



Celebrating

I O D E

Members

2022 Edition

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
Organized
Dedicated
Enthusiastic

Life should not only be lived,
it should be celebrated.

Osho

Table of Contents

Message from National President

<i>Chapter Milestone Anniversaries</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Generations of IODE Membership</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Life Memberships</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Other Special Awards</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Years of Service</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Appreciating Members</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Celebrating a Trailblazer</i>	<i>28</i>

Message From
Jane Cushing,
National President



Welcome to the new IODE publication, *Celebrating IODE Members*.

In *Echoes*, we celebrate the work that our members do to enhance the quality of life for individuals through education support, community service and citizenship programs. In this publication we celebrate the women of IODE who do the work. *Celebrating IODE Women* will be published around Founder's Day each year.

Congratulations to individuals, families and chapters recognized in this year's inaugural edition of *Celebrating IODE Members, 2022*. The work of IODE is only possible because of your membership in IODE.

Chapter Milestone Anniversaries



IODE Mary Lawson, Dartmouth, NS, celebrated its 60th Anniversary on September 17, 2022. Charter member, Kay Inkpen presented the history of the chapter, having received its charter in 1962.

Kay cuts the 60th Anniversary cake nicely decorated with the IODE logo. During this event, Years of Service Pins were presented.

Chapter Milestone Anniversaries



On March 24th, **IODE Claremont**, Hamilton, ON, celebrated its 65th Anniversary with a luncheon at the IODE Ontario office. Provincial President Linda Gryner was on hand to present Years of Service Pins and certificates to a number of Claremont members.

IODE Claremont President, Susan Davis (L) and charter member, Eleanor Bentley shared the task of cutting the anniversary cake.



Chapter Milestone Anniversaries

In conjunction with Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, and to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of **IODE White Cloud**, Wiarton, ON, a bench with an engraved plaque was installed beside the current IODE flowerbed at Bluewater Park. The flowerbed contains a custom-made iron sculpture entitled *Woman and Child* that was designed and constructed by artist Laszlo Zsolnai.

The view from the bench will be an appropriate addition to complement the beautiful park's multi-use waterfront trail and to allow everyone to enjoy the splendid view of Colpoys Bay.



Chapter Milestone Anniversaries

The **IODE Dr. Caroline Carmichael**, New Glasgow, NS, celebrated its 70th anniversary on May 10th at the home of Lydia MacKay.

Special guests were Provincial Treasurer, Ann Lawless and Nova Scotia Area Vice-President, Harriet McWhirter. At this special occasion, Membership Officer, Jeannie Johnston presented Communications Officer, Phoebe Fraser with her 30-year pin and a Certificate of Congratulations from National President, Carol McCall.

Chapter President, Gale Langille presented Phoebe with a bouquet of flowers.



(L-R): Membership Officer, Jeannie Johnston, Phoebe Fraser and President Gale Langille.

Chapter Milestone Anniversaries

IODE Atlantic Charter, St. Stephen, NB, 75th Anniversary guests included IODE Canada President Jane Cushing, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Kathy Bockus and NB Primary Chapter Presidents. The social featured an activity sharing fun facts from 75 years ago on a wide range of topics from *"Canada in the News"* to *What Was Happening South of the Border*". Sports, Leisure, Entertainment and Fashion tidbits brought smiles and laughter to all. Chapter President Maureen McClintock said that "Many things we take for granted in the community came about because of the countless hours IODE members spent championing for women and children, advocating for literacy programs, providing financial support to students so they could attend educational events or pursue higher education."

National President, Jane Cushing said the Charter exemplified what IODE is meant to be. She recalled that the chapter was responsible for bringing many art and theatre productions to the community, as well as partnering with a local car dealership and insurance firm to bring Driver's Education to the local high school before private companies performed such a service. She said it has "consistently offered help to local schools while also providing aid to those near and far."



