

President - Ann Magner
Vice-President - Patricia Hendrie
Secretary - Vivian McCaffrey
Treasurer - Styn Furness
Past President - Janet Glasspool

CFUW – Owen Sound & Area, celebrating 30 + years... 1990 – 2021

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.

Note: It is the policy of CFUW Owen Sound that unless a member, e.g., an interest group coordinator, 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 List. Website info (www.cfuwowensound.com)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Education, Advocacy, Action and Resilience ... all are intertwined in this spring message. I've mentioned before that our Scientists in School (SiS) education program, (so effectively put into place by the Chair of that program, Kerina Elliott, and enthusiastically sponsored by our CFUW) has been very well received again this year at Alexandra Community School, Owen Sound. Staff and students of the school provided us with positive testimonials about the impact of the timely and engaging SiS virtual learning modules that they participated in.

We then asked if a class at the school would be willing to join us in our advocacy work in long-term care by creating some sort of act of kindness to share with some of the residents of Lee Manor Home for the Aged. With the support of the principal of the school, Mr. Dan Russell, a teacher, Ms. Heidi Vale, and her grade one and two students created the most beautiful basket of flowers with handwritten messages of kindness attached to each one, and then, much to the delight of the residents and staff of Lee Manor, it was safely delivered to one wing of the residence. Our CFUW thanked the students and Heidi for the 100 and more smiles their flowers brought to so many, and the staff at Lee Manor sent along a similar message in their card to the class.



"Spring Flowers" made by Alexandra CS students for Lee Manor residents



Our Club's advocacy work in long-term care (LTC) is ongoing with our letter-writing campaign targeted at both our Federal and Provincial Governments. To ensure an even more powerful impact though, CFUW Stratford has launched its Call for Change in Seniors' Care campaign in which **ALL CFUW CLUBS IN ONTARIO** are asked collectively to participate in a *brief* **ONLINE SURVEY** on long-term care **on or before April 10, 2021**. **The survey will be released to the press through Ontario Council and sent to the Premier and his Ministers.** As Sandra Thomson, president of Ontario Council, states to us, ***"Ladies, now is the opportunity to express your views in this very short survey on LTC. Help us advocate to the Ontario Government on this important and critical issue!"***

Survey Link: <https://bit.ly/2O7iiTg>

The link is also included in the Ontario Council April Newsletter, which we'll send to you by separate email, and which also contains information on registering for Ontario Council's online AGM, May 14th and 15th, hosted by CFUW Orillia.

In addition, we welcome our members to *not one but two* Program events this month! Join our Club and others on Zoom on Tuesday April 13, 2021 at 10:00 am to hear one of the most compassionate, knowledgeable, and tireless activists talk about the critical issue of LTC. Our acclaimed speaker is Executive Director of the Ontario Health Coalition, Ms. Natalie Mehra. Information about this event can be found in our Program Committee's report in this newsletter.

I'd also like to bring your attention to a second CFUW April Program event that will occur on Earth Day, April 22, 2021. Again, look for details in this newsletter including information about the exciting speakers your Program Committee has lined up for you, including our own esteemed member, Jan Chamberlain. Also included is the link to view Liz Zetlin's movie *Resilience*, which you are encouraged to watch, or watch again, prior to our Earth Day Zoom event.

Finally, for an update on all that your hard-working executive board is doing on your behalf, please read Vivian McCaffrey's succinct, informative and always well-written 'Highlights'.

As we receive our vaccines, and resiliently face a third lockdown, we can restore ourselves when needed by safely savouring the warm spring weather and the exquisite landscape and trails we're surrounded by, or by listening to the songs of birds oblivious to a pandemic, and attending to our gardens which hold the pleasure and beauty of watching things return and grow. We've connected with our members recuperating from surgery, and hold them in our thoughts. We continue to look out for one another during this challenging year, and share friendship, conversation, and much-needed laughter within our online Interest Groups and throughout our CFUW Owen Sound & Area community.

In the words of Emily Dickinson

"...under the blessing rays of the vernal sun, we are somehow reminded of what we humans were always meant to be to each other and to this stunning, irreplaceable planet we share with innumerable other creatures. In attending to nature at its best and most buoyant, we suddenly attune to the best of our own nature."

https://www.brainpickings.org/2019/04/18/emily-dickinson-spring/?mc_cid=852aa69e62&mc_eid=6245bb0553

Warmest wishes to you all,
Ann

~ Ann Magner, President

EXECUTIVE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

*Members of our CFUW Executive meet monthly at 10 a.m. on these dates in 2021: Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1.
If you wish to make a presentation to the Executive, please contact President Ann Magner.*

Highlights of the April 6th, 2021 Executive Meeting

Our Club continues to be active on the issue of opting out of paying fees to Graduate Women International (GWI). After a decisive vote by the Club's membership in March, the Executive forwarded a motion for consideration at the upcoming CFUW National Annual General Meeting. The Club motion calls on the National organization to make a one-time payment of \$21.70 per capita to each of the clubs that have chosen the opt-out position. Part of the rationale provided in support of the motion stipulates that "Clubs that have voted to opt-out are well-positioned to determine the needs in their local communities, or to identify advocacy projects well beyond their geographic boundaries." The goal of the Owen and Sound and Area CFUW motion is to ensure that individual clubs have full control over the funds set aside. CFUW National requested that the Club consider a motion forwarded by the Windsor club proposing that the funds be used by National to support the organization's mission in Canadian Indigenous communities. The Executive discussed the request but voted to maintain support for our own motion and to actively promote it with other clubs in advance of the National AGM.

