

Historian Report 2017 by Betty Colaneri

Memories pressed between the pages of my mind.

While putting the information together for the history book, I was amazed at all the work that League members have done over the years. I felt such pride in this incredible organization of woman that came from every walk of life. Women who were involved in the League not because they have nothing better to do but because there was so much **to** do. Woman who are inspired by the Spirit. Women who have responded to the call. Women who have said "Yes My Lord!" and served His people.

It is important that we take the time to celebrate with our League sisters the history and traditions that have brought us to this moment in time. We cannot dwell in the past but look to it for the foundation, guidance and direction for the future. The League is a gift from God and we are fruits of that gift.

My years on the provincial council have been extremely eventful ones. I am filled with gratitude for the profound relationships that were forged in a bond of faith. When I think back over the years, at times there were smiles and laughter, at times sorrow and tears but always with the outpouring of prayer and compassion. With my GPS (God's Phenomenal Spirit) to guide me, my journey brought me to distant locations I had never been before with beautiful scenery to bridges I wasn't supposed to cross. They are experiences that have given me fond memories to cherish and share for years to come. It is said that memories of the spirit linger and sweeten long after memories of the brain have faded.

One of the many things the CWL has taught me is how to pack figuratively and metaphorically

P – Pray, patience, persistence, passion

A – Attitude, Advocate, Accommodating, Adjust

C – Compassion, Care, Community, Challenge

K – Knowledge, Kindness and to Keep going in faith.

I have often been asked, if I had to do it all over again knowing what I know now, would I do it....ABSOLUTELY!!!!

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your support, encouragement and prayers that you have given me over the years. I feel extremely fortunate to have had this opportunity while walking

with you on this incredible journey. The League has been of great source of enrichment and inspiration with friendships I will cherish forever. The Greeks have a saying. When a person dies they ask if the person had passion. A word that I love and sincerely hope will come to mind when you remember my time with you.

My thanks to the Past presidents for their knowledge, wisdom and guidance. To the wonderful spiritual advisors I have had the pleasure of working with, I thank you.

To the incredible members in Alexandria-Cornwall, Hamilton, Hearst, Kingston, London, Ottawa, Pembroke, Peterborough, St. Catharines, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay, Timmins, Toronto, thank you,

To the phenomenal executive of hardworking women representing the province with such joy that I have been blessed to sit around the table with, my profound gratitude.

It has been an honour and a privilege to have served you and even though these awesome moments have me wishing I could stay, the time has come to pass the torch.

Change is good to revitalize, bring new ideas, new dreams, new visions. You have and will continue to be women of action. I may not be sitting at the table anymore but I will always be your cheerleader.

You are role models and an inspiration in your communities. Encourage each other when struggles arise and be sure to give lots of hugs remembering you are Holding Unending Grace and Spirit. Together you do make a difference. The future of the Ontario provincial council looks amazing! I look forward to seeing it unfold!

Anyone that knows me, knows I love to take pictures and look at pictures. They capture and record that special moment that you can look back on with fondness. When I look back at this moment it will warm my heart and lift my soul.

*I'm so glad we had this time together, With sisters like you how could I go wrong,
Seems we just get started and before you know it comes the time we have to say so long!*

Blessings and hugs, Smile!