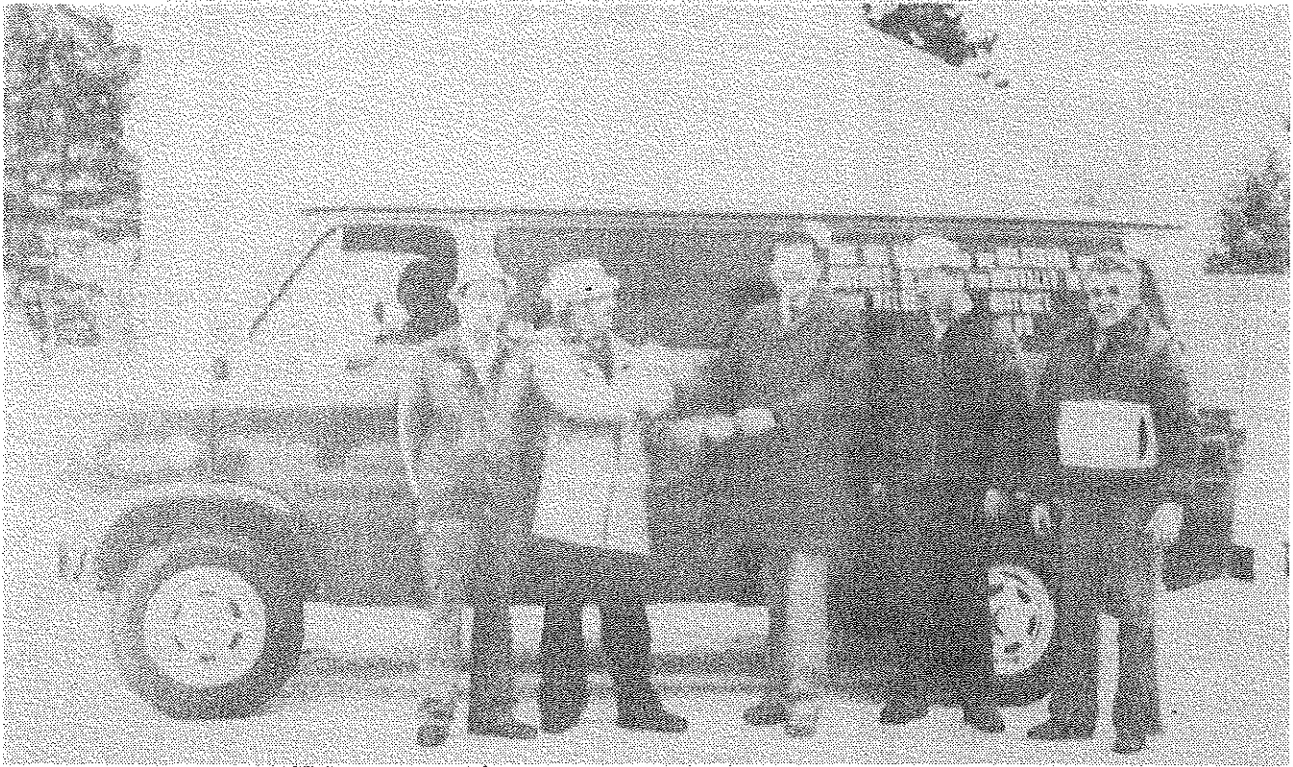


Lions Club Donates \$14,000 Van



Shown in the above photo, taken in front of Lions Park on Huron Street after the Santa Claus Parade in Walkerton, standing in front of the \$14,000 van, donated by the Walkerton & District Lions Club to the Walkerton District Association for the Mentally Retarded are left to right, Lion Harold Dally, Gary

Nielissen, Chairman of the Lion's Social Services and Fund Raising Committee, presenting the keys to Seppo Muro, President of the Association. Lion Jack Barclay, and Lion Jack Bearman. Dave Tait, Outdoor Supervisor for ARC Industries, not pictured, was also present.

