

President - Anne Seymour
Vice-President – Cynthia Lemon
Secretary - Vivian McCaffrey
Treasurer - Styn Furness
Past President – Ruth Henderson

[CFUW – Owen Sound & Area](#), celebrating 30 + years... 1990 – 2023

CFUW: ‘Women Helping Women’

CFUW is a non-partisan, voluntary, self-funded organization with over 100 CFUW Clubs, located in every Province across Canada. Since its founding in 1919, CFUW has been working to improve the status of women, and to promote human rights, public education, social justice and peace. It holds special consultative status with the United Nations (ECOSOC) and belongs to the Education Committee of the Canadian Commission to UNESCO.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues:

March is the month that we experience the transition of winter to spring. We also endure another time change back to daylight savings. The last few weeks we have enjoyed early mornings with more bird songs and longer and brighter afternoons. I’m looking forward to Maple Syrup days!

March also holds a couple of days of significance that particularly relate to women. On March 8th, we celebrated International Women’s Day, but that was tempered with our realization that the many privileges we enjoy, not all women do, even women in positions of power. On March 21st, we will celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The communication from Mary Simon, the Governor General of Canada, yesterday underscored how in Canada today still, women are subject to misogyny in extreme forms. With women of different racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds, discrimination can amplify the impacts of misogyny. As members of CFUW, we must continue to support each other and engage allies to combat this ongoing disdain for all women.

As a follow-up to February, the Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) walk to raise money for local charities serving people experiencing hunger and homelessness was held on **February 25th**. Members of our Owen Sound and Area CFUW Club, under the leadership of Rosemary McCann, not only participated as an organization, but raised significant funds for Safe n Sound. Many thanks to Rosemary for organizing and to all the CFUW members who engaged.

This month, there will NOT be a summary of highlights from the Executive Committee meeting as most information will be covered through the reports from the committee members and various coordinators.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, continued ...

Finally, the Program Committee has organized a wonderful session at [OSHaRE](#) at 2pm on March 14th to hear from the CEO, Colleen, who will share what services are offered at this organization. We look forward to hearing from her on the various individuals and organizations that support this non-for-profit, as well as the various services they offer and the agencies that benefit from their outreach. ***We are reminded that at the OSHaRE event on March 14th, all of us -- staff, volunteers and guests -- are still expected to wear masks.***

I hope to see you all there!

Sincerely
Anne

~ Anne Seymour, President, CFUW Owen Sound and Area

CFUW Land Acknowledgement

We want to acknowledge that this place where we come together is within the ancestral and traditional territory of the Anishinaabe Nation: the people of the Three Fires known as the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi Nations. We give thanks to the Chippewas of Saugeen and the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, now known as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation as the traditional keepers of this land.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS

ADVOCACY

The Advocacy Committee continues to work on fleshing out our plans for *Ageing in the Right Place*. We are currently working on a three-year plan that will outline the goals and actions for our advocacy work. We hope that part of the development of our plan will include a survey of our membership. It is important to know what you believe to be important regarding *Ageing in the Right Place*.

What is *Ageing in the Right Place*? The National Institute on Ageing in its 2022 report ***Ageing in the Right Place: Supporting Older Canadians to Live Where They Want*** states that it is "the process of enabling healthy ageing in the most appropriate setting based on an older person's personal preferences, circumstances and care needs." What that looks like and sounds like is likely very different for each of us. This therefore means we need to carefully consider the supports that each of us might need and want to age in place.

One of our goals as an Advocacy Committee is to support the learning of our membership regarding this topic. We hope to provide numerous opportunities for this over the next three years. **Our CFUW Owen Sound and Area Advocacy Committee will be hosting its first Advocacy event via Zoom on Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00 PM. Our guest will be John Restakis who is an authority on the Cooperative Movement.** His book, *Humanizing the Economy* (New Society Publishers, 2010) details cooperatives in the economy of the 21st Century. He writes that the Cooperative

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS, continued ...

