WAMUN Newsletter



Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland Volume 37, No. 1

September 2009

Greetings From Your President

Cheers! I always love summer! The warm sunny weather, kids off schools, vacation times, outdoor activities for young and old ... are all the reasons to be happy. I hope all is well with you and your family. Just relax, take it easy, and enjoy what Mother Nature brings to us now.

This year, I am truly honoured to be the President of this renowned, established, and meaningful group. Without all your contributions, support and participation, this Association will never successfully surpass 40+ years. It is also truly a blessing that we all meet to share our common interests and continue to support the goals of the Association. So, please come to our fall reception and keep involved with all our planned activities as outlined in this newsletter.



Betty Wong, 754-1470

May the coming year bring you all good health, happiness and prosperity. Look forward to seeing you all again soon. Take care.

Fall Plant Sale

The WAMUN Fall House-plant Sale this year will be on Wednesday 23 September from 10 am to 3 pm in the INCO Innovation Centre lobby. Please note the later time than in past years, which we hope will be convenient for more people. Also, this sale is for indoor plants only.

Please bring your plant donations to the INCO Centre on Tuesday evening between 6 and 8 pm. They should be potted, pest-free and, if not very common, labelled with common name and any special care needed. Please suggest a price for any special species or pot.

We would like to schedule volunteer sellers for 2 or 3 hour shifts so no one has to stay too long or miss lunch. If you don't get a phone call, or have any other questions, please call Marjorie at 722-1925.



Some of our happy volunteers at the spring plant sale which sold out in 2 hours

We hope to see you all at the sale.

Fall Lecture



DATE: Wednesday, November 18, 2009 LOCATION: Junior Common Room, Gushue Hall TIME: 7:30 pm

Our speaker will be Annemarie Christie, a Master's student in Folklore, who was one of the recipients of a WAMUN Fellowship for 2008-2009. She will be talking about her research on Twillingate. Those who have already heard her discuss her research have found it fascinating. We hope that as many members who can will join us for what promises to be an interesting lecture.

WAMUN Fiction Book Group 2009-2010

The annual Pot Luck and Book Choosing Event was attended by members of both the afternoon and evening groups. For the first time, we met at the Crypt at the Anglican Cathedral in June and most really enjoyed the new venue. The suggested titles were passionately proposed and many women said they'd like to be able to read all of them! In a democratic process of voting chaired by Julia, the following books were chosen for 2009-2010:

September- Book of Negroes Lawrence Hill

October- Skin Room Sara Tilley

November- The Grass is Singing Doris Lessing

January- The Occupied Garden Hartog and Kasaboski

February-Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society Shaffer and Barrows

March- The Silent Time Paul Rowe

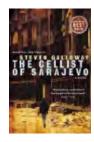
April- The Cellist of Sarajevo Steven Galloway

May- The View from Castle Rock Alice Munro

Reserve Books- Palace Walk Naguib Mafou

The Fat Woman Next Door is Pregnant Michel Tremblay









The Evening Group meets at 8 pm on the third Tuesday of the month and the Afternoon Group meets at 2 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month, both at Tiffany Towers. Members of one group are welcome to either time as their schedule permits. New members are always welcome at any time. For further information please contact:

Julia Mathieson, Evening Group Convener, 722-3249 or gmatheison@nl.rogers.com

Karen Herzberg, Afternoon Group Convener, 753-6568 or karen_herzberg@hotmail.com

WAMUN Non-Fiction Book Group 2009-2010

Non-Fiction Book Group meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at Tiffany Towers' social room at 2:00 pm for an informal chat about the selection. Currently we have 13 members. Annmari Tougui, convener, 726-5567 amtougui@nl.rogers.com