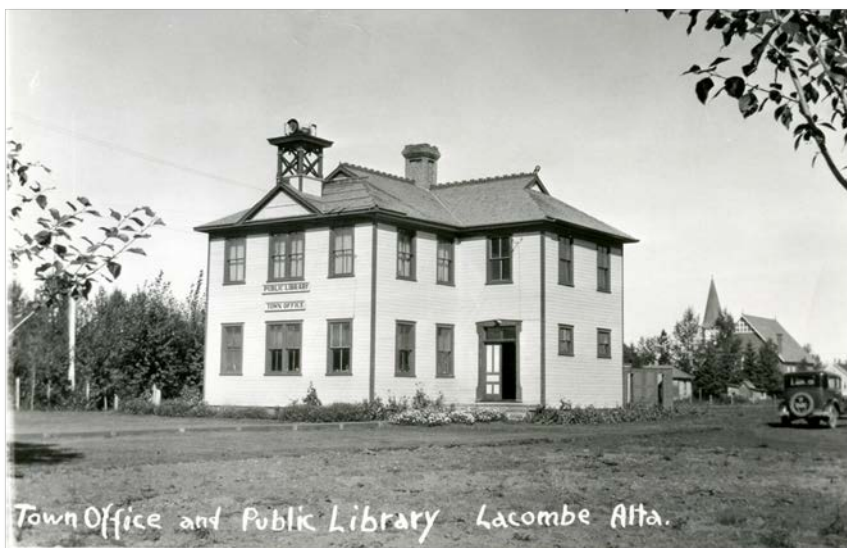
On behalf of NB Southwest MP John Williamson, MLA Kathy Bockus (L) presented Certificates of Congratulations to President Maureen McClintock

Chapter Milestone Anniversaries

IODE Lord Lascelles has served the county of Lacombe, AB for over 100 years.

One of the many notable things that the chapter accomplished was the founding and operation of Lacombe's first public library in 1930. The chapter members remain active with the library system.

In 2022, the chapter returned to the spring trade show to sell cheesecakes and pies. Funds raised through similar events held throughout the year go towards community music awards, education awards, citizenship programs and special education



Chapter Milestone Anniversaries

IODE 48th Highlanders, ON - 115th

IODE Lord Dufferin, ON - 115th

IODE Comber, ON - 105th

IODE Lord Lascelles, AB - 100th

IODE Confederation, ON - 95th

IODE Frontenac, AB - 95th

IODE Dr. Herbert A. Bruce, ON - 90th

IODE Atlantic Charter, NB - 75th

IODE Captain Garnet Brackin, ON - 70th

IODE Dr. Caroline Carmichael, NS - 70th

IODE Leif Erikson, NS - 70th

IODE Sir Charles G.D. Roberts, NB - 70th

IODE White Cloud, ON - 70th

IODE Claremont, ON - 65th

IODE Bow Fort, AB - 65th

IODE Mary Lawson, NS - 60th

Provincial Chapter of PE IODE - 60th

IODE Heritage, NB - 50th

IODE Festival Jubilee, ON - 45th

Generations of IODE Membership



Flora Trick

Great-grandmother, Mrs. W.C. (Flora) Trick was a member of the **IODE Forget**, Regina, SK. Flora's daughter, Mrs. L.B. (Marjorie) Smart was a member of **IODE Bing of Vimy**. Marjorie held many offices from Primary Chapter Regent, Municipal President, Provincial Officer to National President in 1955, and she accompanied Queen Mary's carpet across Canada. Marjorie was presented with the Queen's Jubilee Medal in 1977. She was on the Board

of the North York General Hospital and spearheaded the IODE Children's Wing. Marjorie volunteered at the Service Canteen during the war, rolling bandages at the IODE Headquarters.

Marjorie's daughter, Charlene Sibbit, founded **IODE Elizabeth Simcoe**, Toronto, ON. She was a member of **IODE Lady Hughes**, Lindsay, ON. In Kentville, NS, Charlene joined **IODE Olympic** and held many offices including Regent. She was also Vice-President of **IODE Nova Scotia** during her four years in NS. In 1967 when the family moved to Ottawa, Charlene joined and held various offices at **IODE Wing Commander Guy Gibson**, VC. She was active in Municipal, Eastern and



Marjorie Smart

Provincial Chapters, holding offices in all of them. She organized a National Annual Meeting in Ottawa. When the Laurentian House was sold, she was the Municipal President who took charge of the divestment of all of the

belongings, as well as, the proceeds from the sale of the property. Charlene received Life Memberships and numerous service awards from different levels of IODE.