ADVOCACY, continued ...

movement has “an enduring vision that is being rediscovered” as part of the search for Social Justice. This vision is varied and rich with possibilities for intergenerational, affordable and sustainable housing. John will speak about the specific types of coops that have developed out of the need to “have a home”. Pencil the date in your calendars and watch for further details!

I want to thank the members of the Advocacy Committee for their advocacy support and work. We look forward to good things to come! Thanks to Anne Seymour, Anne Dondertman, Trisha Hendrie, Jan Chamberlain, Marianne Williams and Donna Phillips! If you would like to join us, please contact Cynthia Lemon at lemondalefarm@gmail.com. We would be delighted to have additional members!

~ *Cynthia Lemon, Advocacy Committee Coordinator*

ARCHIVES

From the Desk of the Archivist...

*For the past 30-plus years, our Club historians and archivists have collected Newsletters, Program Brochures, Annual Reports and files of Special Events. The Club's history has been well documented and shared with you before, particularly at our 10th and 20th Anniversaries. Our thanks go to Donna Phillips, Judy Thomson and Jan Middleton for keeping our history alive. It seems appropriate, in this monthly column, to share with you, especially newer members, some of the highlights of this treasure trove of information as we celebrate our 33rd year. Here is a glimpse into what our Club members have accomplished, and the dedicated women who have helped us grow and evolve... 30+ years later. **This month we focus on 2009 – 2010.***

2009 – 2010 was another terrific year for our Club. Marianne Williams was President with Donna Elliott as the Vice. What a dynamic duo! That year we had a total membership of 60 women. We were so pleased to have Ruth Henderson, Pat McCoy, and Micheline Howitt join the Club. Many of us remember fondly the wonderful June Surgey who also joined that year.

It was an incredibly busy and productive year. Our Interest Group members were all busy... two Book clubs, the Gardeners, the Healthy Lifestyles and the Issues Group. Each group had an exciting and educational agenda.

Our Christmas social was hosted by Marsha Barrow, who opened her home, “The Butchart Estate” Bed & Breakfast to our members. A raffle was held and we managed to send \$1,215 to the Salvation Army.

One highlight of our General Meetings was the very successful Lunch and Learn sessions at the Bayshore. 70 women attended in January, and 80 attended in February! The word obviously got around that we were on to something. The hardworking Program Committee worked on ticket sales, promotion and also provided a delicious lunch that was cooked at the Bayshore. We had a team of members who helped decorate and set the tables, and cleaned up afterward. The topic was Canadian Women in Literature with Dr. Gary Draper who captured our attention with his research and his superb speaking ability. This event raised funds for the Scholarship Program. Jan Middleton reported that the Club was able to award three \$800.00 scholarships to deserving young women in our Area. Our members once again showed their incredible generosity.

This was the first full year for our website, which provided a valuable source of information about the Club. Jane Hendrie was the editor for our Newsletter, another valuable source of information and connection to members of the Club.

~ *Meran Farmer, Archivist*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS, continued ...

EDUCATION

Scholarship Fund: We are now 9 months into the Scholarship Fund's fiscal year which has me thinking of the upcoming convocation ceremonies (cheques need to be sent so students can receive awards) and planning ahead to the year-end AGM. This year the Scholarship Fund and our Chapter's AGM will be at the same meeting. At that time the year-end financial report will be given and a slate of officers elected.

Members Wanted!!! If you are interested in joining the Scholarship Fund Committee, please send me a quick email.

Scientists in School: We are sponsoring 5 workshops this year – all at Notre Dame. I will share the student and staff feedback once I receive it.

This past week the *Scientists in School* Facebook page thanked us for our support. We were recognized as an Exploration Level Donor.

~ **Kathy Needham, Education Committee Coordinator**

NEWSLETTER

This monthly Newsletter is emailed directly to members. **There will not, however, be an APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER. Instead, email reminders will be sent to all members regarding the April & May Programs, and the special Advocacy zoom event, Tuesday, April 18 at 7:00 PM. Interest groups are kindly asked to contact their own members about April activities. The monthly newsletter will resume in May.**

Please send contributions for the Newsletter to the editor/coordinator: **Judy Beth Armstrong** armstrong.judybeth@gmail.com before the end of each month, for distribution to members within 2-3 days following an Executive Meeting.

