



White Rock / Surrey

Volume 15 Number 8
May 2015



Photo: Veronika Bichler

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Trudy Handel

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's that time of year that we all wait for – suddenly the days are sunny and warm, and the evenings stretch out into night. For

most people, it's nirvana – let the good times roll! Not so much for farmers. This is the beginning of our busy season and, boy, does it get busy. This year, we donated one hundred raspberry bushes and forty blackberry bushes to “Run for the Cure”, a charity my daughter strongly supports. “Donate” is a misleading term – in reality it meant that my daughter and I dug bushes out, mixed soil and spent hours potting them before her big sales event. The sale went well, and her team made over \$350 from humble berry bush sales, even though some were left at the end of the day.

Winter was a non-event this year, and that's having an impact on us right now. The blueberry bushes are almost finished blooming, instead of just starting. Oddly enough, the raspberries haven't even started, so our berry world order has been turned on its head.

The haskups are purple already, although they're still sour. Next come the raspberries, the saskatoons, red and black currants, gooseberries, blueberries, mulberries, blackberries and finally the chokecherries. The chokecherries are interesting, sort of like puffer fish – you have to prepare them carefully to make the ultimate berry syrup experience, but the leaves and stems are toxic, so they have to be carefully excluded. Farmers blanch when they hear the term “hail” at this time of year, because it could destroy the whole crop if it hits the blossoms. They watch the clouds and hope for a nice mixture of sun and rain (but not the days we're picking).

To make things more interesting, just as the fields need to be mowed, the farmers markets are starting up. Packing up the tent, sunscreen, signs, products and chairs (don't forget the chairs!) becomes a weekly job. So, as our CFUW year comes to a close, and we complete our AGM, think of the farmers out there, squinting at the sky and picking the berries. Have a happy (and alternately dry and wet) summer – see you in September!



CLUB NEWS



"If not you, who will act?"

AGM Meeting and Program



AGM 2015



- Date:** Saturday, May 23
- Time:** 11:30 AM
- Cost:** \$20.00 for elegantly prepared luncheon by Club Cuisine Interest Group
- Place:** Mary Fran Bateman's home, 17287 - 21 A Ave.
- Directions:** East on 24 Ave. to 172 Street, turn right & right again on 21 A Ave.
- Invitees:** Members only as it is our Annual General Meeting

R.S.V.P. Deadline to reply is May 20. Reply by email to helenjeanchr@gmail.com

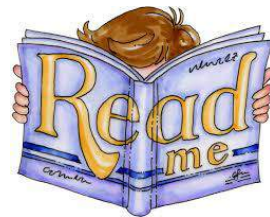
Program Survey

submitted by Maureen Buchholz

Before the May luncheon, you will be receiving a program survey. This survey is your opportunity to help plan next year's programming through suggestions, and rate the past year's programs. You can bring your completed survey to the May luncheon or pick up a copy there for a chance to win a large box of assorted chocolates, compliments of Purdy's.

One to One Literacy Project

submitted by Pat Hyde, Mary Ann Rainer, and Carolyn Oram



The One to One Program will be completing another successful year during the week of May 25 - 28. The end of the year luncheon will be held at Pat Hyde's home on May 29 at 12 noon. In early June, the coordinators will meet to sort the books from each school and update the supplies.

Thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time reading to children at H.T. Thrift, Peace Arch, and Sunnyside Elementary Schools.

If you are coming to the luncheon for volunteers on May 29, please RSVP to carolynoram@gmail.com by May 22.

BC COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND AGM SIDNEY, BC – APRIL, 2015



Pictured from left to right: Lois Hunter, Trudy Handel, Maureen Buchholz and Elizabeth Bordeaux -- Photo courtesy Lois Hunter

Six members of CFUW White Rock/Surrey attended the BC Council Conference in April. President Trudy Handel was the voting delegate; Monica von Kursell filled a double role of representing our club and serving as treasurer of the Council; and the rest of us – Sue Foley-Currie, Maureen Buchholz, Lois Hunter and Elizabeth Bordeaux – also enthusiastically represented our club. We have banded together to give you this report on the conference.