In 1988, Charlene's daughter, Susan Sibbit, joined **IODE Wing Commander Guy Gibson, VC.** where she held various positions. As the Membership officer of the Municipal Chapter of Ottawa, Susan was instrumental in establishing two chapters, **IODE Margaret Brand** and a junior chapter, **IODE Laura Sabia.**

Now an active member of **IODE Laurentian,** Susan has been involved in the annual House and Garden Tours, serving as a House Captain many times. Susan has been recognized with a number of service awards.

Susan's youngest daughter, Katie Burke surprised her Grandmother Charlene at the 2017 Christmas meeting by becoming an IODE member at age 15. She is the youngest member of the Sibbit Family to join **IODE Laurentian,** Ottawa, ON. Katie is the latest addition to their **Five generations of IODE** volunteerism.



(L-R) Susan, Charlene, Katie

Generations of IODE Membership



IODE Jon Sigurdsson, Winnipeg, MB, is proud of their Three generations of IODE members.

Kristin Dalkie (L) is daughter to Kerrine Wilson (R) are pictured with Kerrine's mother, Thelma Wilson who is 100-year plus young.

Thelma is an Honorary President of the IODE Jon Sigurdsson.

Life Memberships



The highest honour in IODE is a Life Membership.

It celebrates the member who has given valuable and continuous service to IODE with her time, talents, wisdom and vision over numerous years.

This honour is awarded to a member who has displayed great leadership, initiative and dedication to work within a team to reach IODE objectives.

Congratulations to our well-deserved 2022 recipients.

Life Memberships

Primary Life Membership

Lorraine Bayne, IODE Jesse F. Gordon, BC
Doreen Campbell, IODE Val Griffiths, ON
Lois Cleghorn, IODE Atlantic Charter, NB
Blanche Currie, IODE Isgonish, NS
Arlene Leroux, IODE Annie May Jackson, AB
Marnie Luce, IODE Eldon House, ON
Carol McDonald, IODE Margaret Stokes, ON
Marion Niessen, IODE Val Griffiths, ON
Marion Retson, IODE Isgonish, NS
Valerie St. Peter, IODE Cobequid, NS
Cathy Willems, IODE Eldon House, ON



Provincial Life Membership

Valerie Braiden, IODE Alberta
Jeannie Johnston, IODE Nova Scotia
Harriet McWhirter, IODE Nova Scotia
Linda Reade, IODE Alberta
Linda Smith, IODE New Brunswick
Susan Spence, IODE New Brunswick



National Life Membership

Stephney Flexhaug, IODE Canada
Renate Schuetz, IODE Canada

Life Memberships

Primary Life Membership

Lois Cleghorn, who was instrumental in many of the chapter's community projects, was awarded a Primary Life Membership. During Lois' 56 years with **IODE Atlantic Charter**, St. Stephen, NB, she has held many offices including Regent, worked on the *Echoes* magazine and was a Provincial Councillor. During her term, the chapter spearheaded many theatre and choral initiatives, bicycle safety classes and supported provincial and national programs.



IODE Canada President Jane Cushing presented Lois Cleghorn (L), with her Primary Life Membership at the chapter's 75th anniversary celebration.

Life Memberships

Provincial Life Membership



IODE New Brunswick held its first in-person Annual Meeting since the pandemic in April, at Government House in Fredericton. Provincial President Shirley McEwen (C) presented Secretary Susan Spence (L) and Services Officer Linda Smith, (R) with Provincial Life Memberships in recognition of their dedicated and far-reaching service at the primary and provincial levels.

Other Special Awards

Platinum Jubilee Medal Recipients



(R) IODE Alberta President, Valerie Braiden received the Platinum Jubilee medal from the Lieutenant Governor Her Honour Salma Lakhani.

To commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years of reign, the province of Alberta designed and awarded the Platinum Jubilee medals to distinguish worthy members of the community. The front of the medal displays a Crowned image of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, along with two natural maple leaves. This image was designed by renowned heraldic artists, Cathy Burse-Sabourin and Fraser

Herald of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, which is part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General. The back displays the Alberta Provincial Shield, surmounted by the Queen's Royal Cypher and the dates of the reign being celebrated, '1952 - 2022', separated by a pair of Wild Roses (Alberta's provincial flower), with the phrase 'VIVAT REGINA' at the base, which means 'Long Live the Queen'.



