



# Semaphore

Newsletter of CFUW-Scarborough—August 2017



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It hardly seems possible that it's time again to think about the new Club year! The formal wind-ups of our 2016-17 year, and those of Ontario Council and CFUW itself are now part of the record books. Both Gail Doehler and I attended the Ontario Council meeting in Stratford where Gail represented the Club and the national meeting in Richmond where I was your representative. More detailed reports of the proceedings of these meetings are inside.

It seems our Club has almost established a tradition of recycling past presidents. However, we have a way to go before matching West Vancouver's record - their current president is serving for the fourth time! We are fortunate to have twenty of our past presidents as current members, several of whom have already served twice. I would like to remind other members of the Club that, while there are qualifications for the office of president, having been president is not one of them! There is a great deal to be said for serving in various positions on the executive and on other committees- such as learning more about the workings of CFUW- but even more important, the fellowship we have offered by working together with other Club members.

You will soon be receiving your membership renewal package. We can look forward to an interesting schedule that the program committee has arranged as well as the fun and fellowship offered by our interest groups. One of the other benefits of membership is our connection with other local Clubs as well as with the provincial and national sections of our organization. One of these points of contact, the Ontario Council Standing Committee meetings, is open to all CFUW members, not only the Club delegates. You can find out more on the Ontario Council website ([www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca)) - and our Club offers a subsidy to general

members who attend. The theme for the coming September session is "Women in Politics".

We are also planning to continue our programs that contribute to the community as a whole- our scholarships and awards offered to students at UTSC and Centennial College and our program support at the Scarborough Women's Centre. Donations from Club members and income from our scholarship fund at UTSC support two in-course awards and one entry level award at UTSC and our main fundraising project, the fashion show, funds the two awards at Centennial College and our donation to the Women's Centre. The fashion show has been a success for several years due to the contribution of effort and substance and talent of our members. Our other fundraiser, the magazine program, does not require effort or additional funds from our members -- only the renewal of subscriptions that they would otherwise purchase directly from the publishers. The funds earned over the past several years have meant that we have been able to maintain our dues at the current level in the face of increases in other expenses, including national CFUW dues. This last is a matter of some concern, given GWI's request for a substantial increase. Again, there is more detail on the subject in the report on the CFUW annual meeting.

I hope, now that our indifferent spring has been succeeded by a very pleasant summer, that you are enjoying the time with family and friends and that we will see you in the year ahead refreshed and renewed.

Looking forward to seeing you on September 18<sup>th</sup>

Bev Rhodes

## Important Dates

**CFUW-Scarborough  
General Meeting  
Monday, September 18, 2017**  
Knox United Church  
**7:30 pm**  
Bring & Buy Book Sale!

## OC Standing Committees

Yorkminster Park Baptist  
Church  
1585 Yonge Street, Toronto

September 23, 2017

January 20, 2018

March 24, 2018

*Topics to be Announced*

For the latest information on these meetings, please visit the Ontario Council website at:

[www.cfuwontcouncil.ca](http://www.cfuwontcouncil.ca)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



## Interest Groups

### Evening Book Group

"I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of Library"

Jorge Luis Borges

The Evening Book Discussion Group meets on the 4th Monday evening of the month at 7:30. We meet at members homes for lively discussion and afterwards,

dessert and coffee/tea. In January, we have "Favourites" night when members discuss the books they have most enjoyed in the past year. Our May meeting takes the form of a Pot Luck Supper and planning meeting when books for the next season are chosen. The books chosen for the 2017/18 season are as follows:

*People of the Book* (Geraldine Brooks), *Nightingale* (Kirsten Han-

nah), *My Secret Sister* (Ellen Edwards), *Republic of Dirt* (Susan Juby), *The Lost Diaries of Susannah Moody* (Cecily Ross) *The Wars of the Roosevelts* ( Wm. Mann)

Beverly Baird, Convener



### Revolving Books

Here is your opportunity to read a paperback book each month, pass it along and keep one at the end of the year. Sign up will be at the September meeting with the first book available at the October meeting. Books are then circulated at the meetings in November, January, February and March. A fee is charged to cover the cost of the books. We explore both non-fiction and fiction - usually current, including mystery, thrillers and perhaps a little sci-fi- with the emphasis on Canadian authors. This is the interest group that does not meet!