As with any organization of this size and scope, there were bound to be turbulent times. In his report, Association President Seppo Munro said the last year saw a complete turnover of senior staff members and numerous changes in volunteers at the Association. The Association could be proud of creating innovative, individualized services unique to this area. Two programs created this past year were tailored to meet the needs of individuals rather than slot people into existing programs.

Mr. Muro continued to report that this positive approach in service was being watched with interest by other Associations and the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

In the Annual Report of 1982-83, John Gray, Executive Director, commented that because of the rapid growth experienced over the past couple of years, the Association did not feel it was in a position to open any new services other than what had been previously planned for in this year.

"To that extent, our part in the planning process to return people to the community from facilities has not been to offer new spaces but to support the Kincardine Association to develop

their own services. In doing so, some demand for the Walkerton services would be lessened, allowing us to focus more specifically on the needs of individuals in our home community", added Mr. Gray.

Gaining Momentum

The trend to integration of handicapped children into the school system had been gaining momentum over the years. Brucehaven School in Walkerton was the only segregated school in Bruce County and a number of handicapped students had begun choosing to attend regular classes in neighbourhood schools. The Association supported integration of handicapped students. (Brucehaven School was closed by the Bruce County Board of Education in June of 1985.)

The Association's next year might not have been as rough as the last, but all the same it weathered some upheavals with no ill effects. As seen by President Fran Austman, 1983-84 was another year of staff, Board and Committee member turnover, and yet the Association was left with strong, capable senior staff people in charge of programs and administration. At the Board and Committee levels, there were reliable people scrutinizing the daily workings of the Association.

August of 1983 saw the closing of the Schumacher House as a group home. The building was converted into offices and a board room to house the administrative offices which were rapidly outgrowing the Cayley Street location. This meant the second floor of Schumacher House would also be available to house the Residential Manager, Extend-a-Family workers and volunteer offices.

Closing Schumacher House as a residential building meant the Association could develop three smaller houses to accommodate three people each. Meanwhile, the apartment program now became the Supported Independent Living Program. This found the individual paying for basic needs such as rent, food, and clothing, while the Association provided staffing.

At this point Family Support Services expanded to involve two satellite offices, one in Kincardine and one in Markdale, while ARC Industries found itself struggling in a declining economy. ARC had to search out new contracts during 1984 to provide ongoing meaningful work for clients and to produce revenue for the shop.

NOTICE

NOTICE

Because of a severe decline in enrolment, the Bruce County Board of Education is considering closing the Brucehaven School for the Trainable Retarded in Walkerton, Ontario, effective June 30, 1985 and making other suitable placements of the students. Citizens are invited to make their views about the proposed school closing known to the Board prior to a final decision being made. Written submissions regarding this matter will be received by the undersigned until May 31, 1985.

J. L. Bowers, Director
Education and Secretary
The Bruce Co. Board of Education
P. O. Box 190,
Chesley, Ontario N0G 1L0

-11c

In order to develop and implement an integrated recreation program for the developmentally handicapped, the Association hired Dianne Kieffer as the Co-ordinator of the Recreation Program. The program was designed to meet recreational, leisure time and social needs for 55 to 60 adults and teenagers in the area. The program also consisted of showing films once a week and taking adults to social community events, plays, concerts, dances and on trips.

Sports and physical exercise helped individuals develop and test their strength and coordination, learn skills, follow rules and stretch to their limit of capabilities. Some individuals became involved in official sports of the Special Olympics which included floor hockey, speed skating, bowling, swimming, and track and field.

In 1985, at an All Ontario Championship Bowling Tournament in Windsor, Region 4 won the tournament and six of Walkerton's clients came home with medals. They also brought home the All Ontario Trophy, allowing five bowlers to qualify to compete in the Special Olympics in July of 1986 in Calgary.

The five bowlers who attended the Special Olympics in Calgary came home with two silver medals and one special recognition.

