



White Rock / Surrey

**Volume 21 Number 4
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Diane Salter Menzo

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our beautiful BC fall season. October brings a chance to enjoy fall colours as we celebrate Canadian Thanksgiving. With more time at home and less desire to go shopping during the last few months, many of our members have told me about their home garden projects. Now is the time to enjoy the harvest from these home gardens and share the bounty. Holiday celebrations this year may have been curtailed

to smaller gatherings, but I'm sure we all had many things to be grateful for and celebrate with friends and family whether in person or virtually.

Our club embraced the virtual world for our September welcome back meeting. Kudos to the Programme Committee for planning our fun 'September Bubble' and to all who braved the unknown to try our new virtual format. It was so nice to see the familiar faces of 39 members who registered for this meeting and attended from 30 different devices. In addition to 'no worries about driving, parking or weather', another benefit of Zoom is that we can attend from wherever we are. For our Sept. meeting, members joined as individuals on their own device and some logged in with friends using one device in their own friendship bubble. I 'zoomed in' from Winnipeg for the meeting, where I was visiting my daughter and family for a couple of weeks. What a privilege to be able to be in two places that I wanted to be at the same time!!

In October, we celebrate Women's History Month in Canada. This year's theme, 'Valiant Women of the Vote', honours the brave women who fought to win suffrage rights, and also for the women who continue to fight for the voting rights for others. Reading about Women's History Month has led me to learn about so many trailblazing women whose histories I have never heard about. I've just read about the first woman to receive a PH.D. from a Canadian university in 1903, Emma Sophia Baker. What an accomplishment for a woman in that era. Emma received the first Ph.D. in Philosophy ever granted by the University of Toronto, and one of the first two doctoral degrees the University of Toronto awarded to women in any discipline. Her biography describes that she never married and devoted her life to learning, teaching, travel and religion.

<http://www.feministvoices.com/emma-sophia-baker/>

On October 1, 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement recognizing the contributions of women in Canada and acknowledging the work that still needs to be done, so that women and girls can reach their full potential. In his statement, Trudeau described that the Covid-19 pandemic has made the lives of many women more difficult: “Over the past few months, women – and in particular low-income women – have been hit hardest by the global COVID-19 pandemic. Many have served bravely on the frontlines, risking their health to provide essential care and services to Canadians. Women’s participation in the workforce has also fallen sharply as they have faced job losses, reduced hours of work, and at times no option other than to stay home to care for their families. Some have called it a ‘she-cession.’ The pandemic has highlighted and deepened the inequalities and injustices that exist for women in our society. We know that it will take hard work to fix these gaps which threaten to get worse without decisive action. Now more than ever, we need to make sure that women are supported, so that we don’t lose the progress we have made in recent years”.

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2020/10/01/statement-prime-minister-womens-history-month> .

How fortunate we are to be part of CFUW, an organization that has advocated for women and girls since 1919. Our club will continue to explore opportunities for advocacy in the coming months that may help relieve the suffering in our community.

I am looking forward to ‘seeing’ you at our October virtual meeting on the 24th.



MESSAGE FROM Anne Low, VICE PRESIDENT

WE ARE NOT ALONE!

GWI, or Graduate Women International, is very active in promoting women’s issues internationally. Their Facebook page celebrated International Day of the Girl last week. Sophie Trudeau also published a wonderful inspirational letter to her daughter, that is well worth sharing.

This week, GWI draws attention to an article in Scientific American. It is about issues facing women in science who are working from home and may suffer lasting career damage from COVID-19. This is a result of bearing a greater proportion of childcare and household responsibilities, making it much harder for them to publish their work and get ahead. This high profile article in a prestigious magazine is a heartening result of women’s work in the past. We know that our daughters and daughters-in-law and other working women with families, face the same dilemma. Whatever we can do to support them would be very appreciated.

Speaking of brave and bold women, there is an excellent young adult book series by Nancy Springer about ENOLA HOLMES, sister of Sherlock, raised by a suffragette mother. The Netflix film is entertaining and excellent.

I hope you have familiarized yourself with the CFUW website and articles. Did you know a 13 year old Indigenous girl, Autumn Peltier, was nominated for an International Children’s Peace Prize, launched in 2005? She has advocated for clean drinking water since she was eight years old.

Young and old, we have lots to offer the world. GWI and CFUW aim to promote these causes.