Other Special Awards

Platinum Jubilee Medal Recipients

In New Brunswick, the medal is silver in colour, 32 mm. in diameter with a ring suspension. The obverse (front) depicts a crowned image of the Sovereign. The reverse depicts the Queen's Royal Cypher, which consists of a Royal Crown encircling with *Elizabeth II Dei Gratia Regina, Canada*. The dates of The Queen's Reign are



(L-R) NB Lieutenant Governor Her Hon. Brenda Murphy, Donna Cole, MLA Trevor Holder



(L-R) Lieutenant Governor Her Hon. Brenda Murphy, Marilyn Craft, MLA Trevor Holder

indicated both sides at the top of the metal. The New Brunswick shield of arms is in the centre, on either side of which are violets. The motto VIVAT REGINA ("Long Live The Queen!"), appears at the base.



(L-R) Lieutenant Governor Her Hon. Brenda Murphy, Jane Cushing

Other Special Awards

Ontario Volunteer Service Award

Presented by the Government of Ontario, this yearly (OVSA) award recognizes volunteers for their committed and dedicated service to an organization. Adults are recognized by the length of time they have volunteered with one organization, ranging from five to 65 years of continuous service. Youth (24 years old and under) are recognized for two or more years of continuous service.

The following IODE members were nominated by their respective chapters and received the 2022 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards for their volunteer years of service to IODE:

65 Years

Mary Cook, IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place
Shirley Leeder, IODE White Cloud, Warton
Mary Lou Murrell, IODE White Cloud, Warton

60 Years

Pat Steele, IODE Eldon House, London
Sally Merlina, IODE White Cloud, Warton

55 Years

Joanne Barfoot, IODE White Cloud, Warton
Marty Dalton, IODE Eldon House, London
Sharon Riley, IODE Eldon House, London

50 Years

Ruth Ann Butler, IODE Eldon House, London
Peggy Denomme, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich
Margaret Meathrel, IODE Eldon House, London
Lynda Rivard, IODE Ontario, Hamilton
Ruth Wright, IODE Eldon House, London

Other Special Awards

Ontario Volunteer Service Award

45 Years

Doreen Campbell, IODE Val Griffiths, Dorchester
Joan Perrott, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich
Merle Stanbury, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich
Elina Takahashi, IODE Walter Baker, Nepean
Marnie Van Steen, IODE Walter Baker, Nepean

40 Years

Beth Crook, IODE 48th Highlanders, Toronto
Hilda Docker, IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place
Lynn Edward, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich
Carol Anne MacInnes, IODE 48th Highlanders, Toronto

35 Years

Dailey Anderson, IODE Stirling, St. Thomas
Nancy Lea Bennett, IODE Yellow Briar, Orangeville
Sheila Brown, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia
Emily Crew, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich
Linda Davenport, IODE Yellow Briar, Orangeville
Gail Elderfield, IODE Yellow Briar, Orangeville
Wendy Loosley, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia
Debbie Pearce, IODE Yellow Briar, Orangeville
Bonnie Rees, IODE Ontario, Hamilton
Katerina Romano, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich
Judy Yack, IODE Yellow Briar, Orangeville
Linda Young, IODE Stirling, St. Thomas

30 Years

Josephine Brodie, IODE Ontario, Hamilton
Elsie Christensen, IODE White Cloud, Warton
Peggy Gallipeau, IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place
Linda James, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia
Carol McCall, IODE Ontario, Hamilton
Catherine Moore, IODE Ontario, Hamilton

Other Special Awards

Ontario Volunteer Service Award

30 Years

Joyce Mount, IODE Walter Baker, Nepean
Audrey Proulx, IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place
Aileen Reid, IODE Ontario, Hamilton
Caroline Rodgers, IODE Walter Baker, Nepean
Paula Sanderson, IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place
Jo Ann Story-Hendry, IODE Captain Garnet Brackin, Chatham