Please note that it is CFUW - Owen Sound policy that:

- *items in the newsletter should be related to CFUW information and events. Occasionally community events and information may be included if these relate to the CFUW mandate and interest groups, and that*
- *unless a member specifically gives permission, a member's personal information will not appear in the newsletter. For this information members should go to their copy of the Members' Directory.*

~ **Judy Beth Armstrong, Newsletter Coordinator**

PROGRAM

General Meetings are **usually** held on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month.

ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, we were delighted to hear **Blaine Courtney** speak to us about "**Growing Up Black in Grey County**" at Grey Roots. More than 30 members attended the talk and Valentine's Day "tea". Warmest thanks to Blaine! And, thanks to Ruth Henderson, we have some photos to share... check the "Photo Gallery" on the last pages of this newsletter.

PROGRAM, continued ...

TUESDAY, MARCH 14: GM and Program, 2 PM - in person - for a talk and tour at OSHaRE – “What We Have We Will Share” - in downtown Owen Sound. We are grateful for this unique opportunity to learn more about this important community service. Thank you to Donna Phillips for organizing this program. ***We are reminded that at the OSHaRE event on March 14th, all of us -- staff, volunteers and guests -- are expected to wear masks. See poster below for details.***



cfuw  fcfdu

OWEN SOUND & AREA
WOMEN HELPING WOMEN

GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023

2:00 P.M. - IN PERSON

AT OSHaRE - 946 3rd Ave East, Owen Sound, ON

“What we have, we will share”

OSHaRE: Owen Sound Hunger and Relief Effort is a community meal program on 3rd Ave East in downtown Owen Sound where a caring team of volunteers is determined to transform those in need, one life at a time. Join us to hear Colleen Trask-Seaman, OSHaRE Executive Director, and Thom McDonough, Chair of the Board, talk about their vision, donations, recipes, partnerships and needs. We'll view the industrial-grade cooking equipment including walk-in cooler and freezer, have the opportunity to ask questions about the program, and enjoy refreshments and social time.



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS, continued

PROGRAM, continued ...

TUESDAY, APRIL 11th GM and Program, at 10 AM - via zoom, for a panel presentation by three knowledgeable individuals discussing the timely topic, **“The Impact of COVID on Public Education”**. Thank you to Cynthia Lemon for organizing this program.

The COVID pandemic led to significant education disruption in Ontario. This included significant school closures, multiple models of distance learning, inequities in distance learning access, challenges for parents in supporting distance learning for their children, perceived gaps in student learning particularly for students with disabilities, and impact on student mental health. Now in 2023, what does the COVID impact on public education look like? What are the strategies for success as we move forward? Our panel members, Melissa McEwen, Superintendent of Education, Bluewater District School Board; Mike Kirby, Principal, St. Mary's High School, Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board; and Carrie Shute, Mental Health Counsellor, Student Success Services, Georgian College, Owen Sound Campus will share their perspectives from their lived pandemic experience in education. *Please see poster.*



GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023

10:00 A.M. - VIA ZOOM

The Impact of COVID on Public Education

The COVID pandemic led to significant education disruption in Ontario. Now in 2023, what does the COVID impact on public education look like? What are the strategies for success as we move forward? Our panel members

- **MELISSA MCEWEN** - Superintendent of Education, Bluewater District School Board
- **MIKE KIRBY** - Principal, St. Mary's High School, Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board
- **CARRIE SHUTE** - Mental Health Counsellor, Student Success Services, Georgian College, Owen Sound Campus

will share their perspectives from their lived pandemic experience in education.



