

Celebrating IODE Members



2023 EDITION
IODE CANADA

Foreword



IODE members have been and always will be our biggest and most important asset.

Acknowledging significant milestones is one way of letting members know how valued and appreciated they are.

They are members who are

Inclusive **O**rganized **D**edicated **E**nthusiastic

"Celebration is a kind of food we all need in our lives, and each individual brings a special recipe or offering, so that together we will make a great feast. Celebration is a human need that we must not, and can not, deny. It is richer and fuller when many work and then celebrate together."

~ Corita Kent

Message From Jane Cushing National President

The women featured in this publication are IODE members who have contributed to the work of the organization and have been recognized by their peers who submitted the stories. What a remarkable group of women you are! You have brought positive recognition to IODE through your volunteer work



earning provincial and community recognition. You have earned chapter recognition in the form of life memberships for sustained support of the IODE mission statement and contributions to the very nature of your chapter. Years of service pins indicate a remarkable amount of time spent on IODE. A challenge to the reader: add up the total number of years of IODE membership identified in this publication.

Chapters too, have been honoured for many years of service as they celebrate significant anniversaries. The stories of chapter projects and happy times shared on these occasions are magical and encourage continuing membership.

Thank you, to all of you for your contributions to IODE and your communities.



New Chapter

IODE Trillium 2023 Chapter, Ontario - New Virtual Chapter

In December 2023, a new chapter in Ontario had its Bestowal Ceremony by Zoom. The founders of IODE Trillium 2023 Chapter were inspired by IODE Evolve Chapter, the Alberta on-line chapter bestowed in July, 2020. Members from IODE Evolve shared their experience in creating an on-line chapter with Michelle Batty, IODE Ontario Membership Officer, and members interested in creating a new on-line chapter under IODE Ontario jurisdiction. IODE Evolve has shared ideas and experiences with the nine members of IODE Trillium 2023 and helped immensely in developing its program. Such generous sharing and assistance! Creating a new chapter is an event to be celebrated by members across the country.

Congratulations to the founders of IODE Trillium 2023.



Welcome to IODE!



Chapter Milestone Anniversary

On the occasion of their 113th anniversary, members of **IODE Lord Amherst Chapter**, Amherst NS, celebrated with a luncheon at Marshlands Inn with invited guests National President Jane Cushing, Provincial President Marilyn DesBarres, and Cumberland Area Vice-President Eileen Glennie.



IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford ON, celebrated their 105th Anniversary at a community tea to thank those who have supported their charitable works since Bemersyde was chartered in 1918. The members were honoured by special IODE guests National President Jane Cushing, Provincial President of Ontario Helen Danby and 1st Vice President Michelle Batty, Eastern Area Vice-President Jo Brodie, and Honorary Vice-President Rose Carolyn Smith IODE New Brunswick.



"Dardanelles in Action" aptly reflects the activities of **IODE Dardanelles Chapter**, in the Town of Carstairs AB and beyond for the last 95 years. The countless women who have joined IODE Dardanelles Chapter with a commitment to fulfill the mission of IODE, to forge new friendships and have fun have made a difference in the lives of children, youth and those in need for 95 years and will, no doubt, continue well into the future.



Mayor Alan MacEachern and **IODE Heritage Chapter**, St. Stephen NB, President Bonnie Dolan shared the spotlight at the community based "Fifty and Fabulous" event that highlighted IODE service and partnerships in St. Stephen with multiple photographic displays.

Chapter Milestone Anniversary



One highlight of the special 90th anniversary of **IODE Dr. Herbert A Bruce Chapter**, North Bay ON, was the display that the chapter assembled in their thrift shop window (the Victory Shop). The theme was "*We Support; We Fun(d) Raise; We Belong*". Two outstanding creations were the 90th Anniversary "cake" (built of styrofoam and spackle), and the collage of photos and headlines over the years, mounted on a IODE apron.

IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Oakville ON, celebrated 90 years of service in 2023 and honoured 102-year-old Elaine Clark. They received coverage in the local newspaper, The Oakville News, which stated "*With 90 years of service, the women and volunteers of IODE deserve a round of applause for their incredible work and the countless young people they have assisted.*"



IODE Colonel James Macleod Chapter, Calgary AB, celebrated their 25th Anniversary at the Inn on Officers Garden in Calgary. Members enjoyed the memorabilia on display, a wonderful dinner and the presentation of awards to deserving IODE Colonel Macleod Chapter members.



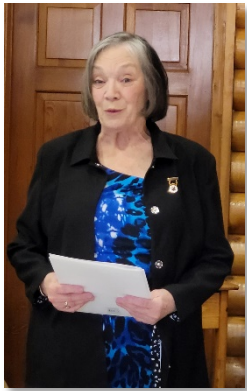
Generations of IODE Members

IODE Ontario Membership Officer Michelle Batty, with her three granddaughters, Amber, Bryauna, Eralynn, all members of **IODE Errol Egremont Chapter**, Sarnia ON, staffed the booth at the August CNE (Canadian National Exhibition). The young members spent 13 hours that day handing out IODE bookmarks, dozens of bags with IODE literature and asking the public to sign Christmas cards for our Canadian Armed Forces. Past National President Carol McCall, IODE Ontario President Helen Danby and Ontario Area Vice-President Jayne Little were also on hand that day.



