

Marion N. Penhale

Marion's roots are in the century farm on County Road 52 which her nephew Doug now runs. Elementary and high school certificates were gained in Elgin County followed by two years at Macdonald Institute, Guelph, and one year's internship in food administration.

Her career moved off at Sensenbrenner Hospital, Kapuskasing, with Victoria Hospital, London, following. There the teaching of student nurses and medical students was correlated with food management skills for twelve years. A Bachelor of Science degree and pedagogy diploma opened the gate for twenty-seven years of high school teaching in Hamilton and the Borough of York. University teaching followed her M.A. degree. After retirement a six-month vacancy was filled at Central Elgin Collegiate.

During her S.T.O. presidency, 1983-1984, executive meetings were held in the home, Library or YWCA. Board of Education space soon followed. A fall luncheon for newly retired teachers began with the careful presentation of S.T.O. programmes to encourage the retirees to join and enjoy the group. Christmas dinners were held at Central United Church, St. Thomas. Space was found at Pearce Williams camp for the annual meeting. We've grown beyond these facilities now.

Teaching time has rolled over to travel, gardening, church work, health promotion, Quota International Service work, theatre, music and library. The S.T.O. experience gave her the opportunity to meet and work with many new members as well as fill the needs of the local unit at that time.

Executive members at the time found dipping into her mulled cider the highlight of the meetings.