The panel presentation will be followed by a

- Q and A
- CFUW Owen Sound and Area General Meeting

The zoom link will be sent to all members the day before

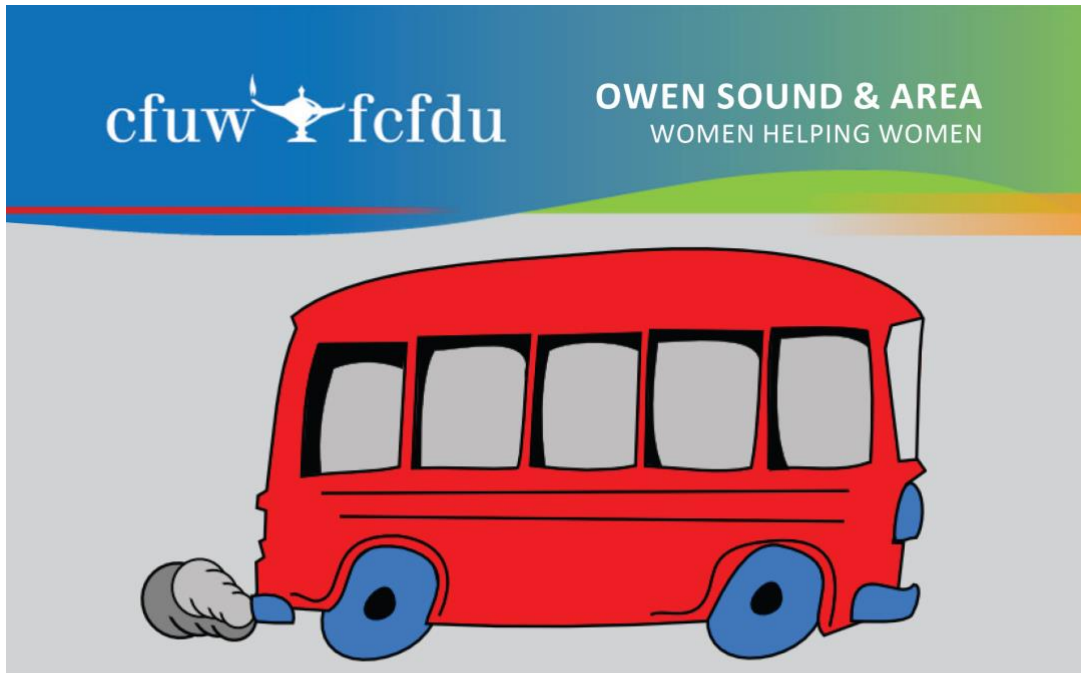
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS, continued

PROGRAM, continued ...

TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 9 AM to 5 PM. - Our very own **"Magical Mystery Bus Tour"**! There are only 45 tickets (\$50.00 per person) and will be available for purchase (cash or cheque), beginning March 14th at the GM. After that, contact Jan Chamberlain or Styn Furness. Thank you to Jan Chamberlain for organizing this event! *Please see poster for more information.*



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND... OUR VERY OWN **MAGICAL MYSTERY BUS TOUR**

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023

WHEN: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 PM

WHERE: THAT'S THE MYSTERY! But park your car and catch the bus at the north parking lot behind Bayshore Community Centre, 9 AM sharp

TICKETS: \$50.00 per person. Cash or cheque. First come, first served. Members & guests welcome! Seating limited to 45. Purchase tickets at March 14th GM OR from Jan Chamberlain and Styn Furness. Cost includes bus, guide, LUNCH and FUN!

DRESS CODE: comfortable

OPPORTUNITIES FOR "RETAIL THERAPY"

This is a CFUW rain or shine event

www.cfuwowensound.com

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~ *Brenda Bergen & Meran Farmer, Program Committee Co-Coordinators*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS, continued

SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE

The WIX website is in development and we hope to have it up and running for presentation in April. All communication will still be shared with membership via e-mail as the primary contact and as before the website will be an extra tool for our club along with Facebook.

~ Judi McIlroy, Social Media & Website Committee



~ Lamp of Learning word art poster designed for CFUW – OS & Area by Shelley Jackson in consultation with Ann Magner

INTEREST GROUPS

Please note, from our CFUW By-Laws, 2.3: Membership in interest groups shall be open only to members in good standing. Guests are welcome to attend either two (2) general Club meetings or two (2) interest group meetings per year.

ART EXPLORERS –

Our intrepid Art Explorers leader, Cynthia Porter, will be spending the winter months in New Zealand catching up with family and friends. She has, however, generously prepared a list of interesting topics for Zoom sessions to keep us entertained and engaged during her absence. Loreen Cumming and Vivian McCaffrey have been co-hosting the Zoom sessions for January, February, and March.