The Finance Committee, in the 1985-86 annual report, indicated it was concerned with the high rate of staff turnover exceeding 45 per cent. The Committee felt this was the result of low salary rates for front line staff. It suggested the Association approach the Ministry of Community and Social Services for adjustment of funding levels to rectify this problem. As a result, the Ministry of Community and Social Services provided funds to the Association to be put towards a salary increase for staff.

As Vocational Services celebrated its 20th Anniversary in 1985, a Pre-Vocational program was initiated for 11 people from ARC. In addition, a Life Skills Program was established and began operation in February of 1986 with potential enrolment for 12 individuals. Six of these individuals were from Walkerton and six came from the Ministry of Community and Social Services' Family Home Program. Brucehaven School was leased from the Bruce County Board of Education to house this new program.

ARC. INDUSTRIES OPEN HOUSE

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOCATIONAL SERVICES

November 6, 1985



WALKERTON & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

Gerry T. O'Gorman
President

Wesley C. Bell
Executive Director

PAST STAFF

Mr. William Alles
Mr. Rick Becker
Mr. Bob Driscoll
Mrs. Betty Ebel
Mr. John Gibb (dec.)
Ms. Ann Jagelowski
Mrs. Dianne Kietter
Mr. David Kuiper

Mr. Bill Lee
Mr. Rich Maertens
Mrs. Ada Mason
Mr. Roy MacLeod
Mr. Fred Miller
Mr. Bill Mills
Mr. Jim Pattinson
Mr. Frank Powers
Mr. Terry Sanderson

Managers: Mrs. Penny (Crane) Von Hatten
Mrs. Verna Rulstin
Mr. Gerry Smith

PRESENT STAFF

Ms. Paula Dimeck
Mrs. Nancy Forsyth
Mr. Chris Heard

Mrs. Beryl Reid
Mr. Ron Spitzig
Mr. David Tait
Mrs. Mae Watts

Manager: Ms. Ruth Budny

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION:
Mr. Gerry T. O'Gorman, President

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO CLIENTS:
Mr. Jack Tait
Mr. Dave Ferguson
Mrs. Sandra McTavish
Ms. Ruth Budny

20 Years Service
Maureen Cassidy
Patricia Tait
Doris Weber

15 Years Service
John Graper
Jim MacDonald
Shirley Wilton
David Woods

Anne Bonnett
Karen Elliott
Brenda Hargrave
Craig Harrison
Peter Kovacs

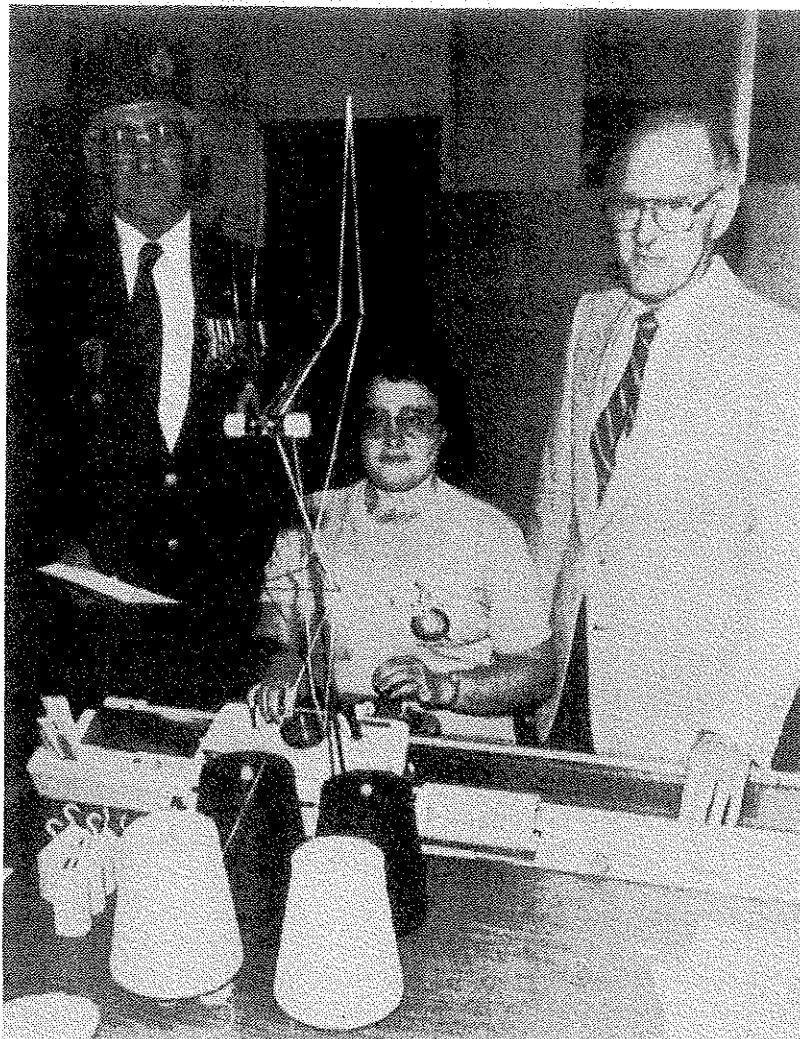
10 Years Service
Francis Kunitz
Rose Kunitz
Rick MacDonald
Rick McClure
Beth McLennan