25 Years

Pat Caldwell, IODE White Cloud, Warton
Sharon Haffner, IODE Val Griffiths, Dorchester
Ann Halsema, IODE Val Griffiths, Dorchester
Kirsty Hanson, IODE 48th Highlanders, Toronto
Lois Hastings, IODE Hon. Malcolm Cameron, Sarnia
Barbara Nauss, IODE Captain Hooper, Carleton Place
Marion Niessen, IODE Val Griffiths, Dorchester
Anna Marie Thorn, IODE Val Griffiths, Dorchester

20 Years

Kathryn Desson, IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald, Markham
Angie Duncan, IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald, Markham
Shirley Ann Elms, IODE 48th Highlanders, Toronto
Linda Gryner, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia
Laura Pickle, IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald, Markham
Janet Smith, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia
Catherine Steele, IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald, Markham
Phyllis Sutherland, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia
Suzanne Sutherland, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia
Pat Traichevich, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia
Diane Woodward, IODE Yellow Briar, Orangeville

Other Special Awards

Ontario Volunteer Service Award

15 Years

Lynn Baarschers, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia
Alma Cantin, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia
Nancy Hooper, IODE Laurentian, Ottawa
Janet MacKay, IODE 48th Highlanders, Toronto
Suzanna Maya, IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald, Markham
Sharon Prouse, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia
Lynn Sloan, IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald, Markham
Kathryn Weston, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia

10 Years

Donna Pruss, IODE Stirling, St. Thomas
Janet Stratton, IODE Laurentian, Ottawa
Alia Klein, IODE Walter Baker, Nepean
Janet Kiff-Macaluso, IODE Laurentian, Ottawa
Sarie Mai, IODE Laurentian, Ottawa
Kate Woods, IODE Laurentian, Ottawa
Nancy Wiles, IODE Walter Baker, Nepean
Janet Uren, IODE Laurentian, Ottawa

5 Years

Ashley Bonnell, IODE 48th Highlanders, Toronto

Other Special Awards

75 Years of IODE Volunteerism



In 1946 at the age of 14, while a student at Chatham Collegiate Institute, Joan Clement became a member of a junior IODE chapter in Chatham, ON. As a founding member of **IODE Captain Garnet Brackin**, Joan held every position within her chapter.

Times have changed and so have fundraisers. Joan said, "there was a time when she and others went on a shoeshine fundraiser – walking down King Street and asking to shine men's shoes. That was one of our first ventures, being shoeshine girls. We went up King Street and we had a little box. Men in those days wore nice shoes." She added that chapter members would shine shoes for a donation. "We'd never do that today.

Many also participated in family or staff cookie exchanges for the holidays. It seemed at that time making five or six dozen cookies was a chore - how about more than 83 dozen!" Joan recalled when IODE members baked 1,000 cookies each as part of a holiday fundraiser!

At 89 years of age, Joan continues as an active member. In 2022, she received the Ontario Volunteer Service Award for 75 years of volunteerism.

Other Special Awards Thank You and Welcome

IODE Atlantic Charter, St. Stephen, NB, members hosted an Appreciation Night for individuals who are collectively known as *Friends of IODE Atlantic Charter*.

After several years of being *Friends of IODE*, Renee Toner and her mother, Debbie Toner joined the chapter.

Among the *Friends* were seven of the eleven high school students who acted as servers for the St. Stephen High School Graduating Class Dessert Night that IODE Atlantic Charter members catered. Their Guidance Councillor and community members also received certificates of appreciation.



Renee Toner (L) and her mother, Debbie Toner are shown holding their Certificates of Appreciation for their efforts and commitment to the chapter.

Other Special Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award

Even before retirement, Linda Dennis was heavily involved in IODE. Linda continues to serve as President of **IODE Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald**, Markham, ON.

Members have sponsored the children's grief program at Evergreen Hospice, two group homes housing 13 teenagers

supported by 360°Kids, Yellow Brick House, Basketeers, Markham Food Bank and more. The common link is always children - providing craft supplies and snacks for the grief program, school supplies for the teens in group homes, backpacks with teddy bears and items for children arriving at the shelter, gift bags filled with birthday party supplies for the food bank and the list goes on.