Life Memberships

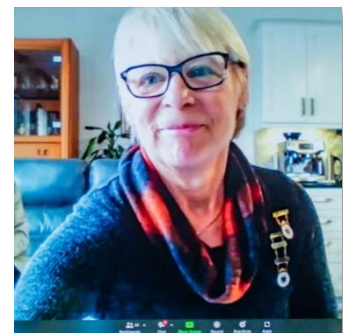
Past President Margaret McKay McNeill received her Provincial Life Membership from **IODE New Brunswick** at a hybrid in-person and zoom meeting in November 2023 from National President Jane Cushing. Judy Graham, left, Margaret McKay McNeill, Lynda Coffey, and Sandra Reed shared the moment with zoom participants.



IODE New Brunswick was pleased to honour Past President Shirley McEwen with her Provincial Life Membership, noting that she led the provincial chapter during difficult pandemic times with grace and dedication, adjusting to the new zoom technology with determination and good humour.



At the April 2023 **IODE Ontario** Provincial Annual Zoom Meeting, Provincial Life Memberships were presented to Gloria Saunders, Co-Services Officer, and Aileen Reid, Adopted Schools Officer.



IODE Prince Edward Island presented President Irene Gallant with her Provincial Life Membership at Government House when Her Honour Antoinette Perry invited the women of IODE Prince Edward Island to a Platinum Jubilee tea in honour of their service to the province. National President Jane Cushing made the presentation with Vice-President Gail MacLean, right.



Life Memberships

IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia ON, Membership officers presented Marybelle MacFarlane with her Primary Life Membership. Pictured are Assistant Membership officer Monica Deighton, left, Marybelle, and Membership Officer Barb Stewart.



Officers and long-term friends in **IODE Heritage Chapter**, St. Stephen NB, enjoyed afternoon tea (prepared by her husband) with charter member Jean Henry when they presented her with her Primary Life Membership certificate, citation and pin.

Members of **IODE Heritage Chapter**, St. Stephen NB, visited Georgie Hyslop at home, to present this 95-year-old charter member with her Primary Life Membership certificate and pin.



Life Memberships



Alia Klein received her Primary Life Membership from **IODE Walter Baker Chapter**, Kanata/Nepean ON, in November, 2023. Alia has been a very active member of Walter Baker Chapter since 2010, offering her creative talents, time and heart to chapter activities, going above and beyond in making thier chapter run. Co-President Caroline Rodgers, right, presented the Primary Life Membership pin and certificate to Alia Klein.

IODE 48th Highlanders Chapter, Toronto ON, presented Shirley Ann Elms with her Primary Life Membership in February 2023.

National President Jane Cushing was present at the ceremony honouring **IODE Heritage Chapter**, St. Stephen NB, charter member Jenny Orchard with her Primary Life Membership in December 2023. Both Jane and Jenny joined IODE the same year, 1972, and met doing service work, in Saint John and in St. Stephen at that time. Membership Officer Yvette Sawyer, left, and Chapter President Bonnie Dolan, right, also presided in the presentations of the pin, certificate and citation.



Other Special Awards

Members of **IODE Heritage Chapter**, St Stephen NB, decided that the best way to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee was with a June IODE meeting filled with fun, food, tea, 'biscuits', laughter and some good community work with a student bursary and food bank donations.



In late 2022 **IODE Errol Egremont Chapter**, Sarnia ON, went the extra mile to enhance the community's tree canopy by teaming up with Climate Action Sarnia Lambton to plant 41 native trees at Coronation Park. Planting trees in the park are Chapter Secretary Linda Gryner, left, and President Michelle Batty, right.

IODE Errol Egremont Chapter, Sarnia ON, received recognition for Environmental Stewardship. Chapter Second Vice-President Georgette Parsons, left, and Citizenship Officer Lynn Baarschers joined Sarnia Environmental Advisory Committee member Jonathan van Gassen on Earth Day at Coronation Park to celebrate the group and present them with their Go-Green Spotlight Environmental Award.



IODE Laurentian Chapter, Ottawa ON, congratulated several members on receiving their Ontario Volunteer Service Awards (10 yr). Pictured are Deborah Fraser (posthumous - accepted by Barbara Uteck on her behalf), left, Morna Paterson, Anne Collett, Lorna King, Marion Craig. Barbara Potts was out of town at time of event.

Other Special Awards



IODE Laurentian Chapter, Ottawa ON, applauds Liz Heatherington, second-generation member of Laurentian Chapter, for her far-reaching and long-standing volunteering efforts making her an outstanding recipient of the Mayor's Award for Volunteer Spirit!

Congratulations also go to **IODE Val Griffith's Chapter**, Dorchester ON, members Joyce Brower, Rosemary Zubot both recognized for 10 years and Norma Chicoine for 40 years by the Ontario Volunteer Association.