Club Activities

(by Elizabeth Bordeaux)

We were blown away by some of the accomplishments reported by other clubs, even those with memberships as small as eleven. One club gives Second Chance Bursaries for mature women going back to school; fundraising endeavours range from book sales to an art and collectibles sale open to the public; programs include talks by immigrant women about their experiences; and every club was proud to be a part of the Federation and all it stands for. We are making sure the Program Committee and Bursary Foundation receive copies of the club reports with their innovative ideas.

Welcome Reception

(by Monica von Kursell)

The Friday evening reception began with welcoming comments from local dignitaries. Lana Popham, MLA (also a CFUW member) gave a hearty welcome, and Steve Price, mayor of Sydney, as part of his welcome, enthusiastically proclaimed Saturday, April 18th as CFUW day. A highlight of the reception was the welcome address given by Saanich First Nations elder, John Elliott. He spoke of friendship and mutual respect and understanding among people. Accompanying himself on a small drum, Mr. Elliott sang in a beautiful clear, slightly dusty voice a song about a woman planting seeds; the story holds a wealth of symbolic meaning. Somehow because of her efforts she turns into a bird. I am not too sure if that was a good thing, but I hope that it was.

Networking at the AGM

(by Sue Foley-Currie)

Until the Saanich conference, I had never attended a BC Council AGM. AGMs (at least in a church setting) in the past always reminded me of getting through hours on a hard chair – with a smile on one's face. However BC Council AGMs are filled with fun, networking and learning many new things. For example, the importance of branding was mentioned by many of the speakers. Branding can be used for raising awareness of not only the existence of our own club and its activities, but also of local, national and international goals. And there are CFUW resources we can draw upon for our club as to how to raise confidence and learning levels for branding. Networking, be it formal or informal, is one such resource. My own formal way of networking in a large room of people is to go around once and try and talk for a short time with everyone and then thankfully go home to read a book, write or garden! But the BC Council, like our local club, has many informal ways to network. I especially appreciated sitting not just at my own club's table but with some others (even briefly): the arrival, restaurant dinner with members from other clubs, an impromptu social pub time with some of our club and North and West Van, and drinks in the hotel room, and return ferry time with Vancouver Club members. And a bonus was having our National CFUW President there for the full AGM; she is a valued resource for both "the means and the ways" of branding and networking as tools of both the communications and membership umbrellas. Hearing Elizabeth May, MP, a member of the host club and one of the key "consciences" re: Canada's environmental/green concerns, was also a bonus.

Conference Challenges (by Maureen Buchholz)

There were four challenges identified by CFUW BC Council at April's AGM - Communications, Membership, Advocacy and Sustainability - the very ones challenging our club in this day and age.

Effective communications mean more public exposure, which includes "branding", the latest buzzword. What we know is that a good communication strategy works hand-in-hand with **membership**, increasing it exponentially. More members mean we have greater power to effect change through our MLAs and our presence in the legislative gallery. It's a long-term plan to achieve our goals, and our club is currently working on a four-year strategic plan to be brought to the membership in September.

Sustainability is a concern, as we heard that 100 women's groups have dissolved in the last ten years. I think we all realize that, if our communications are relevant and good women are recruited, our club will be sustainable.

Advocacy is a key committee of BC Council. They are joining initiatives like the Prevention of Violence Canada (POVC), a national coalition implementing World Health Organization (WHO) strategies. We can reinforce this initiative by asking our MLAs "Where do you stand on violence prevention?"

There is so much work identified to be done by our clubs in the areas of equity for women and children, poverty, daycare, shelter, living wage, just to name a few. You would think we were overwhelmed at the AGM by the sheer weight of these critical issues, but with an eco-tour in the sunshine around the islets of Canoe Cove, and a workshop on the many uses of seaweed, there were relaxing times too. I enjoyed getting to know my roommate better as we walked the Sidney seashore at dawn, before going to meetings. It was the first time I had been to a CFUW provincial AGM, and I was warmly welcomed by the many members of the Saanich Club.