Mary Obermeyer
Pat Schumacher
John Slumskie
Ken Talbot
Pat Zister

PRESENTATION OF AWARD
TO LONGEST STANDING CONTRACT SUPPLIER
County of Bruce General Hospital

CONTRACT SUPPLIERS

County of Bruce General Hospital, Walkerton
Dr. R. J. Batte, Walkerton
Arthur J. Brown Construction, Walkerton
Bell Canada, Walkerton
Bogdon and Gross, Walkerton
Bruce County Real Estate, Walkerton
Canada Employment Centre, Walkerton
Canada Spool and Bobbin, Walkerton
Canadian Tire, Walkerton
Cunningham Motors, Walkerton
John Ernewein Ltd., Walkerton
Hammond Transformers, Walkerton
Heirloom of Canada Ltd., Chesley
Larsen and Shaw, Walkerton
McIntee Real Estate, Walkerton
M.C. Rapson Realty Ltd., Walkerton
Ontario Hydro, Walkerton
Toronto-Dominion Bank, Walkerton
Union Carbide, Walkerton



HAPPY KNITTING — Employees of ARC Industries of Walkerton can knit on an automatic knitting machine thanks to a \$855.70 donation from the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 102, Walkerton. Doug Hewitson, left, Legion sports officer and Jack Tait, right, chairman of vocational services at ARC Industries, watch as Marion Last operates the new machine. *(Wassink photo)*

Considering a New Name

In 1986 the Association, under President Gerry O'Gorman, began to consider a name change to remove the labelling aspect of the present name. By 1988 the Association had satisfied all the legal requirements to change its name.

In 1989, after 33 years of providing support, the Association changed its name to Walkerton and District Community Support Services. The change was made at the request of people receiving support from the organization.

There was good news for Extend-a-Family in 1989. It received additional funding from the Secretariat for Disabled Persons for an Adult Client Caseworker for one year.

Family Support Services found access to a larger audience this year. A program featured on T.V. Ontario chose Walkerton to give an accurate picture of the Extend-a-Family program in a rural setting. Three matches were featured in the 30-minute production.

Family Support Services had been providing programs to families in South East Grey and the Kincardine area. Transfer of services took place to be administered by South East Grey Support Services and later to the Kincardine Association for the Mentally Retarded.

In 1987, the Family Relief Program under the leadership of Heather Finnie, was initiated to provide families with scheduled times of relief while the handicapped family member was assured of care and attention with a qualified service provider.

The 1987 Finance Committee found itself considering some major items. The largest cost would be renovating the Association's office building, and adjacent structures, on Durham Street. The intent was to have all Association programs administered from one central location.

Yet again, another new program surfaced for the Association. Residential Services initiated and co-ordinated a Relationship Training Program with help from the Bruce County Health Unit. This program would provide training for the clients in social skills and adult sexuality.