Past years' titles have included: *The Rosie Project*, *The Little Paris Bookshop*, *All The Light We Cannot See*, *They Left Us Everything*, *Life Of Pi*, *The Last Lecture*, *Old City Hall*.

Ruth Wolff



### Monday Afternoon Books

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road.

They are the destination, and the journey.

They are home."

Anna Quindlen

Our group meets on the second Monday of the month from 1-3 with our "brown bag" lunch. Our first book on September 11<sup>th</sup> is *The Piano Maker* by the author Kurt Palka. Shirley Knautz will present the book at the home of Maureen Corby. We have chosen a full roster of books to keep us going into June of 2018!

Maureen Corby

### Arts 'n Culture Group

The Arts 'n Culture Group has been meeting for the past 2 years at a variety of events and venues to enjoy the vast variety of cultural and intellectual pursuits offered in the GTA. While not everyone has been able to attend, there has been a lot of interest in "what's happening" out and about. I hope that we can continue for the upcoming 2017-18 year, but I will have to extend an invitation to another club member to take up the leadership of this interest group for 2017-18 as I will be travelling for most of the month of October followed by knee replacement surgery at the end of October which will put me "out of commission" for the 6 weeks following, until well into the Christmas season. Hopefully, I will be able to resume activities in the New Year, for the months of January and February, before leaving on the next trip in March. This doesn't allow me much time to properly lead the group. So, if anyone would like to "step up" into the role of Arts 'n Culture group leader for 2017-18, I would be more than happy to assist them. Please contact me if you are interested, and I will fill you in on all the details of how I have organized and selected some of the events in the past. At the first club meeting in September I can come with the sign-up list and introduce or request a leader for the Arts 'n Culture group.

Diana O'Connor

### Hiking Group

We usually walk the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month and we explore natural areas around Toronto or different neighbourhoods in the city. We usually finish with tea or coffee at a coffee shop or someone's home. We would be glad to have you join us anytime. Our first hike will be on September 24 and we plan to meet at my place at 2:00 pm and walk through part of Guildwood to

Guild Park to explore the park around the newly restored Guild Inn. Please let me know if you plan to come so we can watch for you and let you know of any changes.

Marilyn Lind



## More Interest Groups

### ***Making a Difference (MAD)***

The Caucus is made up of representatives from each of the six clubs in Toronto and we meet once a month as do the clubs. For the past two years we have been very involved in monitoring early learning childcare. Because of the Caucus we now have the National office and Ontario council very involved with in-depth research and reports about child care and advocacy.

In September, we have been invited to spend 90 minutes with Shannon Fuller, the deputy minister of education. We made this contact this past year and she wants to discuss with us the plan the Ontario government is developing for childcare.

We are very pleased with the long-term funding models that both levels of government are promising and plan to monitor the details of how this money is spent. We are pleased that Ontario has promised 45,000 new spaces by 2018 with more to come over 5 years. Our major concern now is the cost of care, particularly for infants. We will push for some of the new funding to provide more subsidized care for low income working parents.

If you wish to be engaged in what the Ontario government is planning for childcare go to [Ontario.ca/morechildcare](http://Ontario.ca/morechildcare).

Catherin Molyneux

### ***Afternoon Bridge***

Our Afternoon Bridge Club meets the third Thursday of each month October to May at 12:30 in members homes. The hostess serves only tea and coffee as members bring their own lunch. During lunch, there is always much laughter and we often learn helpful hints from each other. We now have our regular eight players, but we often need a spare. If you could join us in that way, please sign our "sub" list. If you have any questions please do call me.