Pictured from left to right: Sue Foley-Currey, Monica von Kursell, Trudy Handel, CFUW National President Doris Mae Oulton, Elizabeth Bordeaux, Maureen Buchholz and Lois Hunter - Photo courtesy Lois Hunter

Outstanding Speakers (by Trudy Handel)

The keynote speaker for the conference was Dr. Kate Moran, President of Ocean Networks Canada. As part of Smart Oceans Canada, Dr. Moran's group is responsible for cutting edge research, aimed at providing early warnings of underwater seismic movement. With funding from the provincial and federal governments, Dr. Moran and her colleagues are positioning sensors on the ocean floor in strategic areas which may give ninety seconds of advance notice when there is a major earthquake along the Pacific coast. In addition, Dr. Moran's research provides information on the movement and habits of seldom seen underwater inhabitants. See more info at: <http://www.oceannetworks.ca/>

Another interesting workshop speaker was Diane Bernard, known as "The Seaweed Lady". She brought along a wide variety of fresh seaweed with amazing characteristics and provided the audience with fascinating facts about her "crop". From her factory in Sooke, B.C., Diane harvests many types of fresh seaweed, for use in everything from hand creams to fresh cuisine. Her products are shipped all over the world. See more info at: <https://www.sea-flora.com/about-us/seaweed-lady>

Conclusion

We all had a great time in Saanich and learned a lot. We look forward to attending the next BC Council conference in Abbotsford; do mark April 22-25, 2016 on your calendars and plan to be there with us.

Our Members



WENDY FIDGEON 1932-2015

Dr. Wendy Fidgeon was an active member of CFUW White Rock/Surrey for over 40 years but could no longer be involved after she and her husband moved to Vancouver nine years ago to be closer to their family after her health started to deteriorate. She died on April 3, 2015 after battling Parkinson's disease with the same courage and determination she demonstrated throughout her life.

Wendy was a remarkable person who contributed a great deal to our club. In 1966, she and Terry, both physicians, moved from England to western Canada by ship via the Panama Canal with their four children, one yellow lab and all their furniture. They then settled on Panorama Ridge, South Surrey. In those days, the club met at members' homes, alternating between The Ridge and White Rock, and as soon as she joined us, Wendy hosted meetings and plunged right in to club activities. She signed up for the only bridge group and one of the book clubs, and later held several positions on the board, including that of president in 1984-86. She was instrumental in obtaining lottery money for our bursaries and, along with other dedicated club members, spent many unpleasant hours in smoke-filled Bingo halls fulfilling the Lottery Corporation's requirement of volunteer time from fund recipients. Wendy was among the first who saw the need for a separate, not-for-profit Bursary Foundation authorized to give tax receipts for donations; that vision resulted in our Bursary Foundation, which to date has given over \$300,000 in bursaries to deserving young women. Wendy also worked hard for our most successful fund-raising endeavour, 'Gardens in Bloom'. She was a Master Gardener, and as long as 'Gardens in Bloom' operated, she shared her expertise by being available to answer questions at one of the gardens each year.

Outside of the club, Wendy led an incredibly active, adventurous and productive life. Her family wrote the following: Wendy worked as a physician at Woodlands [a residential school for the mentally handicapped]; kept a magnificent garden; sewed clothes for her children; entertained well; travelled far and wide; sailed; windsurfed; rode and kept horses; competed in cross-country ski marathons as recently as 2001; canoed the Bowren Lakes circuit twice; and hiked widely, including in Nepal to 18,000 feet. She was a trustee and then Chair of the Surrey School Board. [Note: She always topped the polls.] She belonged to CFUW White Rock/Surrey, the Colebrook Community Club and several gardening clubs. She volunteered overseas in Dominica and at an orphanage in Southern India, and locally with many organizations, including as a Master Gardener right until the end of her life.



Wendy was a truly amazing person who contributed greatly to everything she touched. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her kindness and compassion, her courage and determination, and her outstanding achievements.

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(by Elizabeth Bordeaux)

This and That....