September-Risk, Why We Fear the Things We Shouldn't Dan Gardner

October-The Uses and Abuses of History Margaret Macmillan

November - Imperium Ryszard Kapuscinski

December-The Dirt on Clean: An Unsanitized History Katherine Ashenburg

January-Three Cups of Tea Greg Mortenson

February-Animal, Vegetable, Miracle Barbara Kingsolver

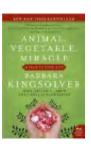
March-Period Piece Gwen Raverat

April-presentations for 2010-2011

May-The Translator: A Tribesman's Memory of Darfur Daoud Hari

June-The Emperor Ryszard Kapuscinski

and voting for 2010-2011





Coffee Morning Group



The Coffee Group meets on alternate Wednesday mornings between October and June to socialize informally over coffee and snacks. We have no set agenda and take turns being hostess. It's a nice stress-free way to keep up-to-date on activities in our lives and in the community in general. We also contribute items to the Campus Food Bank. After the summer break, we plan to resume our meetings on Wednesday, October 7 at 10:30 a.m. A hostess for our first meeting is yet to be determined. Any WAMUM member who would like to join our group is most welcome.

Pat Collins, convenor 754 0507

Saturday Walking Group

What is the name of our group? Is it "Hiking, etc", "The WAMUN Walkers", or "Walking and Talking with WAMUN." Of late, it seems to be the latter, because our conversations during our Saturday afternoon walks and the chatting that we do while drinking our coffee and tea at Tim's are often as interesting and informative as the walk itself.

However, we do walk, and we walk (nearly) every Saturday at the same time, 1:30 pm. If precipitation is predicted, we dress accordingly and, more often than not, we get in a healthy hour-long walk before the weather really sets in.



April 18, exploring Pippy Park (photo courtesy of Karen Herzberg).



June 20, Octagon Pond (photo courtesy of Deborah Rehner)

A message goes out by e-mail each week, giving directions to where we will be walking. If you prefer being informed by telephone, we'll call you. We carpool – it's no problem if you would like a ride.

Newcomers might wonder where we walk. We walk any place in St. John's and environs that we find suitable. We don't climb high hills and we try to avoid really rough paths, so you'll often find us on the Grand Concourse, the T-Railway, and the lanes and byways of St. John's.

Come join us! Add your voice to the conversation. We'd love to have your company.

Deborah Rehner, convener, 746-7262, dbrehner@gmail.com

Scrabble Group

The Scrabble Group had decided to continue meeting during the summer, so we have carried on with our regular Wednesday morning's at Starbucks. As if we couldn't get enough of it—we sometimes continue the game over lunch. We were also treated with a wonderful luncheon at Katherine Mason's early in the summer. We look forward to the fall start-up with the addition of many new faces eager to join us on Wednesday mornings at 10 am at the Starbucks inside Chapters on Kenmount Road.



Joan Fuller, convener, 726-0896

Farewell to a Friend

The WAMUN community was shocked and saddened at the death of longtime member Clare Neville Smith on May 3, 2009. Clare had participated in our AGM and Spring Luncheon on April 25 where she seemed as lively and witty as ever. Many of her friends in WAMUN attended the Memorial Service held for her at Carnell's Chapel on May 6.

It was only after Clare's death that the wide experiences of her life became better known to most members. Born in India in 1922, she was educated in Britain and became a pediatrician at the end of World War II. She joined the Grenfell Association in 1948. After some time away from Newfoundland, she took a leadership position in the Newfoundland Department of Health where she was instrumental in developing programs in children's health all over the island and in Labrador. After her retirement she worked briefly in Africa, and then she made numerous pleasure trips throughout the world.

Clare was an avid member of WAMUN's Fiction Book Group for so many years that current members don't know when she joined! Her suggestions for books to read were wide ranging and varied, for example, from *Kim* by Rudyard Kipling to the humorous *Jane Austen in Boca* by Paula M.Cohen. No matter the locale of the book for discussion, book members could rely on Clare to provide invaluable first-hand background.



Clare's wit and intelligence made her presence an asset to any occasion and WAMUN members will sorely miss her.

Friends, Food, and Fun at the AGM













Support the Campus Food Bank

Items such as peanut butter, chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, canned milk, canned fruit and Kraft Dinner (or similar macaroni and cheese dinners) 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.



Recycling for WAMUN Scholarships

Until municipal curbside recycling is in place, Evergreen Recycling (807 Water Street, Cowan Avenue at Waterford Bridge Road and Regatta Plaza Building, 92 Elizabeth Avenue) continues to donate your recycling proceeds to our Scholarship Fund. Just ask the depot employee counting your items to complete a blue credit slip for your signature.