Anne Ellis-Taylor



### ***Gourmet Lunch Group***

The Gourmet Lunch Group met the first Friday of each month at the homes of our members. Our final Lunch was held at Rosemary Dennis's home outside in her lovely garden. The theme was Canada's birthday. We will start again in September.

Carole Torrance

### ***Mixed Bridge***

The group meets the first Friday evening of the month for dessert and coffee and sixteen hands of bridge. Substitutes would be most welcome.

Kathie Krashinsky

### ***No Frills Bridge***

Want to play bridge but don't want the responsibility of refreshments or substitutes then this is the group for you!

We play Monday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:00 PM in central Scarborough and, as the name implies, there are no refreshments nor any need to find substitutes.

We play with whomsoever shows up, be it four, five or more. We have discovered a great system for involving everyone. If only five are present, we switch in and out per hand. Six players are a bit more awkward but can work by a similar process.

With seven players, we have a roving 'expert' (aka dummy) and, of course, with eight we have two complete tables.

We find out who's coming to play by email, using the 'reply all' function so everyone can judge who is willing to come on any given day.

Generally, we have two tables per session but on occasion we have had three.

We do not keep score and that allows players to concentrate on getting the maximum from each hand. We use bidding boxes for the same reason.

On occasion, we have replayed hands to improve the play. We have also started a couple of sessions with pre-arranged hands duplicate style to see what each table can make of the deal.

This is a friendly, informal, congenial group who are only trying to improve their techniques by playing more frequently.

If such a system appeals to you, just ask Gail Doehler to add you to the mailing list. Sessions will start in early September.

Contact Gail Doehler



### ***Out-To-Lunch Bunch***

The Out to Lunch Bunch would like to thank Grace Lord for organizing the Bunch over the last many years (how many, Grace?). I have big shoes to fill!

We'll continue to try new restaurants (suggestions are gratefully received) and revisit our old favourites on the last Tuesday of each month - September to November, and January to April.

Our first lunch of the new year will be September 26<sup>th</sup> – a sign-up sheet will be available at the meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Margaret Sandall

## **CFUW National AGM June 22-24, 2017**

The format of the annual meeting has changed somewhat since I last attended -- a day shorter and one full day devoted to learning and development workshops and the other to CFUW business. This year's conference theme was "Gateways". The keynote speaker at the beginning of the workshops day, Daphne Bramham, a columnist for the *Vancouver Sun*, spoke about her research into issues surrounding the Bountiful community. The results of this work are set out in her book, *the Secret Lives of Saints: Child Brides and Lost Boys in Canada's Polygamous Mormon Sect*. Participants had a choice of one of four workshops on themes related to areas of CFUW concern offered in the remainder of the morning. The lunch for club presidents offered the opportunity to exchange ideas and get acquainted with other presidents. After lunch, there were two sets of four workshops on various CFUW matters. As far as possible, Gail and I chose different workshops so that we could bring back as many ideas as possible. The Federation banquet took place that evening, along with the presentation of awards and a presentation by the Richmond Rainbow Dancers and the Richmond Youth Honour Choir.

Saturday began with the Charitable Trust breakfast where we were treated to an amazing speaker, Faith Eiboff, a PhD candidate at UBC, who had stepped in at the last minute when the scheduled speaker was unable to come. She is the holder of one of the CFUW 1989 Ecole Polytechnique Commemorative Awards for 2017-2018. Faith spoke about the connection between gender-based violence and women's homelessness. The first business session followed and dealt with essentially housekeeping matters -- except for the motion from the St. Thomas Club proposing the deletion from CFUW's by-laws of the article requiring that CFUW belong to IFUW (now GWI). The time for debate was extended twice and

when the vote was taken, there was a majority in favour, but not the required two-thirds. Members met for lunch according to their region, -- a different cross-section from the day before and a chance to mingle with club members as well as club executives from our own area. The afternoon session began with the President's and Executive Director's reports. The report of the VP Finance was broken into two parts, presentation of the April 30, 2017 financial statements and the appointment of auditors for the year ending April 30, 2018 given at this point. To have discussion of budget matters uninterrupted, the discussion of resolutions was brought forward. Both resolutions passed with a substantial majority.