Six of our newest recruits enjoy meeting Board members at the New Members' Lunch on April 8.

L to R: Kathy Steele; Sue Foley-Currie; Eileen Ennis; Karen Peplow; Elizabeth Bordeaux; Penny Harrington; Anne Low; Jaqui Joys; Pauline Carter; Jay Donald; and Pat Poliquin.

Joanne Cunningham took the picture.
(submitted by Elizabeth Bordeaux)

Marilyn Dyer-Seidel was presented with beautiful roses for her interesting and thought-provoking presentation at the April General Meeting on how the experience of the destruction of the horse "Tattoo" was turned into a beautiful book with a powerful message on bullying.



Books for the Food Bank!

This project has a club volunteer going to the White Rock Library to pick up sorted boxes of donated/discarded books in excellent condition. They are driven to the Food Bank where the assorted fiction, non-fiction and youth books are put on shelves. This is done about every two weeks.

It's an easy, well organized, satisfying community project managed by three members, so one of us is always available.

Anne Low, Kathy Steele, Hannah Daniel are the current volunteers, with Margot Holloway on the injury list.

(submitted by Anne Low)

CFUW NATIONAL NEWS

compiled and submitted by Sue Foley-Currie



CFUW NEWS UPDATE

- CFUW Advocacy notes more than 5,000 have been killed and eight million persons affected in Nepal's earthquake. This includes at least two million women and girls and 126,000 pregnant women. If you wish to donate – the humanitarian coalition has the Government of Canada as a partner and the latter is matching funds. <http://humanitariancoalition.ca/>
- CFUW is looking for a qualified volunteer researcher to write a book about the CFUW history. Expressions of interest must be submitted by June 1, 2016.
- By January 31, 2015, National CFUW's total expenses were \$521,615 (annual budget set at \$658,891). It includes the regular and historic 8,294 national member's dues portion for GWI/IFUW – or \$159,535 from CFUW for international goals. There was also a \$40,368 overrun to the budget re: the AGM in Quebec City. However, the final budget figures will be reported at the AGM.

CFUW BC Council & Clubs Update

"If not you, who will act?"

- It was announced at the recent B.C. Council AGM – that the next B.C. Council AGM will be April 22-24, 2016. It will be hosted by CFUW Abbotsford with the theme "Intersecting Journeys" and accommodation will be at the Ramada Plaza Abbotsford Hotel.

GWI (IFUW) Update

IFUW is now GWI (Graduate Women International)

- The name change for the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) is Graduate Women International (GWI). There was a 70% majority vote with 67 of 91 National Federation and Associates (NFA) delegates voting plus six board members, representing 73% of the voting body (also 21 voting against and two abstentions). GWI is no longer experiencing decline in membership numbers and has been extending impact in the media and advocacy areas and extending networks with governments and worldwide agencies. It is also looking for additional funding sources, other than members.
- There are 23,000 members in more than 100 countries. Canada is a major National Federation in GWI due to the number of our members in National CFUW and our % of international dues is major. GWI works to empower girls and women in the world – through access to lifelong quality education and training. CFUW was also a vital force in the founding and ongoing continuation of IFUW, now GWI.



Good wine and good company.....

Join Bellingham AAUW for a wine-tasting party
at Vartanyan Estate Winery



**Saturday, June 20, 2015
2 to 5 p.m.**

**Tickets \$30 per person - includes
five wine samples**

- Sample Margarita Vartanyan's wines, made on-site with her family's Armenian traditions and experience.
- Pair your wine with hors d'oeuvres chosen by AAUW members to complement the wines.
- Listen to live music
- Buy raffle tickets for unique goody baskets

Tickets sold in advance will be held at the door.
Checks payable to Bellingham AAUW. Hand them
to your AAUW representative or mail to:
Bellingham AAUW, P.O. Box 29862, Bellingham,
WA 98228 Tickets also available at the door.