CLUB NEWS

CFUW PROGRAM COMMITTEE

READ A GOOD BOOK LATELY?

If you, like many, have read a lot of books during the time we have been living with Covid 19, and have become somewhat jaded with what you have been reading, you will want to zoom into our next meeting on Saturday, October 24, 2020. Our guest, Trish Lee, Manager of Black Bond Books, our local book store, will tempt you with a review of three books that she recommends. She will also give you an idea of a good choice for teenagers, and one for younger children – ideas for Christmas perhaps?!



If you are still wondering whether to zoom in or not, this will help make up your mind.

Trish will be giving away two books to two of the members who attend. You won't want to miss that opportunity! And, friends are welcome to attend the meeting – please let Diane know the name of your friend who will be joining you for the program - dianesaltermenzo@gmail.com.

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2020

Time: Zoom in at 10:15 a.m..

The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m..

Business meeting to follow.

Watch for an E-Blast with registration details and agenda.



Do you want to Volunteer?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR CLUB

Your board is seeking volunteers for two important committees –

Communications and Fundraising.

Would you like to join other members of your club in these initiatives?

The Communications Committee involves liaising within our club and within the local community, to share our club initiatives and have our news published in local media.

Fundraising involves working with other club members to build on, and operationalize, the existing fundraising plan. No prior experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and a desire to work with others. Joining in club projects and club planning is a great way to meet with new people and work collaboratively.

If you would like to learn more about how you can become involved – please contact Diane at dianesaltermenzo@gmail.com

BURSARY BOARD NEWS

(Carolyn Oram)

Thank You

On behalf of the Bursary Board, I would like to thank Marilyn Dyer for not only the very generous donation of \$2500 to the Foundation for the bursaries last year, but also the gracious donation of three Tattoo books for the bursary recipients.

We really appreciate Mari's contributions.



Donations

The Bursary Board reminds all members to consider a donation to the Foundation on your birthday. Doreen Hoath suggested this idea a few years ago, and many members have continued to make a birthday donation.

OUR MEMBERS

From the Membership Committee

The President of CFUW National has awarded our Club a Certificate of Recognition for an increase of 14 new members in 2020. Some CFUW Clubs have seen a steady decline in membership, so we can be very proud of this achievement.

(Faye Koll)

.... and the Winner is.....



Joan Henderson

A draw took place at the Zoom general meeting on September 26, 2020, for the eight Club members who had participated in our "Bring Your Friend" campaign.

Congratulations to Joan Henderson, who won a \$50.00 gift certificate to Indigo Books.

Joan is a recent new member, who joined us in September 2019, after she read an article about us in the Peace Arch News. After joining, she recruited two of her friends, Donna Van Sant and Heather Bruce.

Joan was a counselor in Surrey before retirement and lives in Crescent Beach with her dog, Tas.

(Faye Koll)



Remembering Joan Hoyles



Our dear friend and colleague, Joan Hoyles, passed away recently. We knew her as an elegant and gracious lady, who was so generous with her time and talents. Joan had been a member of the club for thirty-four years.

We can easily say that she was one of the most active and participating members. Joan was Social Convenor for several executive sessions and was also Interest Group Chair. Joan belonged to the Bridgets, Club Cuisine, and two of the book groups, to mention a few.

A number of years ago, the club wanted to raise its profile in the community by joining a municipal group called Adopt-a-Street. Joan was an avid member of the crew.

Probably her most remembered participation in the club was hosting Stitch and Chat at her home every second Friday of the month for over fifteen years. This was the place that world problems were solved, friendly gossip shared and, sometimes it appeared, not much stitching.

Joan was an artist when it came to fabrics and yarn. Her quilts were masterpieces. The accompanying photo shows the club banner that she and the late Win Bracher worked on. Joan did most of the design and all of the assembly which was made up of repurposed pieces of different fabrics. The banner accompanied delegates to many national and provincial AGMs.

Our club was extremely enriched having Joan as a member. She will be sorely missed.

(Monica von Kursell)





Following the 60th Anniversary of our club, members, present and former, were invited, as part of a special project, to share their remembrances and reflections of their membership in CFUW.

This is an opportunity to reflect on the impact of our group on the local community and beyond, and what membership has meant to each of us as individuals.

