
WAMUN

Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland

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November 2004

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Plant Sale on Sept. 15 was a successful fundraiser for WAMUN again this year. On behalf of the executive, I would like to sincerely thank the members of the Plant Sale Committee for their hard work over the summer months. Thanks also to those members who donated plants, purchased plants and volunteered to help the evening before the sale and the day of the sale.

There was an excellent turn out to the fall reception on Sept. 29. Thanks to Karen Herzberg and Gloria Small for organizing this event. The addition of sweets and coffee/tea seemed to be a popular choice! [See images from the reception on the Web site, www.mun.ca/wamun/fallrecept2004.html]

On behalf of Mary Chalker (membership chair) and Linda Hensman (treasurer), I would like to thank those of you (approximately 50 per cent) who submitted your membership form by mail this year. This was a definite improvement over previous years - we had a much shorter line-up, time to prepare and distribute membership receipts and additional time for socializing. Thanks to Olga Broomfield-Richards for filling in for Mary Chalker at the reception.

Several members made a donation to the WAMUN Scholarship Fund. If desired, additional donations may be made by downloading the 2004-05 membership form from our Web site, www.mun.ca/wamun and mailing them to the address shown on the form. Tax receipts are provided by the university. Donations have to be received by Dec. 31 to qualify for the 2004 taxation year.

I am looking forward to seeing you at Joyce Cho's slide presentation on Nov. 18 and the New Year's 'Coffee Morning' on Jan. 8, 2005.

On behalf of the executive, I wish you a very peaceful holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Marilyn Macdonald
President

SOCIAL EVENTS UPDATE

Exploring Botanical Art

Thursday, Nov. 18, at 1:30 p.m.
MUN Botanical Garden on Mt. Scio Road

Joyce Cho, a longtime WAMUN member and artist, has agreed to give us a short slide presentation and discuss her art with us. Light refreshments will follow. If the Bloomin' Teapot Restaurant is still open, why not consider having lunch there before our event? The Garden's gift shop has many treasures not available elsewhere, and will be open before and after our program. Of course, weather permitting one can also stroll through the gardens.

New Year's Coffee Morning

Saturday, Jan. 8, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Genesis Boardroom
4th Floor, Spencer Hall
220 Prince Phillip Parkway

This will be a leisurely gathering after the holidays for all WAMUN members and guests. WAMUN will supply coffee and tea. Each member is asked to bring a small plate of cookies or other treats and a food item for the Campus Food Bank. We won't have another newsletter until after this event, so please mark your calendars. If you are short on time, please consider a short visit that morning. We hope you can look forward to a pleasant, relaxed morning with us. We can park for free in lot 62, which is in front of the building, or if more space is needed then in lot 19 which is at the rear. Metered parking is available, but you must pay or you will be ticketed.

MEMBERSHIP

To date, 68 members have renewed for 2004/05. I am happy to report that so far we also have six new members. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming the following and look forward to meeting them.

Annie Antonenko
Pia Banzhaf
Marjorie Evans
Carol Nesbit
Ruth Noel
Margaret O'Dea

A membership list accompanies this newsletter.

The executive has agreed that those who have not paid by Dec. 1 will not be included in the final membership list and will not receive the newsletter in 2005, so please renew as soon as possible. We don't want to lose any of you!

If you have mislaid the membership form, you can download a copy from our Web site, www.mun.ca/wamun, and return it to the address given with your cheque. Those who pay after Dec. 1 will, of course, be added back to the list immediately.

Mary Chalker
(753-4262; maryc@mun.ca)

SCHOLARSHIPS

The winners of our graduate scholarships (valued at \$1,200) for 2004-2005 are:

Master's Thesis Route Award

Aaron O'Brien,
Department of Philosophy

Master's All-Course Route Award

Ryan McFarlane,
Department of Folklore

Doctoral Awards

Md. Shakhawat Chowdhury,
Faculty of Engineering and Applied
Science

Kate Souders,
Department of Earth Sciences

In keeping with a motion passed at our scholarship meeting in March 2003, the scholarships are awarded to students who are beginning their graduate programs. Members will note the diversity of academic disciplines; this is in line with an additional request from the March 2003 meeting that we subsequently made to the School of Graduate Studies.

WAMUN provides \$600 for each scholarship and Graduate Studies matches our donation with another \$600 so our annual donation for the 4 graduate scholarships is \$2,400.

