WAMUN Newsletter



Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland

Volume 41, No. 1

September 2013

http://www.mun.ca/wamun

Greetings from your President

Dear Friends,

Welcome back!

It is a truism that the real year begins in September, with students returning to school and many organizations starting up again after the summer hiatus. WAMUN's new year looks super! The social convenors - really a social committee this year - Brenda Burness, Karen Lippold and Ingrid Pardoe have already created a packed calendar of events to which we can look forward.

The first big thing is, as always, the Fall Reception, which will be on September 25th, so save the date and plan to bring a friend along. An association is only as strong as its members, and we have room for many more. Besides, we will be giving away a membership for a new member at the Reception, so your friend may be the winner.

On a more serious note, our scholarships are very dear to us. Many members, past and present, have worked very hard to raise funds for the scholarships to help students. Although we have given up the plant sale and other activities of that sort, our scholarship fund still needs attention (Linda Hensman will talk about this at the Fall Reception and will circulate a letter in due course). You have all been very generous over the years, but the work is not finished yet.

There is a lot to enjoy this year. The book groups have chosen excellent titles; the hiking groups have been active all summer exploring the region; the scrabblers have been scrabbling; the other groups are about to start up again. Fill in your form, pay up your membership and get out there and discover the opportunities!

See you on the 25th!

Kathy

WAMUN New Executive Board Members 2013-2014

New Executive Board Members:



President: Kathy Simonsen Treasurer: Mary Chalker

Vice-President: Dorothy Milne Newsletter Editor: Patricia Whittle

Past President: Julia Mathieson Social Convenors: Brenda Burness

Joan Fuller Karen Lippold
Ingrid Pardoe

Membership Chair: Susan Goold

Secretary:



2013-2014 Fall and Winter Events

- September 25th, 2013 ,Wednesday, Fall Reception in the Earth Sciences Graduate Lounge, ER 4065 from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM
- * November 6, 2013, Wednesday, Potluck dinner and talk— Earth Sciences Graduate Lounge, ER 4065

6:00 for 6:30; Starting

6:30-7:30; Dinner

7:30-8:30; Talk - Kay Matthews' talk on Maternal Infant Health and Training Local Women in West Africa and Nunavut

- * January 18h, 2014, Saturday, January Coffee Morning in the Earth Sciences Graduate Lounge, ER 4065 from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
- * TBA Spring Talk
- * April 26th, 2014, Saturday, Annual General Meeting at the Junior Common Room, Gushue Hall 11:30 for 12:00 Noon—Business Meeting to begin at 1:00 pm

Fall 2013 Talk

Kay Matthews is a former faculty member at Memorial University and was named honorary research professor in 2003. She received her bachelor of nursing and master of nursing from Memorial, having already received a diploma in nursing from St. Anthony's Hospital in Cheam, Surrey, England, and a diploma in midwifery from General Lying-in Hospital in London.

After arriving in St. John's in 1967 and realizing there was a need, she started a cottage industry, coaching pregnant women in techniques of maternal and child health.

She's worked extensively in Nunavut and various other parts of the world. In Indonesia as a project director, Kay built networks that spread outwards from 25 nursing faculty and graduate students in Djakarta, to include scores of nurses and paraprofessionals in villages. At Wara there's a busy centre for birthing and education endorsed by the government as the model for rural Indonesia, and where Kay is known as Ibu Kay, the woman who made the difference.

She has been working with MaterCare in Nigeria and Ghana since 1991, travelling to villages to educate practitioners and mothers, fearless even in the midst of menace in a broken-down car on a mud road!

Kay was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree from Memorial in 2006.

WAMUN Book Club - Non Fiction Group

About a decade ago, someone said, "Let's start a book group that just reads nonfiction." And so we did!

This years titles include: September: Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman Robert K. Massie



October: A Thousand Farewells Nahlah Ayed

November: Shakespeare's Tremor and Orwell's Cough John Ross, M.D.

