WAMUN Newsletter



Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland Volume

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March 2014



Greetings from your President



Greetings everyone,

Welcome to 2014. It has been a chilly year so far, so I hope that you are all managing to keep warm and active in spite of the winter weather.

At the moment your executive is looking forward to our Spring talk, on March 18th, at the Bruneau Centre. The speaker will be Anthony Germain from the CBC who will be talking about his time in China. A lot of effort, especially on the part of Karen Lippold, has gone into making this event happen. It is, I believe, the first time that WAMUN has worked together with other organizations, CFUW, MUNPA and the Political Science Department, to host an event. Make sure that you come and persuade all your friends to attend as well.

Beyond the Spring talk is the AGM, which will take place on Saturday, April 26th in the Junior Common Room at R. Gushue Hall on the Memorial campus. The planning for the AGM is well advanced and tickets for the luncheon will soon be available (or may actually be, by the time you read this). We are trying a new menu this year as the food provider at Memorial is now Aramark. The luncheon will be a choice of a cold chicken breast or a cold salmon fillet. The price remains \$25 and, of course, you are welcome to attend the business portion of the AGM whether you come to the luncheon or not.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in WAMUN and perhaps a member of the executive, please contact me or any other member of the executive.

Kathy Simonsen, President

Spring Talk

CHINA UNCENSORED

Confessions of a Canadian Foreign Correspondent

Anthony Germain worked in China for five years (2006-2011) for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and travelled across much of the world's most populous nation. In an open lecture, Anthony shares his personal observations about covering China's people, its politics, and its new power and influence in world affairs. Anthony will also share anecdotes about how he and his family coped with the culture shock western visitors experience when they move to such a vast, complex, and dynamic country. A Q & A session will follow Anthony's presentation.

Parking will be available in Lot 15B. All are welcome.

DATE: Tuesday, March 18th

TIME: 4:00 pm

WHERE: Bruneau Centre for Innovation and Research Lecture Theatre, IIC 2001

(formerly know as the Inco Innovation Centre Lecture Theatre)

SPONSORED BY:

Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland Memorial University of Newfoundland Pensioners' Association Memorial University of Newfoundland Department of Political Science Canadian Federation of University Women

Coffee Morning



The Coffee Morning group has been meeting every second Wednesday throughout the year. We meet in member's homes and we have had some delicious refreshments and wonderful times together. We share a cup of tea or coffee, something savory, something sweet, and most importantly we share our news, our stories and our interests with each other. So, on any given day, some of us may be showing what we

have knit, or are about to knit. Others will be sharing stories and others may be quietly seeking advice.

The Coffee Morning is about friendship and being supportive of each other. I hope you will consider joining our special group.

Ruth Noel, Convener

WAMUN Book Club - Nonfiction Group



In April, we put forth books for next year's discussions. Which of the new books will outshine, Catherine the Great, A Thousand Farewells, Shakespeare's Tremor ..., Alex and Me, I Married the Klondike, Below the Bridge, Leonardo and the Last Supper, which

we have already discussed, or *The House on Dream Street or In the Garden of Beasts*, which we have yet to talk about?

You should join us at 2:00 p.m., the first Tuesday of each month, at Marjorie Mews Library, to help in our deliberations – on and off topic.

Deborah Rehner, Convener



WAMUN Book Club - Fiction Group

Mostly Fiction Book Club

We almost ran out of chairs when Lisa Moore joined both sections of the Club to discuss her book "February"!

Lisa was a wonderful guest. She told us how a news report that an unwanted satellite would be jettisoned over the Grand Banks with no thought for the people on the rigs led her to write "February", another tale of lack of concern for human lives. Her answers to our questions were thoughtful, articulate and demonstrated how deeply she was touched by the tragedy of the



L - R Lisa Moore, Author of *February*, Mary Chalker and Tonya Bassler, Book Club Conveners

Ocean Ranger. It was very interesting to hear her view of her characters and themes. We were all left with a deeper appreciation of the book.

The discussion was followed by refreshments and more talk. It was a treat to have everyone together for a change.