During the absence of Cynthia Porter, the Arts Explorers group has been gathering via Zoom to view a series of videos based on Cynthia's suggestions. Grey Gallery owner and Club member Anne Dondertman also generously hosted the group's visit to view the exhibition of local artists celebrating the Year of the Rabbit for Chinese New Year.

Save the Date! The Arts Explorers are looking forward to Cynthia's return. She has great plans for an April outing, so mark your calendar for **Friday, April 21st** to take in an exciting morning workshop, lunch, and mini trip in the afternoon.

~ Loreen Cumming and Vivian McCaffrey, Art Explorers interim Co-Coordinators

BOOK CLUB: Groups 1 & 2

Group # 1 For our February 27th book club we were immersed in a discussion of *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Janet Barker led us in an animated discussion of the novel. If you have not already read this book, it is worth the read! Many thanks to Judy Keeling for hosting! Welcome to our new member Michele Purdy!

~ Cynthia Lemon

Group # 2 In February, we were hosted by Ellen Lewis, when we reviewed and discussed Beverly McLachlan's autobiography *Truth Be Told: My Journey Through Life and the Law*. **March 27th** will be our next meeting, to be held at the home of Lynne Cox. We will be reviewing *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn. Please email bmlcox@rogers.com if you would like to join us.

~ Meran Farmer

If you are interested in joining us in our marvellous reading and discussions, please contact Meran Farmer (meranjoan@gmail.com) or Cynthia Lemon (lemondalefarm@gmail.com) to sign up. We would welcome new members to our groups

~ Meran Farmer and Cynthia Lemon, Book Club Coordinators

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES – Wednesdays at 1:00 PM

With the cooperation of the weather, ten of us finally got to the rail trail in Shallow Lake. It was a good day, and are now planning to walk the trails at Cobble Beach. If you have a suggestion for a walk or hike, please let us know. We always welcome new walkers. To be added to our email list, please contact Rosemary at: rosemaryemccann@gmail.com.

Again thanks to all for your contributions to the CNOY. So far, our team has raised \$1365.00 for Safe n Sound Residence. Yours in walking, ~ **Rosemary McCann and Janet Barker, Healthy Lifestyles Coordinators**

INTEREST GROUPS, continued ...

TUESDAY ONLINE SOCIALS – Every Tuesday at 4:00 PM

Our Tuesday socials are just for chatting. Everyone is always welcome to drop in and out at any time. There is no format. We talk about everything. The link for this group is sent to everyone each week. No need to sign up for anything.

We've been fortunate enough to have a few people volunteer for one Tuesday a month in order to keep our social hour going. If we could get one or two more people, we'd have plenty to keep the social hour going without it being onerous for anyone. It's a simple task. I will have them all scheduled ahead of time. I will even volunteer to be responsible for sending out the link. The link remains the same throughout the CFUW year. All that is needed is a commitment to log into the zoom account and hit start meeting. We just need someone to be responsible for hitting the start button and joining the conversation for an hour.

I enjoy the socials. I just need to have the ability to not be committed every Tuesday. Please let me know if you can volunteer to do one Tuesday a month. We will set a schedule so we know ahead of time when it will be our turn.

The social hour has been beneficial for members who do not have the ability to get into town or just get out the way they used to or as often as they like. In addition, it gives our new members an opportunity to chat with our members. And finally, it's a great way to learn about random things in the area.

Regards,
Trisha

~ Trisha Hendrie, [retiring] Coordinator

WOMEN WHO WONDER (WWW) – 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 PM via Zoom

Coordinator: Trisha Hendrie solafyre@yahoo.com 519-778-2052

Women Who Wonder or WWW for short is an ONLINE ONLY interest group. The group provides a path for intellectual exploration and discussion in a relaxed and fun environment. The group uses educational videos for discussion in the same way that a book club reads a book and then discusses it with the book club. WWW specifically focuses on providing opportunities to touch on multiple topics. This is an exploratory group rather than a deep dive or advocacy group. We watch two short videos that are generally around 15-20 minutes each. We send them out a week in advance. If you would like to join the WWW group to receive invites and updates please contact Trisha Hendrie.