Of our undergraduate scholarships, three are awarded during the fall term; the fourth (mature student) is awarded in the winter term because it is based on fall results. Each of these is fully funded by WAMUN for \$900. Our members will recall that WAMUN's long-term intention since 1999 is to raise the \$900 to \$1000 as funds permit.

Thus far, two of our three undergraduate fall-term recipients have been named:

Entrance

Jeffrey Griffin, L'Anse au Clair

Faculty/Staff

Michelle Mercer, St. John's

Our graduate scholarships began in 1985; our undergraduate scholarships began even earlier – in February 1978 with the establishment of three scholarships. One more was added in May 1988. Altogether, by the end of the 2004-2005 academic year, we will have given 150 scholarships. To visualize this in a more concrete way, there are 150 persons walking around whom we have helped through university!

A special thank-you to our 13 members who generously gave \$450 to our scholarship fund when they renewed their memberships. This is a difficult year for our fund, so every extra dollar counts. Anyone, by the way, may donate to the fund throughout the year. All donors will receive tax receipts.

Tonya Bassler, Chair
WAMUN Scholarship Committee

PLANT SALE

The Plant Sale Committee wishes to thank everyone who participated in making the house plant sale a success this year. We especially thank those who:

- donated plants;
- helped to set up the Atrium on Tuesday;
- worked at the sale on Wednesday; and
- bought plants.

By means of the sale, WAMUN raised \$1800 for the scholarship fund. Raising this amount of money is only possible because so many people give so freely of their time, talents, ideas and **plants!** Thank you all!

The committee: **Error! Contact not defined.**, Brenda Burness, **Error! Contact not defined.**, Karin Kahn, Ingrid Pardoe, Deborah Rehner, Elizabeth Rich and Maudie Whelan.

WAMUN MEMBER HONOURED

The Association of Atlantic Universities awarded Jean Guthrie the Anne Marie MacKinnon Instructional Leadership Award on Sept. 27. Jean received the President's Award for Distinguished Teaching from Memorial University in 2002.

Many of us are aware of specific leadership roles and duties Jean has undertaken over the years, including:

- Co-ordinator of First Year English 1985–1988
- Associate Director of Arts, General Studies 1989–1992
- Co-ordinator of the ESL Centre 1991–1992
- Associate Dean of Arts 1992–1995
- Co co-ordinator of the Graduate Program in Teaching 2001–2003

More fundamentally, Jean's teaching philosophy is marked by her concern for her students' personal development and her determination that they receive the best possible education. During her tenure at Memorial, she has carried this concern beyond her students to her colleagues, especially new faculty members, sessional instructors and graduate students. Many of us are probably aware of Jean's interest in others and her commitment to excellence in teaching and learning on a personal level.

Congratulations Jean! We are proud of you.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Book Club

The evening Book Group continues to meet at 8 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month, usually in the common room at Tiffany Towers.

In September Jeffrey Eugenides' *Middlesex* was discussed. In October we had a very interesting and lively evening with Robin McGrath, the author of *Donovan's Station*. In November the book will be *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night* and in January it will be *Reading Lolita in Tehran*.

A second visitor to our October meeting was Dr. Judith Robertson who is looking for "adult book club members to volunteer in a three-year cultural study about the history, functioning, membership and practices of Newfoundland and Labrador book clubs." The study is sponsored by SSHRC. Several members volunteered so we will hear more of this.

In October, for the first time, we brought contributions for the Campus Food Bank. We hope that this will become a tradition and that other interest groups will join us in this worthy effort.

Mary Chalker (753-4262; maryc@mun.ca)

NOTE: (for those who have expressed an interest in participating in Dr. Robertson's study) The consent form that Dr. Robertson provided states that the participants "like to read *regional* literature ...". This is misleading. She actually is interested in adult book club members, whether or not the book club focusses on regional literature.

Afternoon Book Club

The afternoon book group is meeting on Friday, Nov.

12 to discuss *Eat, Shoots, and Leaves*, by Lynne Truss. This meeting will be held at the home of our newest member, Ruth Noel, 6 Parson's Place (off of Parson's Road), 753-6225. In addition, we will decide which books we will be reading in the New Year. The books will be chosen from among those listed as "books mentioned but not yet selected for the New Year" on the WAMUN Web site.