While this February meeting was a highlight, we still have books to read and talk about. Newcomers are always welcome so why not join as we discuss the following

March	The Virgin Cure	
April	The Hangman in the Mirror	
Мау	The Last Runaway	

June Our famous pot luck dinner and choice of books for next year

For more details on the books and times and place see the webpage at www.mun.ca/wamun

Mary Chalker

Tonya Bassler, Conveners

ET, or Our Electronic Toys



ET, our electronic toys, engage the interest of a small group on the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} Thursday of each month, at 2 p.m. in the Community Room off the A.C. Hunter Children's Library.

This year, we have sometimes actually based the days activities on a specific topic, such as "Photos and your Electronic Toy", or "Music: What is iTunes all about?" However at least once a month we share each others' questions, answers and observations. Electronic tablets (iPads, Android tablets, etc.) are

very often the centre of interest, but cell phones, laptops and cameras each have had their day.

We welcome you – come with questions – come with answers – come with information about the electronic world.

Susan Goold Karen Herzberg Deborah Rehner, Conveners

Music Interest Group

The Music Interest Group is up and running. When we started in September, we were not sure what we would be doing this year – and we still aren't quite sure about that.



In the several meetings we have had, we have considered:

- some early music, especially fugues and some music with graphic scores on YouTube;
- Handel's Messiah in St. John's;
- Mozart and his music; Arvo Pärt and his music.
- the many talents of Pat Collins' digital piano
- We cannot guarantee what will happen in the following meetings, but we are looking

forward to:

- considering a couple of other composers and their music;
- considering music which we know little about and which may be outside our comfort zone;
- wide-ranging, interesting discussions about all sorts of music related topics.



We usually meet a 2:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month at Marjorie Mews Library. We would love to have you join us.

Deborah Rehner, Convener





Arvo Pärt

Hiking



WAMUN's two walking groups, the Saturday strollers and the more energetic Monday crowd, continue to meander in and about St. John's. Both groups meet at

1:30 p.m. on their respective days.

Before the snow set in with a vengeance, the Saturday group had up to a dozen or so walkers, plus canine companions. The picture shows us at Bannerman Park,

shortly before The Loop opened. Even in February and March, we seem to pick up 7 - 10 by the time we are ready for our break at Tim's.

The snowy picture is taken at Bowring Park.

Now we are in the middle of winter, so the Monday group has spent several days

on snowshoes. Another time, walking in Bowring Park, Ingrid got some impressive pictures of Cormorants.

Come join us!

Deborah & Elke, Conveners



Scrabble Group

A friendly group of us meet at Starbucks at Chapters on Kenmount Rd. every Wednesday morning from 10:00 am - 12:00 Noon. The aim of the game is to have fun and try out our word knowledge (cheat sheets are allowed). You will never be without people to play with as there are no set partnerships. We mix and match quite freely. We look forward to seeing you all there on Wednesdays.

For a little extra scrabble fun in support of a good cause please see the attached poster.

Janet Fairley and Joan Fuller, Conveners

WAMUN AGM Reminder

•	WHEN: Saturday, April 26th	Items such as sugar, flour, cooking oil,
•	WHERE: Junior Common Room, R. Gushue Hall	canned vegetables and fruits, juices, tinned milk, tins of tuna, chicken or ham,
•	TIME: 11:30 am for lunch at Noon	plain macaroni and rice, and spaghetti sauce are always in demand at the MUN Campus Food Bank in Carto Bool poor
•	If you plan to only attend the business meeting you should plan to be there about 1:00 pm.	Campus Food Bank in Corte Real near Burton's Pond. Donations of non- perishable items continue to be collected
We hope to see you all there		

Recycling for WAMUN Scholarships

Please don't forget to contribute in this part. Ever Green accept our bags and credit them to our account only if we attach a label that identifies our account exactly as it has been set up:

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF MUN

Be sure to tape the label securely. For more information, please refer to our website: www.mun.ca/wamun.



Support Food Bank



Scrabble Fun for a Good Cause!

Terre-neuve Grandmothers/Grandothers



Saturday March 22, 2014, 2-5 pm St. David's Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth Avenue Admission \$10

Come as a team or find a partner there Bring a board/4th ed. Scrabble Dictionary (a few will be available)

Help grandmothers in Africa raise their orphaned grandchildren, through the Stephen Lewis Foundation