Brimmell. “So much of what they did is now taken over by city officials, but they did an awful lot of good and still do.”

A good example of that was the chapter’s second big campaign in 1911, the creation of Royal City Park.



...Con't ..

“They raised the money to remove the town dump on the bank of the Speed River that went from Gordon Street West and extended past Gow Bridge,” she said. “Then they raised the money to hire the landscape architect and the city was so appreciative that they asked the chapter to name the new park. Of course, the chapter being very patriotic named it Royal City Park.”

Throughout the years they have taken up countless causes including the support of veterans’ groups, promoting the arts and providing scholarships to high school students. They have also carried on their advocacy for women’s groups and causes.

“They pick up the pieces that have fallen through the cracks like helping the Women in Crisis, the Foodbank and Wyndham House,” said Brimmell. “These are not huge things, but they make a great difference.”

Their contribution is recognized and respected by many.

“The IODE have been part of our story helping abused women and children in the community,” said Sly Castaldi, executive director for Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis. “They have been very supportive of Women in Crisis.”

Brimmell worries that the order might share the same fate as the fountain and become a neglected symbol of the past.

“The IODE like all of those charitable groups are quietly fading away,” she said. “It is sad but they are because no one else is picking these jobs up. However, we will keep on going as long as we can. We have 17 members left and we would be happy to have some new members join.”

“The fountain was originally where the Cenotaph is now at the base of Wyndham Street,” said Brimmell. “They moved it to where it is now across from the library to make room for the war memorial in 1926.”



Memories & Memorials

As we gather with our family and friends over this 2019 holiday season, we remember

Phyllis Blanford, IODE Catherine McVean Chapter

Catherine Boddy, IODE White Cloud Chapter

Shirley Bridgehouse, IODE Hamilton Chapter

Donna Carswell, IODE Bemersyde Chapter

Verna Cumming, IODE Paardeburg Chapter

Mildred Hodd, IODE The Right Honorable Stanley Baldwin Chapter

Barbara Hopton, IODE Angela Bruce Chapter

Joyce Kelly, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter

Barbara Lewis, IODE Dr. Healey Willan Chapter

Dorothy Majkut, IODE Claremont Chapter

Betty Rogers, IODE Maple Leaf Chapter

Beverly Sanborn, IODE Confederation Chapter

Mary Vassbotn, IODE Manitou Chapter

Audrey Walters, IODE Confederation Chapter

Joan Williams, IODE Bishop Hellmuth Chapter



Red Feathered Soul

When you're lost or feeling down,
 Don't despair, just look around.
 God made me red so you would see,
 I still exist outside your memory.
 I make my visits in bright daylight.
 You'll hear my song in distant flight.
 My cardinal song is a call to you,
 To tell you that I miss you too.
 I am everywhere and finally free,
 Like love you cannot touch or see.
 You'll see my in the trees and skies,
 I didn't leave, love never dies.

— Ella Bee

IODE ONTARIO WORD SEARCH



X Y C O M M U N I C A T I O N S S P
W A U C O W S K N O R T H X W P I L
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Sit back with your favourite yuletide beverage and try your luck at our IODE Ontario Word Search!

**Standard Bearer
Gryner
Services
Hamilton
Bursary
Women
Services Animals**

**North
Communications
Membership
War Memorial
Officers
First Nations
War Memorial**

**Toys
Education
Anniversary
Canada
Project Fun
Frid**

**Adopted Schools
Citizenship
Archives
Ontario
Play it Forward
Chapters**



*Wishing you
a season of gladness,
a season of cheer,
and to top it all off -
a wonderful year!*



*Warmest wishes from,
Your IODE Ontario Provincial Officers*

got news?

Does your Chapter have a special story that you would like to share in the newsletter? Please let us know about it and don't forget the photos! We would love to share your success with our membership!

Submissions can be emailed to: iodeontario@bellnet.ca

Please include the name of a contact person with your submission.

IODE Ontario

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IODE is a national women's charitable organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for individuals through education support, community services and citizenship programs.

