

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT**President's Annual Report 2005 – 2006**

This year we had three general meetings: the Fall Reception and Membership Registration, our 40th Anniversary Celebration and the AGM and three more focused meetings.

We started in September with our Plant Sale and Raffle which many people had worked on for weeks to raise money for the Scholarship fund. Jaime Enachescu and her committee did a really good job and Marilyn Macdonald and Mary Niefer spent hours collecting prizes for the raffle. For the Fall Reception, instead of wine and cheese, we tried something a bit different. The coffee, tea and desert party evening was a success both socially and financially. In addition to our regular members, we were happy to welcome various new people.

As usual, the interest groups started up and ran quite happily on their own. For the next more focused meeting later in the fall, Sue Scott presented a very interesting slide show and description of her expedition in Peru.

On January 14, 2006 we celebrated WAMUN's 40th Anniversary with a special coffee morning. Many of our members helped to make this a very successful event. We invited all sorts of people who had been part of WAMUN over the years and many of our past Presidents and some people we hadn't seen for years able to come. Over 50 women signed our guest book.

We all enjoyed renewing relationships. Julia Mathieson and Mary Chalker prepared two interesting displays from the Archives. The sandwiches and pastries we ordered were well received and Sue Michalski made us a special cake. Tonya Bassler introduced two of our graduate scholarship winners and presented them with certificates. Karen Herzberg and Margaret Michalak took all sorts of photos of the event.

In February, our members enjoyed a special tour given by Ilse Hughes of her show at the Red Ochre Gallery. We even managed to miss a blizzard by only a day. Thanks Ilse.

During the year we have presented 4 undergraduate and 4 graduate scholarships to Memorial students described later in Tonya's report. All of these

students wrote either to me or to Tonya to say how grateful they were and how much the extra money has helped them. All our work raising money for the Scholarship fund really is appreciated.

Finally the AGM April 8 was well attended, the luncheon was good and we accomplished a lot during the meeting. I'd like to thank Brenda and Margaret for all their work.

I would like to thank all the members of the Executive this year who have contributed in different ways too numerous to outline here. Deborah Rehner has kept you informed of who has been doing what all year in her excellent newsletters.

Eleanor Nesbitt

**WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERSHIP AT
AGM**

8 APRIL 2006

The WAMUN scholarship program began in 1978 with one undergraduate scholarship. In 1985 WAMUN added graduate scholarships. Including the 2005-2006 academic year WAMUN has awarded 156 scholarships since the program's inception. WAMUN now awards 8 scholarships annually. (The 9th scholarship this year was an anomaly—see later in report for explanation.)

Each of the 4 undergraduate scholarships is valued at \$900; each of the 4 graduate scholarships is valued at \$1,200. But since the Office of Graduate Studies funds half of each graduate scholarship, our outlay for each of them is only \$600. Thus, the annual cost to us of the 4 undergraduate scholarships is \$3,600 (4 x \$900) and the 4 graduate scholarships \$2,400 (4 x \$600) for a total annual outlay of \$6,000 from our scholarship fund.

These are our 2005-2006 winners:

Undergraduate (\$900 each):

Entrance	*Sandra Badcock	St. John's
Faculty/Staff	Elizabeth Mason	Conception Bay South
Undergraduate	**Name Withheld by Request	St. John's
Single Parent	Mary Newton	Wareham
Mature Student	Heather Chafe	St. John's

Graduate (\$1,200 each):

Master's Thesis Route	Mary Keefe	Education
Master's All-Course Route	***Nancie Rideout	History
Ph.D	Robert Dykstra	Anthropology
Ph.D	Connie Morrison	Education

* This is the last year for WAMUN to award the Entrance Scholarship. The University generously funded it this year because WAMUN's new Undergraduate Scholarship (as per 2005 AGM vote) replaced it. In other words, WAMUN awarded 5 undergraduate scholarships this year, but funded only 4 of them.

** The student requested that his name be withheld from publication. S/he and his/her parents perceive a stigma to be attached to a scholarship with "financial need" as a required component.

*** This student is the 3rd recommended for this particular scholarship. The first 2 were found to be ineligible before the scholarship was actually awarded.

This year for the first time, WAMUN gave a congratulatory certificate, in addition to the usual letter, to each scholarship winner. Connie and Robert received theirs in person at the WAMUN Coffee in January. The Committee intends to continue this policy.

All scholarships, except the new undergraduate one, must be specifically applied for. In addition, WAMUN requires all scholarship winners to have demonstrated financial need, which the University defines differently for each of the two levels of scholarships.