Attached is the first of a series of these “memories” that will appear in future newsletters. I invite those who have not yet contributed to become part of this project. Some of the stories received are as short as a paragraph, so it does not have to be lengthy.
(Lois Hunter, Club Archivist)

*Attached is the first of these “memories” from **Mary Thomas**, who was our Club President from 1976 to 1978.*

..... I joined CFUW in the early 1970's.

I had a husband and 3 young children at home and felt the need of more adult company and some mental stimulation. I found both and a lot more in this club.

In CFUW, I found a group of wonderfully interesting women of many different ages. We were a small group and met in each other's homes. The camaraderie was delightful. The older women were real ground breakers, as they had gone to university when it was not common for women to do so, and proved to be strong and feisty people. I loved to hear their stories. Clara Tutt, Amy Barker, Ruth Plant and Lorraine Amos were some of them. I also found a group of women of my age and situation – at home, raising a young family. Together, we had the time, energy, initiative & know-how to start and run a number of interesting projects in the community.

We started a family planning clinic after seeing a surge in teenage pregnancies in the area. Elizabeth (Gilray) Bordeaux brought a smile to many as a reminder of what can happen without planning, being a volunteer and “large with child” at the time. This clinic was later taken over by the Public Health Dept.

We started a “Careers Day” programme for the secondary schools. We arranged for 60-70 volunteers from a variety of professions and vocations to assemble for one day at a school, and students could hear and speak to some a few of them had chosen during the day. This became so popular, the schools used our model and continued on their own.

We recorded talking books for the library with Lorraine Amos of WR Players club a favourite reader.

We also started a pre-school readiness programme before it was available in the community, using a few of our own former teachers. Not only did these projects benefit the community, they made for strong bonds among the women involved. Many are still active in the club today. Mary Fran Bateman, Patricia Hyde and Carolyn Oram being among them.

I also served on the “Executive” as the board was then called, as both vice president when Elizabeth (Gilray) Bordeaux was president, and then president. As programme chair, I got to invite speakers for our meetings, often hosting dinner with the executive and speaker beforehand. One highlight was having Pauline Jewett come. She was the new President of Simon Fraser University. As the first woman president of a university in Canada, she made a big impression on us as a woman breaking the “glass ceiling”. She was another ground breaker. Remember, this was the 70's, when the women's liberation movement was just beginning.

I have enjoyed my association with CFUW and have benefited in countless ways over the years from this club. However, it is the women I have met and been privileged to work with and count as friends, that I cherish the most.

Thank you for the opportunity to share some of my CFUW memories.

Mary Thomas

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

October is Women's History month in Canada, a time to celebrate the women and girls from our past and our present who have made, and continue to make, a lasting impact on our country. In 1992, the Government of Canada designated October as Women's History Month and specifically, October 11th is observed as the International Day of the Girl Child and October 18th as Persons Day. It is interesting to look back in our history to see how this came about.



We owe much to a group of 5 prominent Alberta suffragette women known as "The Famous Five" who, in the 1920's, championed a legal case that advanced the rights of Canadian women. Prior to October 18, 1929, women were not considered to be "persons" in the eyes of the

Canadian Government who consistently interpreted it as meaning men only. This meant that women were restricted in many ways, such as the right to serve in the Senate and in some cases, vote. The famous 5 women asked the Supreme Court of Canada to answer if the word "person" in section 24 of the BNA Act included female persons. The answer was NO, so the famous 5 took their case to Canada's highest Court of Appeal at that time, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of Great Britain in London. On Oct 18, 1929, the decision was announced. "The exclusion of women from all public office is a relic of days more barbarous than ours, and to those who would ask why the word "person" should include females, the obvious answer is: why should it not"? We know this as the "Persons" Case and Oct 18th as "Persons Day", when the legal definition of "persons" was changed to include women. This meant that Canadian women could participate fully in Canada's political and judicial life.

CFUW women in clubs across Canada, have been leaders to carry on the initial work of the famous 5 women activists. Within our own club, we fast forward to the club newsletter of October 2015 when some remarkable suffragettes continued these advocacy efforts prior to the Federal Election of Oct 19, 2015. At the first meeting of the fall season, Sue Foley-Currie and Diane-Salter Menzo, dressed as suffragettes, greeted members to publicize an all candidates meeting on Oct 17 which was organized by the program committee. Anne Low organized a "Flash Mob" of a dozen of our members, also dressed as suffragettes, who paraded with placards around downtown White Rock to publicize the "meet the candidates" event. In the words of Carolyn Oram, this street theatre, "woke up the streets of White Rock." Moderators for the all candidates' question period, which focused on Health Care, the Environment and Child Care, were Diane and Sue.