Marlene Crawford, President, complimented community support of volunteer time and donations in her 1987 report. She said the excellent community involvement, volunteer work and staff efforts ensured the Association's clientele received high quality support. Community support also made it possible for the Association to continue to improve its service options, she added.

During 1987 the Board continued to strive to resolve the issue of staff compensation. Because approximately 90 per cent of the Association's services to clientele was directly through staff, the compensation issue put clientele in jeopardy. The Board would continue to lobby for political support for staff compensation both locally and provincially.

This year found the Association designing two organization-wide efforts which would continue into the next year. Methods of implementing a Job Classification system and an improved individual Client Centred Planning system were being investigated by the staff.

Residential Services continued to improve service delivery by introducing the Leisure Guiding Program and the Socio-Sexuality Relationship Training.

The Association's Vocational Services program added to its already full range of quality services. The program began providing support for people in individual community jobs. This new vocational option, called Supported Employment, was co-ordinated by Lois Yorke and began in March of 1989.

Vocational Services revenue reached an all time high of 142 per cent during this year thanks to clients and staff who worked to obtain these results. The contract areas were busy and added to the list was an R. P. Eveready contract, adding a new dimension to the workplace.

Jack Tait, who had served as chairman of the Vocational Services Committee, retired this year after serving in this position since 1970.

To ensure that families and individuals were assisted in their efforts to reach maximum developmental potential, Family Support Services expanded its Behaviour Training Program to include an Augmentative Communication Program.

The Association also underwent several administrative changes throughout 1987. These included the hiring of a Financial Support Officer, Rose Weber, and hiring a part-time bookkeeper.

Under the direction of Executive Director, Wes Bell, CSS Manufacturing was opened in September of 1989. This light manufacturing industry in Walkerton had two goals. The first was to create and maintain a series of full-time position for persons with handicapping conditions, and secondly to maintain an industrial unit that was self-sufficient and provided a quality product. Chris Heard was hired as Production Supervisor to lead this ambitious project.

CSS Manufacturing and the renovation and expansion of administration offices were two major projects for the Association during 1989 and 1990. Ministry of Community and Social Services' money also allowed for expansion and enrichment of the Supported Independent Living Program under Residential Services. This unique service was implemented to promote independence for Association clients by renting one house which contained two apartments. There would be 24-hour staffing available for this residence.

Four clients moved from 24 hour supervision to reduced staffing quarters. This program was undertaken to reduce apartment staffing. The Association was supported in this program by the families of clients.

All Under One Roof

In 1990, the Association welcomed a new Executive Director, C. Brodie Hart.

In his 1990 Executive Director's report, C. Brodie Hart wrote: "Through the combined energies of our valued volunteers and over 70 dedicated women and men who serve as our staff, we have been able to continue to respond to the service needs of developmentally handicapped citizens of our community and their families."

The official opening of the newly renovated administrative offices took place on October 5, 1990. Wes Bell, previous Executive Director, was on hand for the opening. Peter Heard, President, Charlie Caudle, representative of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, and David Thomson, Bruce County Warden, joined Maureen Cassidy, Patricia Tait, and Doris Weber for the official ribbon cutting ceremonies.

The issue of employee compensation continued to be a high priority throughout 1989 and 1990. The Finance Committee expressed its concern about high staff turnover rate and the Association's inability to attract the fully qualified people needed to support its clientele. The committee met with local MPP, Murray Elston, and neighbouring MPP, Ron Lipsett, as it looked for help to improve the funding in this vital area. There had been good verbal support from politicians.

In December, 1989 President Peter Heard was able to announce that finances were being provided to the Association through the Ministry of Community and Social Services to implement the second phase of wage comparability initiatives.

Another fully-packed year of activities was organized and implemented by Dianne Kieffer, Recreation Co-ordinator for the Association. As this program does not receive government funding, it relies on generous donors and fundraising projects to keep activities in operation.