For an undergraduate, financial need refers to the amount of student loan applied for in the same term as the scholarship is applied for. That is, the larger the student loan needed that term (not the total to date), the greater the student "financial need." Medical students are, by the way, eligible for our undergraduate scholarships.

For a graduate student, a student loan is not part of the equation for financial need. Rather, "financial need" is defined by the amount of grants or scholarships the student brings to his/her graduate study program. In other words, the greater the amount of grants or scholarships, the less the "financial need."

At WAMUN's request, the Scholarship Committee has asked the Office of Graduate Studies to award the graduate scholarships in a diversity of academic disciplines.

For the past 5 years (2001-2005), our 20 graduate winners have been in these fields of study:

Anthropology	1	Biology	1
Community Health/Medicine	1	Earth Sciences	1
Earth Sciences	1	Education	2
Engineering	1	Folklore	6
History	1	Newfoundland Studies	1
Philosophy	1	Social Work	1
Women's Studies	3		

Our Committee met three times this year and has coincidentally three recommendations for our membership to consider at the AGM:

1. Amend the constitution to add to the Committee's duties "to monitor the administration of the scholarship program and ensure adherence to established criteria." (This was circulated in the February 2006 Newsletter.)
2. Increase each undergraduate scholarship by \$100 from \$900 to \$1,000. (This is in keeping with a motion passed at a March 1999 general meeting.)
3. Eliminate the financial need component in the Faculty/Staff and Undergraduate scholarships.

Our scholarships are publicized in the MUN Calendar and on the WAMUN web page. Unfortunately, changes at our AGMs are too late to be published in the next MUN Calendar, but they may still be enacted by notifying the appropriate MUN scholarship administrators. To facilitate students' awareness of them, we have already arranged for our undergraduate scholarships to be listed with individual headings in the upcoming MUN Calendar.

Attached is the Committee's financial report based on the most recent information available to us on the state of our Fund. However, please note we will be providing an amended report when the final figures for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2006 are available to us.

Any analysis of our Scholarship Fund finances has to bear in mind that our Fund is divided into two university-mandated parts: the so-called "restricted and unrestricted portions." The restricted portion is the endowment amount. It is solely for income-producing growth and may not be drawn upon at WAMUN's discretion for scholarship payout. On the other hand, the unrestricted portion may be drawn upon at WAMUN's discretion for scholarship payout. The university requires that a two-year scholarship payout be maintained in it. Both portions earn income at the same rate. For the past two years WAMUN has requested that all fund income—whether gifts or interest—be deposited in the unrestricted portion.

Respectfully submitted,

WAMUN Scholarship Committee
 Tonya Bassler, Chair
 Louise Dawe
 Linda Hensman
 Marjory MacDiarmid
 Marilyn Macdonald
 Sue Murdey, WAMUN Treasurer

**WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
 FINANCIAL REPORT AND PROJECTIONS
 FOR 2005-2006
 18 January 2006**

As of January 2006:

RESTRICTED funds \$ 96,450.85
 UNRESTRICTED funds \$ 11,365.56
 +Donations \$ 3,214.15
 Plant sale 2,164.15
 Individuals 1,050.00
 Interest (up to 30/9/2005)2,506.71
 - Payout (4 UG @\$900)(3,600.00)
 TOTAL UNRESTRICTED\$ 13,486.12
 Total fund balance\$109,939.27

Tentative Projections of Unrestricted Portion: 2005-2006

A \$12,000 two-year unrestricted balance (2 x \$6,000) must be maintained.

We now have currently in unrestricted portion \$ 13,486.12

Deduct 4 GR @ \$600 -----

Balance for 2005-2006 \$ 11,086.12

+ Estimated interest to 31 March 2006
 2,500.00

+ Estimated recycling income 100.00

+ Estimated sculpture fundraising income
 200.00

+ Transfer gift from WAMUN general fund ??

\$ 13,886.12????

Estimated minimum unrestricted balance 31 March 2006-2007:

Minimum scholarship payout(6,000.00)

Estimated minimum interest 5,000.00

Estimated balance \$ 12,886.12

Estimated surplus\$ 886.12

If the UG are increased to \$1,000 each, the unrestricted portion needs to be maintained at \$12,800 (4 x \$1,000 = \$4,000 + \$2,400 GR = \$6,400 x 2).

Based on the above estimated figures, which do not include possible donations, raising the UG scholarships to \$1,000 each would still leave a balance of \$86.12 in the unrestricted account.