Linda's involvement with organizations such as *100 Women Who Care* (Markham), has created opportunities for her IODE chapter to help others. One of her fondest memories in giving through IODE was outfitting a young woman from the group home, who was starting university and preparing for independent living. Team members, using their experience with their children going off to university, filled a van with everything, from a computer and printer, to laundry supplies, bedding and food.

Linda has received recognition including the Cancer Society 20-Year Award, IODE National Life Membership, Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal (IODE), and the Markham Mayor's Seniors Hall of Fame Awards nomination. As a result of her philanthropic efforts Linda earned a *Portraits of Giving Lifetime Achievement Award*.



Other Special Awards

2022 Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Literary and Poster Contest Winners



Two new members of **IODE Errol Egremont**, Sarnia, ON, were recipients of the 2022 Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Literary and Poster Contest: Bryauna Batty (L) won first place in the Intermediate Essay division and sister, Amber Batty was awarded first place in the Intermediate Black and White Drawing.

Their sister, Eralyn recently joined the chapter. The three are granddaughters of IODE Ontario 1st Vice-President and Provincial Membership Officer, Michelle Batty.

Years of Service

IODE is proud of its members' continuous years of membership and service. In order to recognize them in a special way, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 year pins are available for purchase from the National Office.



Years of Service awardees are recognized with the appropriate pin, a letter and Certificate of Congratulations from the National President.

Congratulations to all 2022 recipients of the Years of Service award pins. We are pleased to highlight the following members with more than 65 years of membership and service:

70-75 Years

Joan Clement, IODE Captain Garnet Brackin, ON
Margaret (Betty) Pitt, IODE Mary Lawson, NS
The Late Darleen Springstein, IODE Ethel Cuts, AB

65 Years

Eleanor Bentley, IODE Claremont, ON

Years of Service



IODE Atlantic Charter, St. Stephen, NB

(Left photo) President Maureen McClintock presented Past President Lorna Groom-Haley with her 20 Years of Service pin and certificate. (Right photo) Past President and Treasurer, Sherry Hastey receives her 20 Years of Service pin and certificate.



IODE Nova Scotia President Eileen Glennie (L) and Membership Officer Bonnie Campbell (R) presented Barbara Moore with her 50 Years of Service pin and certificate.

Barbara has served as Secretary for 29 years and has sat many committees. She is a valued member of **IODE Cobequid, Springhill, NS.**

Years of Service



IODE Mary Lawson, Dartmouth, NS. (L-R): 1. President, Sharon Greenough (L) presented Elizabeth Harrison with her 40 Years of Service pin. 2. Member, Rosalind Watt holds her certificate for 40 years of service. 3. President Greenough with charter member, Kay Inkpen honoured for 60 years of service. 4. Betty Pitt displays her certificate and citations for 70 years.



IODE Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Sudbury, ON.

Recognized for 50 Years of Service (L-R) Phyllis Craig, Marlene Penttila, Dianne Caswell, Patricia Nolan, Mary Deeth.



At the High Tea commemorating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, **IODE Maple Leaf**, Goderich, ON, (Photo 1) Membership Officer, Ann-Marie Becke (L) and IODE Ontario President, Helen Danby (C) presented Cathy McDonald with her 50-year pin and certificate. (Photo 2) Pat Stringer was honoured for 60 years of service.

Appreciating Members



Members of **IODE Bemersyde**, Campbellford, ON, put together planters as a chapter fundraiser.

Lisa Cossar and husband Ross brought a trailer load of greenery and the fun began.

(Top Photos L-R) Certificates of Appreciation were presented by President Betsy Thompson to Lisa and Ross and to Kate McKeown for their outstanding

Celebrating a Trailblazer

As a young girl, Vi Bjarnason Hilton learned some positive life lessons from her Icelandic grandmother (Amma) that she adheres to as an 87-year-old great grandmother (Langamma), *always cultivate good people, read good books, listen to good music, feed your heart and soul, do good things for people so your life is wholesome.*

Over the past 15 years as Services Chair for the **IODE Jon Sigurdsson**, Winnipeg, MB, this vivacious woman continues to hold these tenets. She has honed a network of friends, neighbours, and IODE members who regularly bring her clothing, furniture, blankets, socks and hygiene products that she sorts and distributes to the homeless, women's shelters,

Celebrating a Trailblazer

transition housing, young mothers and youth programs.