Walkerton and District Community Support Services opened officially Friday afternoon with a ribbon cutting conducted by Maureen Cassidy (left), Patricia Tait and Doris Weber. (Photo W. Waffle)

In 1990 two adults qualified for a Cross Country Skiing tournament in Barrie and returned home with two gold, two silver and two bronze medals. Two others qualified for Speed Skating in Ottawa and won three silver and three bronze medals. The Association also won its division at a baseball tournament in Tillsonburg and won several trophies by bowling in Kincardine and Owen Sound. The Special Olympics Bowling Tourney, held in Hanover, found Walkerton's men's and ladies' singles to be the winners.

Some of the interested adults also budgeted for and participated in trips to West Virginia, California and Florida.

The Residential Services programs of Supported Independent Living, Group Homes, and Individual Community Support were serving a total of 35 people. During this year, the Individual Community Support Program had made progress and was well received by the Worker's Compensation Board which funded the program.

Residential Services also offered many networking events to promote socialization and outings around the area. This was done to enhance the individual's quality of life. One such networking event, the Leisure Guiding Program, connected individual residential consumers to a

long list of groups or activities including: Kinsmen Club, Brucelea Haven, Midtown Bowl, Women's Aglow, Walkerton Public Library, Chickenfest Committee, Second Hand Rose, Teddy Bear Club, Mildmay Rotary Club and local churches.

Pending approval from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Residential Committee hoped to expand this program. However, this goal was not attained.

It has been an ongoing aim of the Association to regularly publish a newsletter and distribute information of interest to the members and supporters of the Association. Since 1990 VISION has been published quarterly.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services made a significant grant of \$101,000 to the Association in 1991 to retire the expenses associated with the renovations to the new administration offices.

Mr. Rod Walsh, Legal Advisor, O.A.C.L., was invited to present information on Wills and Guardianship. Mr. Walsh presented to over 40 people at a gathering at the Walkerton Agricultural Hall on April 5, 1991.

Throughout 1991 the Recreation Committee continued to assist clients plan for vacation trips to Florida, California and England. Clients also enjoyed attending Toronto Blue Jays baseball games and Maple Leaf hockey games.

Four Association athletes qualified for the Provincial Winter Games in North Bay and brought home four gold, two silver and two bronze medals. At Figure Skating and Speed Skating competitions in Windsor, Walkerton members captured three gold, one silver and four bronze medals.

Residential Services also completed another exciting year. The committee had been trying new and different living concepts for clients to more effectively move them into the mainstream of the community. Five former residents of institutions were welcomed to Walkerton in 1991. The committee also reported that a new vacation concept — Serendipity — a one to one vacation home in Auburn, had been used successfully. Fifteen of the Association's adults had participated and stayed in Auburn on one to three day vacations.

Two grants were successfully applied for and received approval from the Trillium Foundation in 1991. The grants provided funds for a part-time Public Relations Co-ordinator and the resources to compile the information for and publish this booklet. Kathy Kieffer agreed to expand on her duties of Extend-a-Family Co-ordinator to include the duties of Public Relations Co-ordinator.

The second Trillium grant allowed funds towards the purchase of additional computer hardware and software. In all, Trillium approved \$33,000 to our Association.

35th Anniversary

As Walkerton and District Community Support Services celebrates its 35th anniversary, one must keep in mind that if not for volunteers the Association would not be where it is today.

Kathy Benninger, current President of the Association, sums up the Association's history.

"The history of our Association has been one of steady growth in providing better living and working conditions for developmentally handicapped individuals."

"Through the consistent, congenial and dedicated hard work of the Board of Directors, Committees, staff and parents of the clients a great variety of programs and services have been started, maintained and upgraded for our clientele."

"Now, like always, the Association is looking to the future."

"The future looks exciting and always challenging with continuous work towards more integration for our clients into community working and living situations."

"The Board of Directors, Committees, staff and parents embrace the Association's goal for the future to ensure that 'all persons live in a state of dignity, share in all aspects of community living and have the opportunity to participate effectively' ", she said.