On Dec. 9, we will be meeting at the University Club. We will have lunch there at 1:00 p.m. followed by a discussion of *Much Depends on Dinner*, by Margaret Visser at 2:00 p.m..

AnnMari Tougui
(726-5567; amtougui@nl.rogers.com)

Coffee Break

This is a lively get-together every second Wednesday morning. The agenda is always the same – good food, good conversation, good fellowship. We welcome anybody/everybody, so come join us.

Susan Murdey (726-0428)

Discovery Investment Club

We continue to meet monthly and we have, as a group, grown in knowledge about investing – especially how volatile the stock market can be. It appears that losses occur just as frequently as gains. We invite an investment 'expert' to speak to us at least once yearly. Last month our guest speaker was Larry Short, author of the book *In Short, Secrets To Make Your Dollars Grow*. His talk was basically a review of the advice in his book. This book is an excellent guide for those of us who are reticent about investing. As a group we enjoy both the business and the social part of our meetings.

Club members also agreed to bring a food item or a small cash donation to future meetings for the Campus Food Bank.

Mona Gillespie (368-9623)

Hiking Etc.

Beginning in September, the Tuesday morning group has had three walks: Sept. 14 at the Botanical Gardens; Sept. 28 around Long Pond; and Oct. 12 up the Rennie's River Trail.

The Saturday group took a break in August and September. During October, we have walked near South Side Road, including a blustery walk out to Fort Amherst on Oct. 24. On Oct. 30, we walked the north side of Long Pond, staying in the woods to avoid the rain and the wind.

Both groups have been happy to have some new members and continue to welcome anyone who would like to enjoy a walk with fresh air, nature at its finest, and a chance to meet and talk with other WAMUN members and guests.

Karen Herzberg (753-6568)

International Food Group

We are looking forward to enjoying a Mediterranean meal on Nov. 20. This year, the food group consists of twenty couples. As usual, sets of four couples share the tasks of hosting and cooking. There are also several substitute couples. New substitutes are always welcome.

Susan Jackson (726-3808)

RECYCLING FOR THE WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The revenue collected to date for the WAMUN Scholarship Fund is \$50.00. WAMUN members who currently 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 Rd. (777-3832)

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

All proceeds that are donated by WAMUN members will be directed into the WAMUN Scholarship Fund. Please consider helping out in this way! Ask the depot employee who counts your items to complete a blue credit slip for your signature; a receipt may be obtained at the refund desk if desired. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Marilyn Macdonald at 726-3134.

CAMPUS FOOD BANK

Two interest groups (the Book Group and Discovery Investment Club) have decided to bring a contribution to each meeting for the Campus Food Bank. Perhaps other interest groups might like to do the same.

OTHER NOTICES

Request for host family

We are looking for a host family for a German girl starting in September 2005 for approximately 6 months. She will be in grade 11 then and probably attending Holy Heart High School. She is a friend of our daughter, so staying with us would not be beneficial to the improvement of her English. The girls would be speaking German all the time.

If you would like this exchange student to be part of your family next year, please e-mail me at piabyline@yahoo.com or give me a call at 895-0881. Also if you know someone interested please pass our request on.

WEEKENDERS LADIES CLOTHING FUNDRAISER

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2004 Weekenders Fashion Collection. Our Canadian-made easy care, easy wear styles, fabrics and colours are designed to co-ordinate with each other, especially for the purpose of wardrobe building. Some of our fabrics are: stretch interlock, shimmer, French terry, cotton spandex and sweater knit.

I am delighted to offer this collection to you as a fundraiser. When WAMUN members and their friends purchase Weekender clothing during the month of November, 20% of the RETAIL PRICE will be donated to the WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

I have set aside the following dates for you to view/try on the clothes at my house:
125 Carrick Drive

Nov. 13: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Nov. 15: 9:00 a.m. to noon

Nov. 16: 10:00 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Nov. 22: 9:00 a.m. to noon

These dates are flexible and evenings can be an option. If you cannot make any of these dates, call me and we can set up another time for viewing. You can purchase the Weekender clothing, and 20% of that RETAIL SALE will be donated to the WAMUN SCHOLARSHIP FUND (in CASH).

Hope to meet and see everyone for the WEEKENDER FUNDRAISER!

Gloria Small (576-4433)