IODE Yellow Briar Chapter, Orangeville ON, members Linda Coleman, Barbara Howard and Janice Sullivan are congratulated for obtaining Volunteer Years of Service Awards from the Ontario government. Pictured are L-R Janice Sullivan and Linda Coleman.



The Ontario Volunteer Service Awards were also given to the following **IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter**, Petrolia ON, members: Margaret Dee (15 yrs.), Marybelle MacFarlane (15 yrs.), Monica Deighton (10 yrs.), Suzanne Nijak (15 yrs.), Linda Shannon (20 yrs.) and Barb Stewart (20 yrs.).



April 2023, members of the **IODE White Cloud Chapter**, Wiarton, ON, received the Town of South Bruce Peninsula Volunteer Recognition Award for their 70 years of service. Pictured L-R Renate Schuetz, Sally Merlina, Shirley Leeder, Mary Lou Murrell and Pat Caldwell.

Other Special Awards



IODE Shepody Chapter, Dorchester NB, congratulated members Susan Spence and Debbie MacDonald on receiving community recognition for their volunteerism. Susan Spence, left, was awarded Citizen of the Year by the town of Dorchester for her years of volunteering with the Dorchester Memorial Public Library, IODE, Girl Guides and other organizations. Debbie MacDonald, right, was honoured by Tantramar Municipality for her over ten years of volunteering with IODE, Westmoreland Historical Society, Girl Guides and other organizations.

IODE Alberta President Valerie Braiden presented the Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medals at a ceremony held in February, 2023 at the Olds & District Evergreen Centre while Bethanne O'Neil emceed the afternoon. The following IODE members were recipients: Angela Dean, Mary Louise Ford, Rilla Hand, Milly Hartley, Elsie Karpyshyn, Joanne Lee, Arlene Leroux, Corrinne Kovacik, Lois Pauls, Jean Ritco, Elpha Senft, Darleen Springstein, Jenny Thomson, Patricia Van Tetering, Mary Lou Wilson.



Years of Service



Jean Curtis on the right presented Patricia Bowslaugh of **IODE Diamond Jubilee (1960) Chapter**, Brandon MB, with her 60-year pin.



Lorna Cowan on the right, of **IODE Diamond Jubilee (1960) Chapter**, Brandon MB, was presented with her 60-year pin by Jean Curtis at a regular chapter meeting.

Mary Tibbits, left, of **IODE Canada 150 Chapter**, Saint John NB, received her 20-year service pin and certificate from Membership Officer Carol Ann Foster.



Years of Service



Sharon Greenough, President **IODE Mary Lawson Chapter**, Dartmouth NS, recognized that Lorraine Kent, right, was wearing a 50-year pin, having joined Mary Lawson Chapter in 1973. Lorraine's pin had been previously worn by the long-term member, the late Jessie Benstead, of the now disbanded IODE HMS Shannon Chapter.



President Sharon Greenough, **IODE Mary Lawson Chapter**, Dartmouth NS, had the pleasure of presenting Irene Flemming, left, with her 25-year service pin.

IODE Gloucester Chapter, Bathurst NB, presented Lois Campbell, left, with her 50-year pin and certificate for her dedication to IODE for the past 52 years serving in various officer positions. Sharon McKinnon, Chapter President made the presentation.



Years of Service



Maria Kulcher
received her 40-year pin



Janet Emerson
received her 30-year pin



Mary Savoy
received her 20-year pin

IODE Heritage Chapter, St. Stephen NB, celebrated their 50th anniversary by presenting multiple long service certificates for a total of 220 years of service to the following: 40-year pins went to Betty Moulton, Tina Brown and Maria Kulcher, Janet Emerson received her 30-year pin, Mary Savoy and Susan Embleton received 20-year pins, Allissa Gilmore and Chelsa Doherty received 10-year pins and 5-year pins went to Cecille Ruddock and Ann Dempsey.



Appreciating Members



IODE Katie Hazen Mackay Chapter, Saint John NB, is both pleased and proud to acknowledge the service of their members in the roles of President at three levels of IODE in 2023. Beverley Sleight, left, is President of IODE Katie Hazen Mackay Chapter, Fredda McCarey is President of IODE New Brunswick, and Jane Cushing serves as National President of IODE Canada.

Jo Brodie, **IODE Laurentian Chapter**, Ottawa ON, was celebrated on her 80th birthday with letters highlighting her long-term commitment and contribution to IODE since 1991. The letters from National President, Jane Cushing, and Provincial President, Helen Danby, were read by her daughter and fellow IODE Laurentian Chapter member, Elanor Brodie.



Members of IODE across Canada celebrated Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee with creative zest, honouring our patron for her 70 years of service to her nation and commonwealth. This beautiful cake created for an **IODE Alberta** event was simply one of many across the country in 2023.

Celebrating IODE Members

is designed to recognize IODE members' important events and achievements including chapters' milestone anniversaries.

The digital version of this publication can be downloaded

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Please send submissions to: echoes@iode.ca prior to December 31st.

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