W.I. members reminisce at the Sundre Museum school house

by Carol Brown, Cultural Convener of Eagle Valley W.I.

The school house at Sundre Museum was a teahouse Sunday afternoon complete with cozy wood fire on a cold rainy day. Over thirty people signed the guest book and enjoyed visiting, viewing exhibits and reminiscing about days gone by. It is amazing how those pictures and programs of DEL, Sundre, Eagle Valley, Westward Ho W.I.'s and the Girl's Clubs they created brought back so many memories - the room was buzzing. I tried to eavesdrop here and there to get a feel of how it was like back then.

First on the agenda was the official presentation of the Plaque of honor Sundre W.I. Pioneer Women for their work. When they decided to disband in 1969 and sold their hall they donated \$1,000 to start the construction of the two storey building. There was a picture in the local paper then of the cheque passing to the Historical Society. (They also donated \$100 to the arena fund.) There are plans to have a permanent W.I. display on the second level of the building.

Come and visit and read through papers and programs to get a sense of our History.

Next to the DEL scrapbook of their 60th Anniversary was returned to the Sundre Museum as requested by former member Elsie Peksie and Carol Brown Provincial W.I. Cultural Convener.

Then Eagle Valley donated the guest book given by Constituency Covenner Fern Carlson in 1962 and used until 1997 at our display at the Sundre Museum during our Centennial year of W.I. in Canada. We had also donated a flat, black cash box used many years ago. If any

one knows the history of it, please contact the museum.

Also, a picture scrapbook marking the 66th Anniversary of Westward Ho W.I. at an event in Sundre will find a home in this display beside many trophys and awards ladies of that club received for their handiwork and such.

And last but not least Bessie Ellithorpe donated a spoon given to her mother Mrs. Heaton for at least two, four year terms as Secretary Treasurer of Sundre W.I..

Lola Mastin shared memories of her mother Mrs. Stern who was President of Sundre W.I during the 50's. And Frank Overguard enjoyed visiting with the "old timers" too. We even had a visitor sign the guest book from a W.I. in Ontario where we celebrated 100 years last year.

All in all, a most enjoyable day, one that will be repeated.



Guests enjoy an afternoon of tea and conversation at the Sundre Museum. The event was held to discuss a number of issues related to the Women's Institute, and its activities in the community.