MEMBERSHIP

2005/06 was positive for membership. We finished the year with 98 regular paying members, up from 93 in 2004/2005. Ten people did not renew. Five of these have moved away. Fifteen new members more than balanced this loss. The new members include newcomers to town, previous members rejoining and one recent retiree from the University.

Cheers,
 Mary

**Archive Annual Report
 2005-06**

This past year has been one in which the archive

received quite a bit of new material for arranging and sorting. As well WAMUN was celebrating an anniversary and the archivist along with an executive member put together an exhibit.

As always I am collecting any WAMUN material from past committee chairs and presidents. This year I received a large amount of papers from Gladys Deutsch, Mary O'Keeffe, Marilyn Macdonald and Susan Haedrich. These papers were from the Scholarship Committee Fund Raising, more especially from the Concerts, Minutes of meetings, Presidents papers and Newspaper articles. These latter were from many years ago and mostly published in the MUN Gazette. My job now will be to remove all the paper clips and staples in preparation for turning them over to the MUN archive.

The highlight of the year for the archivist was preparing a display for the 40th Anniversary Coffee morning held in January 2006. Mary Chalker, the executive member, and I made three visits to the MUN archive in order to go through the material there and select what we thought and hoped would make an attractive display that would be of interest to all our members. We then spent several more hours putting it all together, which involved cutting and pasting and creative displaying. Mary was much better at the display part than me. Photographs were a major part of the display and I heard lots of oohs and aahs at the coffee party as members looked at photos of themselves from many years ago. We had photos of all the Distinguished Service award winners and a list of all our presidents over the 40 years, as well as photos of several of the major fund raising events and news from the earliest Newsletters.

Mary and I became better acquainted while we worked on this pleasant project and we were pleased with the final display. We think the members were as well. All the material is now back at the MUN archive and is accessible to anyone who wishes to do research. I would like to thank Margaret Michalak for the signs that she made on her computer for the display. We saved them for the AGM. and any other event that might take place this 40th anniversary year. I must also thank The Heritage Foundation for lending us the two display boards. This was courtesy of George Chalker, Mary's brother.

I felt that it would be a good idea to have a written Archive Policy and that has now been done and is with the president for the approval of the executive. Thank you to all the members who support the archive.

Julia Mathieson,
WAMUN Archivist,
April 2006

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Each year, at the AGM, WAMUN honours one of its members who has served the organization well over the years. This year, we were pleased to honor Tonya Bassler. When she presented the award to Tonya, Eleanor Nesbitt said,

Tonya has been a member of WAMUN since its beginnings. She served as President in 1968/69 and then again in 2002/03. Over the years, she has also contributed a great deal to WAMUN as a member of all our interest groups.

Tonya is currently the Chair of the Scholarship Committee. In this capacity, over the last two years, she has tried to give our members a much better understanding of the administration of our scholarships and has developed a better relationship with the Scholarship Office of the University. I am very pleased to present Tonya Bassler with the Distinguished Service Award.

INTEREST GROUPS: ANNUAL REPORTS

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Book Discussion Groups

WAMUN Book Group Report Fiction: 2005-06

This year, for the first time, the group split into two groups, one meeting in the evening the other in the afternoon. We did this because the group had become too large making it difficult to hear clearly and for everyone to take part in the discussion. The new arrangement has solved this problem but created another. Both groups have said how much they miss seeing their friends from the other group.

To correct this, we held a joint tea/coffee party in the afternoon early in December and we plan to have a joint pot luck supper and book selection evening in June. We decided that both groups would read the same book each month. This worked well as it enabled members to attend the other session if they could not attend their regular one. I expect that we will do the same next year. The evening group always has a snack after the discussion, the afternoon group does not. The afternoon group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month (2 p.m.), the evening group on the third Tuesday of the month (8 p.m.).

The books we read during the year were;

The Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
Deafening by Frances Itani
An Equal Music by Vikram Seth
My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell
The Flame Trees of Thika by Elspeth Huxley
Bel Canto by Ann Patchett
The Known World by Edward P. Jones

New members are always welcome to join us. In June we will be selecting our books for next year. If you like to read, please join us. The only rules for the selection are that the person suggesting a book must have read it, and it must be available and in paperback, to keep down the cost.