December: Alex and Me Irene Pepperberg

January: I Married the Klondike Laura Beatrice Berton

February: Below the Bridge Helen Fogwill Porter

March: Leonardo and the Last Supper Ross King

May: The House on Dream Street Dana Sachs

June: In the Garden of Beasts Erik Larsen

Did you notice that April is missing? That is when we meet to recommend titles for the next year, which we vote on at the June meeting. The pictures are taken from this year's April meeting with several books on the table and all defending their recommendations.

We meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 2 p.m. at Marjorie Mews Library. Come join us!

Deborah Rehner, Convener



WAMUN Book Club - Fiction Group



Books for 2013 - 2014

September The Cat's Table Michael Ondaatje

October The Secret Daughter Shilpi Somaya Gowda

November Life after Life Kate Atkinson

January The Buddha in the Attic Julie Otsuka

February February Lisa Moore

March The Virgin Cure Ami MacKay April The Hangman in the Mirror Kay Cayley

May The Last Runaway Tracey Chevalier

Reserve Book *The Curve of Time* M. Wylie Blanchet

This year there will be no evening session. The two afternoon sessions will met as follows:

- * Second Tuesday Afternoon of the Month Group 2:00 pm Convener: Tonya Bassler. Karen Herzberg will replace Tonya until further notice
- * Fourth Tuesday Afternoon of the Month Group 2:00 pm Convener: Mary Chalker

Both sessions will meet at the Marjorie Mews Branch of the Public Library in the strip mall on the corner of Torbay Road and Highland Drive.

For the past several years we have been meeting in the common room of Tiffany Towers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ursula Sampath, Jane Tomlinson and especially our "booking agent" Julita Muzychka for making this possible.









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Exploring our Electronic Toys Group (ET)

What is ET up to this year? Following the survey which was taken at the AGM, we have made a few changes.

First, let's look at the results of the survey. Seventeen people responded to the survey. Five of these expressed a preference for a day other than Thursday for meeting, but more people were satisfied with Thursday (7) than any other day, so we have stayed with Thursday for our meeting day. About half of the respondents included 'just about anything' or 'functions beyond the base' level in response to the questions, "What would you like help with?" or "What lectures would you like?" Several suggested topics having to do with photography. Other specific topics that suggested included text messaging, transferring between tablet and computer, and Windows/Microsoft.



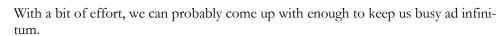


Before we started our summer break, we had decided that it did not work well to meet 'every week' and that some of our meetings needed to have more structure. Accordingly, we will be meeting twice a month in 2013 – 2014, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, starting on September 26 – the day after the Fall Reception!

Also, every other meeting will be structured meeting, with one person taking responsibility for a particular topic. On September 26, Deborah will start us off with "Productivity, Ha!" Some apps are given the subtitle 'productivity'. Can you really be productive using a tablet? Do these apps help? Deborah will share her ideas, using the ET group as an example. To keep the momentum going, Susan will teach us something about text messaging and other ways of communicating with your electronic toys on October 24.

In between, on October 10, we will talk about other topics we can 'teach' each other, as well as continuing to address individual problems and perhaps reviewing 'Productivity' apps. We may refer to the survey for topics to discuss, but we will also consider new ideas. When brainstorming a few days ago, the conveners came up such diverse topics as:

- geography
- learning, in general
- photos: sharing, making the best use of your 'Photos' app, etc.
- music both 'producing' and 'listening'.





Please refer to our website, http://www.mun.ca/wamun/ET.php for up-to-date information. It will be revised regularly, so we recommend that you return from time to time.

Come join us!

Susan Goold, Karen Herzberg, and Deborah Rehner, Conveners

WAMUN - Hiking Group

Walking is good exercise! And socializing in lively company is good for the soul! So, we walk and we talk.