The door to the future is opening wider each day.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

Organizational Meeting	Oct. 11, 1956
1st Annual Meeting	Nov. 7, 1956
Establishment of Brucehaven School	Nov. 26, 1956
1st Regional Meeting	March 1958
Adult Opportunity Centre	Oct. 1965
(recognized as the beginning of the Adult Services Program)	
Walkerton Retarded Children's Education Authority	1965
Mother's Morning Out Program	1966
New Brucehaven School	Oct. 19, 1966
Incorporation	1968
Babysitting Course	1968
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	1968
Supporting Mental Aid with Student Help (SMASH)	Feb. 1969
Flowers of Hope Campaign	1968
Home Care Committee becomes Family Services	1971
Advisory Committee on Schools for Trainable Retarded	1971
Recreation Program and Physical Education	1974
Bruce-Grey Developmental Clinic	1974
Opening of New ARC Industries Building	1975
Formation of Sub-District Working Group	1975
Accommodation Program (Adult Training Home)	1976
Schumacher House Program	1977
Community Work Enrichment Program	1978

1st Executive Director, John Murray	Nov. 1977
Family Support Services	March 30, 1979
Family Case Management	1979
Behaviour Training	1979
Home Visitors Program Revitalized	1979
Young Mothers Group	1979
Youth Group	1979
Integrated Day Care	April 15, 1980
Extend-a-Family	Nov. 1980
Youth Across Canada with the Mentally Retarded	1979
Citizens Advocacy Program	1980
Adult Services becomes Vocational Services Committee	1980
Accommodation Committee becomes Residential Services	1980
Apartment Program	Oct. 1980
Toy Library	1981
Infant Development Program	1981
Schumacher House closed	Aug. 1983
Individual Community Support Program — Mildmay	1983
Apartment Program becomes Supported Independent Living Program	1983
Recreation Program	1984
Moms and Tots Group Organized	1984
Pre-Vocational Program	1985
Life Skills Program	Feb. 1986
Relationship Training Program	1987
Leisure Guiding Program	1987
Socio-Sexuality Relationship Training	1987
Supported Employment Program	March 1989
Family Relief Program	1989
Augmentative Communication Program	1989
CSS Manufacturing	Sept. 1989
VISION Newsletter	1990
Parents Support Group	1990
Trillium Foundation Public Relations Co-ordinator	April 1991
Wills and Guardianship Presentation	April 1991
Trillium Foundation — Purchase of Computer Equipment	March 1992
Parenting Program	1992

