

Woodstock branch is host to leathercraft annual meet

5/4/77
The 27th annual meeting of the Canadian Society for Creative Leather-craft was held April 22-24 in Stratford, with the Woodstock branch playing host for the weekend.

Chairman for the event was Carol McLean, a past president of the branch and a member of the society.

The Friday evening activities included registration and setting up of displays by the branches and members at large (who are not affiliated with a branch).

Members attended from Belleville, Barrie, London, Windsor, Woodstock, Toronto, Hamilton, Forest, Rochester, N.Y., Buffalo, N.Y. and Detroit, Mich.

Friday evening also included judging of the work for craftsmen ribbons by the members of the society.

The ribbons were presented Saturday evening to 18 winners.

The Saturday morning business meeting, conducted by president Mary Corbett of Barrie, was attended by about

100 members.

TROPHY AWARDED

The Weston Trophy was presented to the branch achieving the highest mark in inter-branch competition. This year's winner was the Toronto branch and its president, Gladys Riddell, accepted the trophy from Beula Reynolds, first vice-president of the society.

At the end of the meeting a mock adjudication panel, Ann Hook, Helen Wheaton and Fred Brown, was formed.

The session was to assist members in looking for points that a judge would look for when marking an article. The marking system for the different categories was also explained.

After lunch many leading craftsmen gave demonstrations. Some of the topics were: covering loose leaf ring binders, Clara Cavanaugh, Barrie; removable book covers, Fred Brown, Toronto; picture frames, Gladys Riddell, Toronto; gun holsters, Jack

Meharg, Toronto; hand bag pattern drafting, Irva Ford, Hamilton; dyeing techniques, Kay Cloughley, Barrie; glove finishing and pressing, Clarice Packham, Toronto; finishes for leather, Jessie Little, Snelgrove; tool sharpening, Walter Mickey, Buffalo, N.Y.; and molded and shaped trays, Muriel McKnight, Hamilton.

A representative from the Noston Co. of Canada demonstrated various types of sharpening stones and abrasive papers.

Following the evening banquet and presentation of the craftsmen ribbons, the group participated in a sing-a-long session, conducted by Woodstock Choralaires conductor, Dr. Norman Burt-Gerrans. He was accompanied by his wife, Terry, and Walter Phegan on the piano. Dr. Phegan also gave several solo pieces.

GUEST SPEAKER

The speaker for the evening was David Darbyshire, a teacher at Huron Park secondary in Woodstock, assisted by his wife, Hilda of Woodstock Craft and Hobby.

Darbyshire talked on Indonesia, where he lived for two years. He accompanied his talk with a slide presentation and a display of native artifacts including, batik cloths, jewellery, shells, gourds and leather puppets.

On Sunday morning a tour of Stratford was conducted by Jim Anderson, a member of the historical society, who is compiling a written history of Stratford and restoring a small country school to its original state.

There are five branches within the Canadian Society for Creative Leathercraft—Hamilton, Woodstock, Toronto, Barrie and Belleville with a membership of over 200. Several other branches are affiliated.

The Woodstock branch meets the fourth Thursday of the month at Springbank school at 7:30 p.m.