Karen Herzberg (afternoon; 753-6568; karen_herzberg@hotmail.com)
Julia Mathieson (evening; gmathieson@nl.rogers.com)

WAMUN Book Group Report Non-fiction: 2005-06

The non-fiction book group read the following books this year:

Samuel Pepys
In the Wake of the Plague by Norman Cantor
Notes from a Small Island and *Notes from a Big Country* by Bill Bryson
The Bookseller of Kabul by Åsne Seierstad
The Dessert Queen by Janet Wallach
Leap of Faith by Queen Noor
Future: Tense: The Coming World Order by Gwynne Dyer
The Opposite of Fate by Amy Tan
Karmic Traces and *9/12* by Eliot Weinberger

At our April meeting those of us present voted informally on our favorite books from our three years of reading together. The 'vote' was preceded by a short discussion about whether we should vote for the 'most important' books or 'most enjoyable' books and much moaning about the fact that we were limited to three

INTEREST GROUPS: ANNUAL REPORTS

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

selections each. Also, we noted that this year's books had an advantage, because some of us have only belonged for one or two years. Suffice it to say that this survey is anything but 'statistically accurate' -- whatever that would mean in this context. One gets the idea that we have enjoyed most, if not all, of the books we have read.

Now, for the outcome of the popularity vote: THE WINNERS ARE (drumroll)

Future: Tense (Gwynne Dyer; 6 votes) *Eats, Shoots, and Leaves* (Lynn Truss; 5), followed closely by: *The Trouble with Islam* (Irshad Manji) and *The Bookseller of Kabul* with three votes each. Honorable mention goes to: *Much Depends on Dinner* (Margaret Visser); *Nickel and Dimed* (Barbara Ehrenreich); *Paris, 1919* (Margaret MacMillan); *Small Wonder* (Barbara Kingsolver); *Guns, Germs and Steel* (Jared Diamond); *The Botany of Desire* (Michael Pollan); *In the Wake of the Plague*; *Samuel Pepys*; *The Desert Queen*.

We decided last year that once the weather starts getting nice, in May and June, it's hard to set aside an entire meeting for choosing books for the coming year. In the battle between books and gardens, gardens are likely to win. So, at the April meeting each one of us recommended up to two books for next year's reading. We will lobby for our choices between now and June and only the voting will be done in June. It's all worked out so that missing a meeting does not mean missing your chance for input into the decision making process. The books that have been recommended are listed in the *Interest Groups: Current News* portion of the newsletter.

We will continue reading, of course. In May we will be discussing *The Opposite of Fate* by Amy Tan. In June, we have chosen two short books by Eliot Weinberger, *Karmic Traces* and *9/12*.

Annmari Tougui (amtougui@nl.rogers.com)

INTEREST GROUPS

Coffee Break

This group has had a very successful year. Often more than 20 people met on Wednesday mornings for coffee and conversation (not forgetting the food!). We have been a little unlucky with the weather, Wednesday being snow storm day, and have had to cancel twice, perhaps this makes us more eager to get together when we can. We expect to continue through the summer and break in September as in previous years.

Susan Murdey (726-0428)

Discovery Investment Club

The Investment Club continues to mix the business in following the stock market with the pleasure of each other's company.

Deborah Rehner

(739-5046; Deborah.Rehner@mi.mun.ca)

Hiking, Etc.

For the third year, WAMUN has had two groups of walkers. The Weekday Walkers usually meet to walk every other Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. We have not been walking in March and April, because it is very difficult to find places that are not snow covered. We hope to begin walking again in May.

The Saturday Walkers try to walk every week. We have discovered that rain and snow can be quite accommodating. Often the worst of the weather lets up enough so that we can manage our walk before repairing to Tim's.

Some of the places visited by one or both groups this year have been:

Signal Hill

The Battery (including taking in Ilse Hughes' exhibit)

Quidi Vidi (celebrating the New Year with families and friends)

Virginia River Trail (near Quidi Vidi and near the Hindu Temple)

Rennie's River Trail

Kent's and Kenny's Ponds

MUN (after WAMUN's anniversary coffee)

Long Pond

Pippy Park

Oxen Pond Road

Oxen Pond Botanical Garden

Downtown (including The Rooms and the grounds of Government House)

Waterford River Valley's T' Railway

Bowring Park and the nearby neighborhood

Topsail

Deborah Rehner (Saturdays)

(739-5046; Deborah.Rehner@mi.mun.ca)

Karen Herzberg (Tuesdays):

(753-6568; karen_herzberg@hotmail.com)

International Food Group

The International Food Group enjoyed a very successful season with twenty regular and six substitute couples. We dined in groups of eight people. Together we cooked and tasted English, Tuscan and Czech Republic dinners, finishing up on April 1 with an April Fool's meal. As always, we would be delighted to welcome new members with similar interests to our group in September.