Hiking, etc. consists of two groups with slightly different mandates. If you want to stroll, to walk slowly or quickly as strikes your fancy over gentle terrain, then come with us every Saturday. Some of us walk very slowly, others a bit more quickly and a few get some good aerobic exercise. No one is left alone and we always stop for 'coffee', so socializing is a large part of the experience. But if you are up to longer walks/hikes over somewhat rougher terrain, then you might want to do your walking every Monday. We enjoy the East Coast Trail, the Botanical Garden, Signal Hill (and all its nooks and crannies), the Three Pond Barrens and all of the possibilities of Bowring Park. We also socialize as we walk, but we spend more time walking, walk further and don't make a special stop for 'coffee'. Of course, several of us walk on both Monday and Saturday and you are welcome to join us whenever you like.



Hiking, etc. is probably unique as a WAMUN interest group in that it has several canine 'members'. Our dog friends enjoy our company as long as we are well behaved, i.e., we pick up after them and don't take them places where they are not wanted.

Come walk with us!

Deborah Rehner, Convener

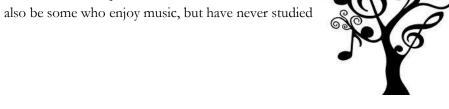
Music Interest Group

A new 'music' interest group has been proposed. It will be meeting at the Marjorie Mews Library on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. It might turn out to belike another book group, except that instead of reading books, we will be listening to music. On the other hand, it may be quite different, because we may find out that there will be many musical topics that we would like to learn about and that the music we listen to will be incidental. Who knows, we could even end up discussing books about music!

Come on Tuesday, September 17 and let's talk about what we would like to learn and how we can go about learning it. There should be some of us who know a bit, who can read music, etc. There may be others who have listened to a lot of music and know quite a lot about music, but who do not play any instrument. And there should also be some who enjoy music, but have never studied it, and who would like to know more.

See you there!

Deborah Rehner, Convener



Scottish Country Dancing

WAMUN members are invited to participate in Scottish Country Dancing. Classes commence in September, 2013 at 7:45 at Wesley United Church on Patrick Street, finishing at 10:00 pm.

Several WAMUN Members are already Scottish country dancers including Kathy Simonsen, Ingrid Pardoe and Brenda Burness who would be happy to give further information. They can be contacted at:

Scrabble Group 2013-2014

Calling all scrabble players from beginners to experts. A very friendly group of us meet at Starbucks at Chapters on Kenmount Rd. every Wednesday morning of the year 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. So we look forward to seeing you all there on Wednesdays.

Janet Fairley and Joan Fuller, Convenors



Coffee Morning 2013-2014



A cup of tea or coffee, a muffin, a piece of fruit or a piece of cake and great company; a wonderful way to spend an hour and a half on a weekday morning. The Coffee group is an informal way of socializing and interacting with other WAMUN members. The group meets on alternate Wednesday mornings at 10:30 AM and members take turns hosting the gatherings in their homes. This is a great way to meet and get to know other WAMUN members.

Join Us! Ruth Noel, Convenor

WAMUN Membership

Ladies, it is that time again. Time to renew your WAMUN membership for 2013-2014. You will find the membership form attached to this newsletter, as well as being able to obtain it on our website. Please make cheques payable to WAMUN and do not combine the amount with the money you might be sending in for scholarships. Sending in your forms ahead of time to our postal box makes for a much easier time at our Fall Reception. - no lineups and more time to catch up with friends and enjoy refreshments. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining WAMUN, please bring them along. New members are always welcome.

Susan Goold, Membership Chair

Support Food Bank

Items such as sugar, flour, cooking oil, canned vegetables and fruits, juices, tinned milk, tins of tuna, chicken or ham, plain macaroni and rice, and spaghetti sauce. are always in demand at the MUN Campus Food Bank in Corte Real near Burton's Pond. Donations of non-perishable items continue to be collected at WAMUN events throughout the year.



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WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND MEMBERSHIP

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(for the WAMUN scholarship program)

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