The budget format initially proposed was an eye-opener for those present -- the dues increases requested by GWI would create a serious cash shortfall for CFUW -- some \$300,000 -- given the timing involved. The dues received from CFUW clubs do not reflect the change in GWI dues until the following fiscal year. A motion was made, and adopted, to discuss the budget format reflecting only the existing GWI dues rate. The debate was lengthy and somewhat heated and got off the track to a certain extent, but when the matter was put to the vote, the budget passed. However, discussion of other matters related to CFUW's accounts - particularly dues - took additional time, with the result that at 5 o'clock the meeting was declared adjourned as required by the standing rules without a vote on the dues or the closing formalities.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be part of CFUW's annual meeting -- to take part in the proceedings, no matter how contentious, and to meet and greet old friends. This year's meeting was no exception.

Bev Rhodes

President, CFUW Scarborough

## **Publicity Chair**

Hello fellow members,

Our Scarborough club has some sixty-five members - some recent, some from the last century - but we should have more! Think of acquaintances, new or not so new neighbours and wonder whether exposure to new people in our club and new ideas wouldn't be a good thing, both for your friends and the club.

"It is the FELLOWSHIP", said a very new member, "that has drawn me to the club". Tell your "prospect" that we offer diverse interest groups or even the chance to come up with an interest group of her own. If she has the time and the interest, we have our club to add spice to her

life. We help establish new connections at a time in life that makes the forming of new friendships a challenge. As a club, we can be proud of our programs and accomplishments. But let's remember they are the result of hours of devotion to the tasks, generated by good fellowship. We want more! Members, that is.

From Your new PR member Lydia Manget

## ***Membership 2017***

Thanks to all of you for being a member of CFUW Scarborough for the 2016/17 year.

Thank you for attending our meetings and our fundraiser and for bringing along your friends to both.

Thanks, as well, for speaking with our guests at the meetings. We increased our membership by three this year to a total of sixty-eight plus one dual member. Let's see if we can at least double that increase for 2017/18.

You will soon be receiving your membership and UTSC donation forms either by email or Canada Post. You will see a new request for a cell number which you may provide or not. We have added this to help the Interest Group leaders. Your completed forms and cheques are to be mailed to me or brought to the September meeting. The membership deadline for your name, etc. to be included in our 2017/18 Directory is September 30th. The printed Directory will be available at the October meeting.

New for 2017/18 is that, along with the 50/50 draws, we will be having a "bring & buy" book sale at each meeting. These two activities are to raise money for the CFUW National 100th Anniversary Scholarship fund. Hopefully you will participate when you are able. See you in September,

Bonnie McBride

## ***In Praise of our University Women's Club of Scarborough***

I am so very proud to be a member of our CFUW-Scarborough. The talented ladies in our club have worked so hard and have accomplished so much in aiding students to further their education and in helping others in our community. And personally, I am extremely grateful to those of you who have been so very caring and helpful to me in the last few years. Now that I am 95, I can look back over many years to the spring of 1962 when I first joined the club. At that time, I was taking time off from my teaching at Riverdale CI to look after my baby son. I recall going to a meeting at Margaret Mansell's (president) beautiful home in Uxbridge that year. I was the club secretary a few years later. But I returned to my beloved teaching, now at Thomson CI, in 1967. After a few years, with family, school and church duties, all was a bit overwhelming so I felt I had to give up the club. However, as soon as I retired in 1985, I immediately returned. At that time, Muriel Hamilton was having a club bridge game at her home and needed a spare and when asked, I replied that I had not played since university. "Doesn't matter, as long as you can hold the cards," she said. Since then, bridge with ladies of our club has always been such a happy time- I look forward to it every third Thursday.