Susan Jackson (726-3808)

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

RECYCLING FOR THE WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Please consider donating your recycling revenue to WAMUN scholarship fund. This is an easy way of raising money for our scholarship fund!

WAMUN members who recycle items at any of the following Evergreen Recycling locations can have their refund credited to the WAMUN account:

Mill Lane Enterprises, 807 Water Street
(777-3400)

Cowan Avenue at Waterford Bridge Road
(777-3832)

Regatta Plaza Building, 92 Elizabeth Avenue
(777-3382)

Ask the depot employee counting your items to complete a blue credit slip for your signature; a receipt may be obtained at the refund desk if desired. All proceeds donated by WAMUN members will be directed into the WAMUN Scholarship Fund. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me.

Marilyn Macdonald
(726-3134; m_macdonald17@hotmail.com)

Book Group Pot Luck

The fiction book groups, afternoon and evening, will meet on Tuesday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. for their annual Pot Luck Dinner. As usual, this is the evening that we will select books for the coming year. This year we are meeting at the Genesis Board Room in Spencer Hall.

Dinner will be at 7 p.m. followed by book selection. Each member may suggest two books, fiction, non-fiction, classic, or poetry. The usual procedure of voting will take place. The book must have been read by the person suggesting it, and must be easily available in paperback to keep down the cost.

Please note the date and time on your calendar. More details to come at the May meetings.

Tuckamore Festival Needs Volunteers

Since 2001, Tuckamore Festival has offered an outstanding chamber music series of internationally acclaimed artists as well as an inspiring program for emerging artists. The dates for the festival this year are Aug. 6 to 21. We need enthusiastic volunteers to help with postering, driving, ticket sales, merchandise sales and assorted other tasks. In return for your assistance we offer a Tuckamore 2006 t-shirt and for those involved in more than three events, a free festival pass. If you are interested, please contact Tony Chadwick (chadant@nl.rogers.com; 579-9574).

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, this is the last newsletter that I will be editing for a while. It has been very enjoyable editing the newsletter for the past two years.

www.mi.mun.ca/~drehner/NL_FEB_06 . It has color and more pictures! Deborah Rehner, Editor (739-5046; Deborah.Rehner@mi.mun.ca)

BITS AND PIECES

CAMPUS FOOD BANK

Don't forget the Campus Food Bank. Remember that food items can be taken to your Corte Real on the MUN campus as well as to your interest groups. Their needs continue over the summer! In addition to the non-perishable items we are used to donating, they can also use "sturdy" fruits and vegetables, e.g., oranges, potatoes. Thank you to all those members who have been so generous in the past.

CPR

An estimated 45 000 cases of cardiac arrest occur in Canada each year, 80% at home. Fewer than 5% of people survive if they are outside a hospital when the arrest happens. Recently, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada has changed its guidelines, making the training for CPR easier and easier to remember. At the same time CPR has become more effective. The Foundation hopes that its new approaches and guidelines will improve the outcomes for those who suffer cardiac arrest. Are there WAMUN members who are interested in learning more about this? Perhaps we could have a course offered for WAMUN. If you are interested, please contact Elke Molgaard (elkemolgaard@hotmail.com; phone#)

Housing for Seniors

"Housing for Seniors", the first of several meetings to be sponsored by CARP (the Canadian Association of Retired Persons) will be held at the School for the

Deaf (Topsail Road) at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday May 31st, 2006. As we get older our housing choices and needs change. This meeting will stimulate us to identify some of the options that should be available to us so that we can make real choices as we move from one stage of life to the next. Speakers Jackie McDonald of the Seniors Resource Centre and Bruce Pearce of the St John's Advisory Council on Homelessness will present short talks, which will be followed by discussion and a social time. Everyone is welcome. For more information please call: Joan Scott, 754-8116.

Scrabble anyone?

Do you want to play Scrabble? Julia Mathieson and Joan Fuller have been playing scrabble every week for several months now. We get together at a convenient coffee house and have a game. In the last few weeks several other members have indicated that they would like a game. So Joan and I feel it would be nice to get together. Probably have two games of two each playing at the same time in the same venue. We meet every Wed. morning, usually at Starbucks, because the parking is easy, at 10am. A game takes about 1 1/2 hours and we enjoy a cup of coffee while we play. We follow the rules set out by Scrabble and use an authorized Scrabble dictionary. Joan is willing to chair the group, so if you want to play, please call her at 726-0896. Bring your own board if you have one. If not let Joan know.

Joan Fuller and Julia Mathieson