A memorable History Month for our Club. The Famous Five would have been proud.

(Lois Hunter, Archivist)



INTEREST GROUPS - Evening Book Club

The Evening book club has chosen their book selections for the year.

We had our first meeting at Pat Poliquin's common room and hope to be able to continue meeting in person. We had a few Zoom meetings in the Spring, and as we monitor the COVID situation, we will choose the most appropriate format to meet the

changing situation.

It seems that we all have more time these days, so if you are looking for some new reads, here is our book list:

(Kathy Steele)

Becoming Mr. Lewis - by Patti Callahan;
The Vanishing Half - by Brit Bennett;
Station Eleven - by Emily St. John Mandel;
From the Ashes - by Jesse Thistle;
Courting Mr. Lincoln - by Louis Bayard

The Honey Bus - by Meredith May;
The Skin We're In - Desmond Cole;
Girl, Woman, Other - by Bernadine Evaristo;
The Dutch House - by Ann Patchett;
Good Citizens Need Not Fear - by Maria Reva

CFUW White Rock/Surrey Interest Groups ~ Activities and Leaders

Monday

Dames Who Dine
1st Mon., 5:30 p.m.
Trudy Handel;

Duplicate Bridge
2nd Mon., 1:00 p.m.
Betty Bishop; Donna Freeze

Club Cuisine
4 times a year
Anna Ferguson

One to One Literacy Group
once a week
Carolyn Oram



Tuesday

Alpha Book Group
2nd Tues. 1:30 p.m.
Shirley Nord

Evening Book Club
3rd Tues., 7 p.m.
Kathy Steele

Who can play, Who can host? Bridge
Tues. & Fri.,
9:30 a.m.
Sandy McKenzie

The Bridgets Afternoon Bridge
1st & 3rd Tues.,
1:00 p.m.
Janice Cook

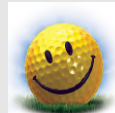


Wednesday

Afternoon Matinee-Dinner
2nd Wed., 3:00 p.m.
(varies)
Barbara Cook

Golf for Fun
Wed. Afternoons
Sue Foley-Currie

Art Appreciation
3rd Wed. (varies)
Marilyn Dyer-Seidel



Thursday

Fully Booked Book Group
2nd Thurs. 1:30 p.m.
Joanne Cunningham

Newbies Bridge
1:00 p.m., Thurs.
Sandra Kraft

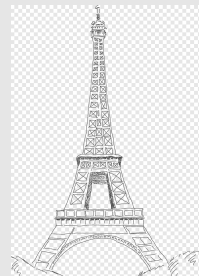


Friday

Stitch and Chat
2nd Fri., 1:00 p.m.
to be announced



French Conversation
Friday 1 p.m. on Zoom
Sylvia Riddell



Need a Ride to Meetings?

If you are unable to attend because you don't have transportation, please call Sandra Kraft at 604-535-8824. Sandra will find a ride for you.

MEMBER RESOURCES

Web Resources for Members

CFUW Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CFUW-White-RockSurrey-1491088411167597/timeline/>

and the closed group page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1547358335477392>

(to access, you must be a member of Facebook)

CFUW White Rock/Surrey Website

<http://cfuwwhiterocksurrey.com/>

BC Council

<https://sites.google.com/site/cfuwbccouncil/home>

CFUW (National)

<http://www.cfuw.org/>

GWI (Graduate Women International)

<http://www.graduatewomen.org/>

Semiahmoo Arts

<http://www.semiahmooarts.com/>

Arts Council of Surrey

<http://www.artscouncilofsurrey.ca/>

NOTE:

just click on the URL and you will be taken to the respective website.

Please contact Membership Chair,
Faye Koll if you have changes to your
contact information:

Telephone - 604-599-0714;

email: kollfm@shaw.ca

Send a Card... Please advise **Linda Tedman**
about any member of our club who is ill or
bereaved, so she can send a card. Contact
information: **Telephone 604-536-4898;**
email: lindatedman@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Editor and Layout - Veronika Bichler
Proofreaders - Helen Christiansen
- Monica von Kursell
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**Deadline for Nov./Dec. Newsletter
submissions is Monday, Nov. 9, 2020**

Please submit news by email with the subject line
'Newsletter' to: vbichler@shaw.ca