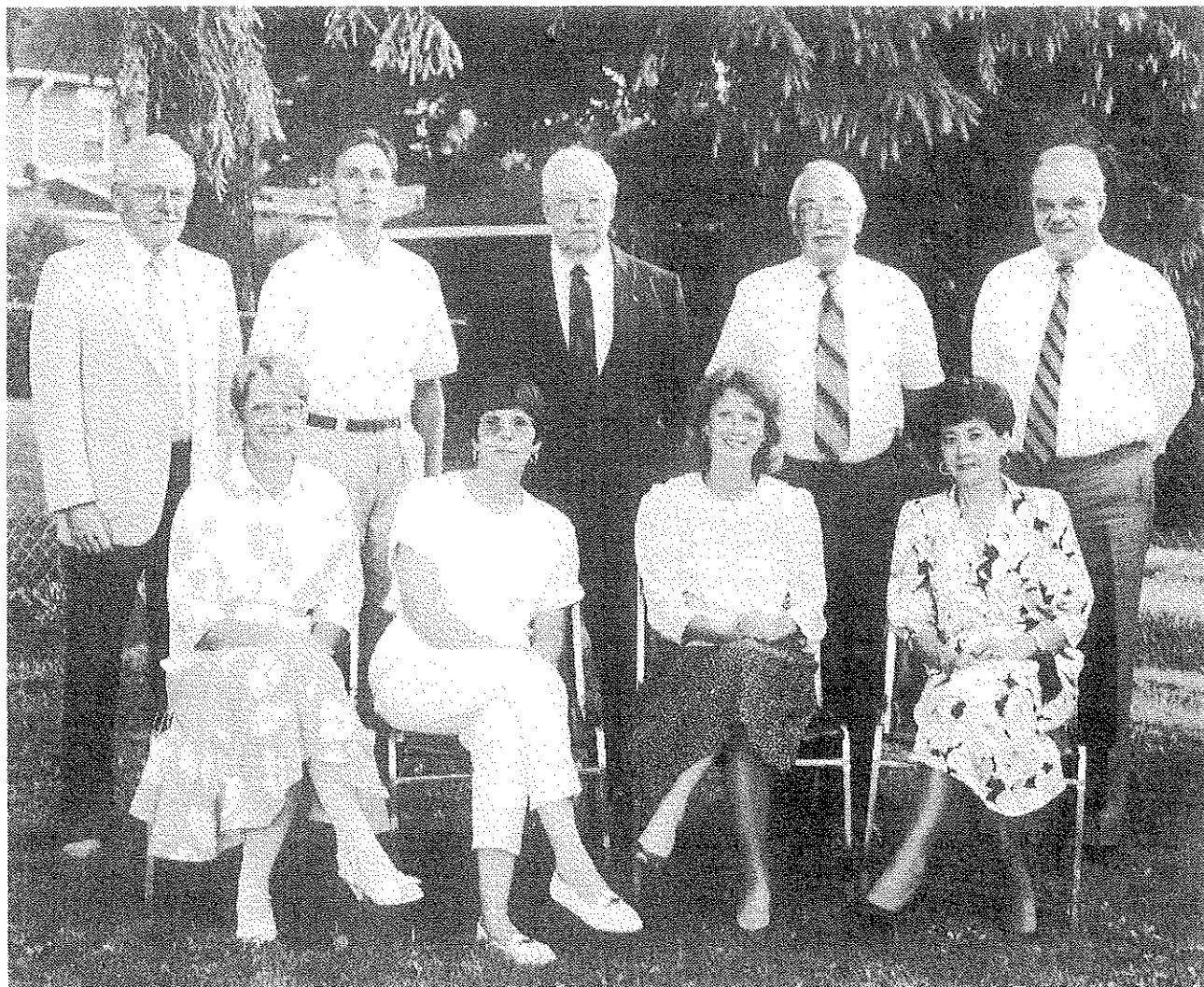
Walkerton and District Community Support Services

PRESIDENTS

1956-1957	George Ross
1957-1958	Wilfred E. Crerar
1958-1959	Marion Tait
1959-1960	Gerald Cassidy
1960-1961	Morris Ashbury
1961-1963	Jack M. Tait
1963-1966	Clarence Thompson
1966-1968	William Schumacher
1968-1970	Jim Leslie
1970-1972	Virginia Brown
1972-1974	Karl Heiligers
1974-1976	Margaret Wenzel
1976-1978	Marion Tait
1978-1980	Ken Brown
1980-1982	Carl Remus
1982-1983	Nancy Baillie
1983-1984	Seppo Muro
1984-1985	Fran Austman
1985-1987	Gerry O'Gorman
1987-1989	Marlene Crawford
1989-1991	Peter Heard
1991-Present	Katherine Benninger

Walkerton and District Community Support Services

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1991-1992



Back Row: Gerry O'Gorman, Dave Taylor, Colin Sutherland, Peter Heard, C. Brodie Hart, Executive Director.

Front Row: Kathy Benninger (President), Marlene Crawford, Carol Allen, Fran Ernest.

Absent: Rita Halpin, Mary Campbell, Executive Secretary.

Walkerton and District Community Support Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

1977-1980	John Murray
1981-1982	Archie Dowker
1982-1985	John J. Gray
1985-1990	Wesley C. Bell
1990-Present	C. Brodie Hart

Acknowledgement:

*With the spirit of many hands contributing, this book has been prepared for you
in celebration of this achievement.*

History Book Committee:

Kathy Benninger, Mary Campbell, C. Brodie Hart, Kathy Kieffer, Carol Patterson, Marion Tait.