Long ago, for many years, I belonged to the dinner gourmet group. At many lovely homes, I enjoyed delicious meals. I also have many happy memories of the evening book group and those interesting discussions. As years crept by I had to cut down on activities, however, I am still in the gourmet lunch group where our discussions are filled with lots of

laughter. Two events I rarely miss are the May dinners and Christmas parties. Your kindness in laughing at my jokes there, always gave me a lift.

When I joined in 1962, our club met in the basement of Christ Church on Markham Rd. Scarborough University Campus of U of T was opened in 1964, it was then that our club was asked to become the "instant alumnae" and we were invited to hold our meetings in their faculty lounge. We were also asked to be guides on campus and for their first building. It was quite an adventure as their first building was constructed of concrete with very small windows. We compared it to Macbeth's castle.

Later we met at the Bendale Library for many years, then at a library in Agincourt mall for a short time before coming to Knox United Church. Unfortunately, due to my age, I have not been able to attend evening meetings there now. However, bridge and gourmet lunches are events I look forward to eagerly.

Again, I wish to thank those gracious, kind ladies who make it possible for me to reach these events. Carol T., Cathy M., Shirley K., Dagmar F., Vicki S., and Rosemary D. are among those most helpful.

My thanks to all you dear ladies who give me smiles and words of encouragement, they are deeply appreciated. Keep up your enthusiasm and good works. You, through the Scarborough CFUW are helping to make this world a better place. Sincerely,

Anne Ellis-Taylor

## Book Review

### The Rainbow Comes and Goes Anderson Cooper and Gloria Vanderbilt

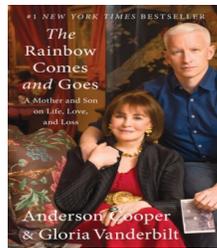
2016

"Both a son's love letter to his mother and an unconventional mom's life lessons for her grown son" (book jacket promotion). It is a year long continuous dialogue between Gloria and Anderson initiated by Gloria with Anderson's contribution being his perspective on her judgement of herself and on his judgement of himself and of their relationship. Before it was promoted as a book it had been an hour-long television drama.

For both the rainbow comes and goes, Anderson says this of his mother: "At ninety-two each day is a kind of celebration, a chance to read a new book, begin a new painting, or simply reflect on all she has lived through, when she wakes up she takes a moment to make a wish, then gets out of bed and makes it come true." (page 288)

About himself he says, "As you know I am more of a realist, perhaps even a catastrophist, I prefer both words to pessimist. I plan and I prepare always for the worst-case scenario. I find it reassuring knowing the rainbow comes and goes, it helps me accept the way things often are." (page 273)

Gloria has the last word, "Excelsior", "Yes ever upward we must go and go together." (page 299)



Muriel Cluett, August 2017

A Night in Seville  
University Women's Club of Toronto's  
Fundraiser for Romero House  
Monday Sept 18, 2017, 5:00-8:00pm  
The Faculty Club, 41 Willcocks St.

Tickets \$50

Contact Rosemary Hales [rhales@sympatico.ca](mailto:rhales@sympatico.ca)  
or Jane Hamer [jehamer1951@gmail.com](mailto:jehamer1951@gmail.com)

All profits will go to Romero House



### Juliette's

Time again to start planning for fall events. For about ten years we have made up Christmas bags for the women and children at Juliette's. We sign up in October for an item on our list of items and bring it to the November meeting. We pack the bags later and take them over to their home in east Scarborough for Christmas. Items of use for every day living can be donated and taken to a regular meeting to be stored at my home (or brought to my house) and delivered to Juliette's later during the year.

Helen Nighswander.

### Editor's Note:

We are looking for another newsletter editor whom I'd be happy to mentor. If anyone is interested please call or email Corona. A big thanks to the executive members, interest group leaders and Muriel for your contribution to this issue. Please send any submissions for the January newsletter by email to [corliscio@gmail.com](mailto:corliscio@gmail.com) by December 10, 2017

Newsletter edited by Corona Liscio

Content accurate as of August 10, 2017

We're on the Web:  
<http://cfuwscarborough.org>