~ Trisha Hendrie, Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS TO ... Shawna Macivor, our one-woman “save the earth” proponent and “eco-snippets” founder/contributor. We congratulate Shawna on this well-deserved recognition by NeighbourWoods North:



OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Last April we introduced this new “column” where members are invited to send in suggestions for volunteer opportunities and involvement with not-for-profit community organizations.

*Please send your suggestions, by the first of each month, to me at: armstrong.judybeth@gmail.com. We will include **volunteer opportunities and involvement AND CLIMATE ISSUES** in future issues, as space allows and at the discretion of the editor. There is no pressure on any of our members to volunteer their time or to donate funds to these deserving organizations. We appreciate that each one of us supports our community in whatever way we wish and are able.*

~ Judy Beth Armstrong

Safe n Sound

The Healthy Lifestyles group decided to participate and enter a team in [The Coldest Night of the Year](#), “a winter family-friendly walk to raise money for local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness”. In Owen Sound, funds raised for the CNOY walk support [Safe ‘N Sound Residence](#).

We want to send a big “thank you” out to CFUW members, the Healthy Lifestyles hikers/walkers, and friends of CFUW members for their support of Safe n Sound through the CNOY campaign. As of March 6th, we have raised \$1365.00!! That amount may increase as it can take until mid-April for all cash and cheque donations to be processed and assigned to our team. ~ Rosemary McCann

Contributed by Judy Beth Armstrong, from the Ginger Press News... [Art Explorers had the privilege of meeting with Stephen Hogbin at Intersections before he passed away.]

Our friends at **Intersections Wood Collaborative** are hosting a fundraising evening with **Dan Needles** (author, playwright and winner of the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour) on **Saturday April 1** at the Harmony Centre. Pick up a copy of Dan's latest book *True Confessions from the Ninth Concession* (\$24.95, now in stock at the GP) and a couple of tickets for the Big Event on April 1. Yes, we have tickets (\$35) too. You can also order tickets online at www.intersectionsstudio.com. Enjoy the book now; and enjoy the evening of laughter and storytelling on April 1. And earn lots of points for being such a thoughtful gift giver. Does it get any better? ~ Maryann Thomas, *Ginger Press Bookstore*

ECO-SNIPPETS

*In this issue, we continue our “new” column, **ECO-SNIPPETS**, with thanks to Shawna Macivor whose idea it was to include “a straight-out Climate column ... of ‘snippets’ - with ideas and suggestions. This is (after all) the biggest disaster of our time. To ignore it anywhere seems odd.” ~ Shawna Macivor*

ECO-SNIPPET # 2:

Many in CFUW will know Ann Schneider as an artist/craftswoman and a co-chair of the Georgian Bluffs Climate Action Team. Ann and her husband Clark live out near Big Bay, having renovated their log house and built a studio in the 1970s. Recently, Ann decided to do something 'concrete' with her climate anxiety: weave a rug on her big loom showing the climate warming in our area over the past 100 plus years.

This video noted below, made by Liz Zetlin, shows Ann talking with the climate scientist, John Anderson, about getting the local temperature numbers and what they reveal, graphically, when used for the rug. Most of the video shows Ann musing on what she learned and thought about during the process. You may appreciate how Ann answers those whose response to global warming and more severe storms is: 'not so bad, not yet, not here, not unusual to have temperature variations, not my job' etc. Enjoy the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPy9ymFW88s>

~ from your friendly eco-reporter, Shawna Macivor

Send YOUR “snippets” and suggestions for volunteer opportunities and involvement with not-for-profit community organizations to: armstrong.judybeth@gmail.com

PHOTO GALLERY

ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, we were delighted to hear **Blaine Courtney** speak to us about "Growing Up Black in Grey County" at Grey Roots. More than 30 members attended the talk and Valentine's Day "tea". Warmest thanks to Blaine! And, *thanks to Ruth Henderson, we have some photos to share...*