Directions:
From Woburn Street, turn
right onto Mt. Baker Hwy.
Go 2.8 miles, then turn left
onto Noon Rd.
Go 0.8 mile and turn left onto
Huntley Road. Destination is
up hill and to the right -- 1628
Huntley Road, Bellingham
(360) 756-6770
Questions? 360-671-5518



**Proceeds will help
provide scholarships to
women attending
Western Washington
University, Whatcom
Community College,
Bellingham Technical
College and Northwest
Indian College.**

**Vartanyan Estate Winery will donate 20% of bottle sales to AAUW
for scholarships.**

CFUW White Rock/Surrey Interest Groups ~ Activities and Leaders

Monday

Dames Who Dine

1st Mon., 5:30 p.m.
Trudy Handel;
Georgia Fontaine

Duplicate Bridge

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

Symphony at the Bell Centre ~

Linda Lee Henriksen

Club Cuisine

5-6 times a year
Elizabeth Bordeaux

New Members

Elizabeth Bordeaux

One-to-One Literacy Group

once a week
Patricia Hyde

Tuesday

Alpha Book Group

2nd Tues. 1:30 p.m.
Shirley Nord

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.
Monica von Kursell



Wednesday

Afternoon Matinee-Dinner

2nd Wed., 3:00 p.m.
(varies)
Sandra Kraft

Golf for Fun

Wed. Afternoons
Sandra Kraft

Art Appreciation

3rd Wed. (varies)
Marilyn Dyer-Seidel

Thursday

Fully Booked Book Group

2nd Thurs. 1:30 p.m.
Joanne Cunningham

Newbies Bridge

1:30 p.m., Thurs.
Monica von Kursell

Evening Book

2nd Thur., 7 p.m.
Marjorie Mooney

Friday

Stitch and Chat

2nd Fri., 1:00 p.m.
Joan Hoyles

French Conversation

3rd Friday
1:30 –2:30 p.m.
Sylvia Riddell

Environment

4th Friday
1:00 p.m.
Mary Ann Rainer

Interest Group Info*
For more information contact Interest Group Leaders,
or you may contact **Anne Low**, Interest Groups Coordinator
Telephone - 604-538-7104.
Email – anne99low@gmail.com

***Groups subject to change.**



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

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Editor and Layout - Veronika Bichler

Proofreaders - Elizabeth Bordeaux
- Helen Christiansen
- Monica von Kursell

Email Distribution : - Veronika Bichler

Deadline for September Newsletter submissions is Friday, September 4, 2015

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

Ads are prepaid. Please contact our Club Treasurer, Eileen Ennis. email: wennis@telus.net

Send a Card... Please advise Elizabeth Bordeaux about any member of our Club who is ill or bereaved, so she can send a card. Contact information: **Telephone - 604-538-1477; Email - ebordeaux@shaw.ca**

Web Resources for Members

CFUW Facebook page

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

and the closed group page

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

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

CFUW White Rock/Surrey

www.cfuw-wrsurrey.org

BC Council

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

CFUW (National)

www.cfuw.org

IFUW (International)

www.ifuw.org

Semiahmoo Arts

www.semiahmooarts.com

Arts Council of Surrey

www.artscouncilofsurrey.ca

Please contact Membership Chair, Anne Low, for notification of changes to your contact information:

Telephone - 604-538-7104;

email: anne99low@gmail.com

M Morin
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C Corporation

Grace J.K. Morin
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**CFUW WHITE ROCK/SURREY
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2015-16**

Fees are due by **May 31**. Please complete and submit this renewal notice, together with your cheque made out to **CFUW White Rock/Surrey**, either at a general meeting or by mail to PO Box 75039, Surrey, BC V4A 0B1. A late fee is payable after June 30.

NAME: _____

2015-16 Club Membership Fees:	\$100
Late fee if paid after June 30:	10
TOTAL DUE:	_____

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

My contact information in the current club directory is correct.

Signature

CHANGES IN CONTACT INFORMATION

(address; email; telephone number)

Breakdown of Club Fees

National Federation (CFUW) and International Federation (GWI*) fees	\$70
BC Council fees, including liability insurance	1
Balance to CFUW White Rock/Surrey	<u>\$29</u>

*Graduate Women International