During the pandemic, chapter members collected personal hygiene products and gently used purses for young mothers and youth; worked with the Mama Bear Clan and the Maya Person



Fund to distribute over 50 food hampers to struggling families; 50 hygiene kits to the homeless and *Move Out Kits* of household items for those transitioning from homeless to housing. Two new members have joined the

services committee, regularly collecting recyclable items such as wine corks, aluminum can tabs and old pill bottles to be repurposed by other charities.



Vi Hilton (R), Natalie Denesovych (L) and Karen Botting (C) during a purse drive fundraiser.

Vi's mother's advice was "never keep your hands idle". Vi is constantly knitting hats, mitts, scarves, blankets, and shawls to be distributed where needed.

Often when driving home from a visit with friends, Vi will stop at a Tim Horton's to pick up a tray of four double-double coffees and doughnuts. Then she will stop her car when she sees a street person and present them with the tray to share with friends. She encourages other IODE members to follow suit.

Celebrating a Trailblazer



Aileen Reid first joined **IODE Eldon House**, London, ON, in 1989. She learned about IODE from her mother, Val Griffiths whose enthusiasm and dedication to helping those in need was her legacy. When Aileen lived in Dorchester, ON, she felt a need for an IODE chapter there. She invited friends to the start-up meeting and organized **IODE Val Griffiths**, named in honour of her mother who passed away in 1994. The bestowal ceremony took place in 1998 with 16 members.

Aileen puts her heart into every fundraiser and project that the chapter undertakes. She has held several offices including President (Regent four times), Services, Membership, Education, Standard Bearer and Ways and Means Convenor.

With Aileen's leadership, the chapter has accomplished much good. She has initiated a number of fundraising projects and community support projects, and has successfully recruited many women to IODE, keeping the chapter strong and active.

In 2023, IODE Val Griffiths will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Marion Hearn, Membership Officer shares; "While we have 30 amazing members, we wouldn't be where we are without the dedication, enthusiasm and energy of our awesome member, Aileen Reid."

Celebrating a Trailblazer

Elizabeth “Libby” Gibson has spent most of her 86 years volunteering.

“I started way back when I volunteered as a Girl Guide and Ranger,” Libby said. She recently celebrated her 55th year as a volunteer; 46 years of those as a member of IODE. Her mother introduced her to volunteering while they were living in Halifax.



Since then, Libby’s volunteer activities included being a ringette coach, Brownie leader, Sunday school teacher, school and parish volunteer, volunteer at the Health Sciences North in Sudbury, North Bay Regional Health Centre. Libby first joined IODE in Sudbury in 1976, serving in various roles and positions. When her family moved to North Bay in 1989, she joined **IODE Dr. Herbert A. Bruce**, North Bay, ON, where she served as President for two terms and volunteered at the IODE Thrift Shop. She remembers washing and ironing numerous pieces of clothing, as well as sorting donations, assisting during the annual garage sale and participating in the *IODE Calendar Girls* fundraiser, which earned more than \$25,000 for their chapter.

When asked why she has stayed with the IODE for so many years, Libby said: “We’re a bunch of women working together, doing some amazing things for the community. I love the camaraderie and the fact that we are helping people. IODE provides so much support, everything from scholarships to helping worthwhile organizations and helping new citizens.”

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 from Members Resources at www.iode.ca or by scanning the QR code



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

Disclaimer:

Celebrating IODE Members Committee reserves the right to edit all submissions. This booklet, in part or wholly, may be reprinted or downloaded from the iode.ca website, with credit given to IODE Canada. Any errors or omissions are unintentional, non-discriminatory and inadvertent.

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, multi-colored sunset sky transitioning from purple and blue at the top to yellow and orange at the bottom. In the lower portion of the image, the silhouettes of several people are shown from the waist up, holding their hands together in a circle, symbolizing unity and support.

The National Chapter of Canada IODE

80 Birmingham Street, Suite B6

Toronto, ON M8V 3W6

iodecanada@bellnet.ca

(416) 487-4416

1-866-827-7428

www.iode.ca