The Club has a long history of actively supporting the Scientists in School initiative. Because of the project's importance, the Executive voted to make the ad hoc position of leading the initiative a full Executive position. In recognition of her extensive commitment and efforts in support of the program, the Executive appointed Kerina Elliott to the position.

Through Scientists in School, the Club has developed a positive relationship with Alexandra Community School in Owen Sound. Part of that partnership led to a successful art project where a Grade 1-2 class created beautifully crafted flowers as gifts to residents of the Lee Manor long-term care residence. The flowers were delivered on their behalf by President Ann Magner.

The Executive discussed its past practice regarding charging reduced fees to individuals who sign on as new members several months after June 1st, the beginning of the Club's fiscal year. Since the Club must pay its significant National fee for all of its members as of March 31st of each year, regardless of when they have joined, the Executive determined it would no longer be able to offer reduced fees to first-time members who join later in the year. The Club, however, will allow new members who sign between April 1st and May 31st to pay their fees effective June 1st and to participate in Club activities as a guest for the intervening two-month period.

~ Vivian McCaffrey, Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES' REPORTS

ARCHIVES

From the Desk of the Archivist...

For the past 30 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 now seems appropriate to again share with you, especially newer members, some of the highlights of this treasure trove of information as we celebrate our 30th 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:

- **In 1990** our Founding members, Alma Wilson and Norah Egener drafted an ad for the Sun Times and invited interested women to come to the first meeting at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. 12 women answered the call to organize the Owen Sound Canadian Federation of University Women. Through that year, Lyn Cunningham was Acting President and a great deal of preparation and correspondence with the CFUW National Club took place.
- **1991 – 1992** Aletha Seabrook was President. 26 members attended the March 1991 meeting at St. Andrew's, with guest speaker, Peter Gendron, Head of Social Work at GBRHC. By spring of 1992 we had 47 members. Our Constitution and Bylaws were adopted. Special projects included support for local homeless young women. Our very first Newsletter was prepared by Ernestine McKenna in October 1991. 1991 National Resolutions were given serious study and consideration by the members. Our Charter was awarded on **August 26th, 1991** at the CFUW National AGM in Toronto, and was presented to Lyn Cunningham and Aletha Seabrook. We were the 137th Club in Canada, and had 18 Charter Members. Of those, we have with us still: Judy Thomson, Jan Middleton, Pat Edwards and Judy Beth Armstrong.

Those first 2 years proved to be very busy and productive. Five Interests Groups were established.

1. Book Club: members discussed their choice of Historical Fiction, Women Authors of Grey County, Biographies and Autobiographies.
2. Gourmet Club: members met once a month, chose a menu and brought their special items to a member's home.
3. Issues Group: members chose to study and discuss Gender Bias in Education and the Workplace; Non-traditional Work Roles; and Alternate views related to the Women's Movement. The Co-ordinators of this group included Judy Thomson and Mary McLennan.
4. The Luncheon Club ("Meeting and Eating"): held its first gathering at the Inn on the Bay.
5. The Jaunters Group: members planned trips to New Hamburg Mennonite Community and to Stratford for a tour and the to see the play H.M.S. Pinafore.

The 1991- 92 Monthly Program Meetings included:

- ~ Prof. Glenys Stow: Breaking the Silence: Early Women Novelists Speak about Women's Lives
- ~ David McLaren and Lenore Keeshig-Tobias: Native Land Claims
- ~ Mim Cady: China from a Member's Viewpoint
- ~ Christmas Social – Desert Party
- ~ Dr. Susan Corey, Marine Biologist: Evolution: The Dance of Ideas
- ~ Panel Discussion: 4 Professional Community members: Women of the 90's.
- ~ Resolutions - Study and Discussion ... fourteen Resolutions!!
- ~ AGM: Potluck & Lisa Brady, Stratford Festival Education Department.

~ **Meran Farmer, Archivist**

MEMBERSHIP

We now have 57 members. Please join me in welcoming **Joanne Bright**. Here is some information about her. She grew up in Flin Flon, Manitoba, the same town as Bobby Clarke (for those hockey fans). Joanne has lived in Sauble Beach for about 40 years. She graduated from the University of Manitoba in nursing and from Toronto General Hospital as an RN. Music is another accomplishment of hers. She graduated from the Royal Conservatory of Music with an ARCT. She belongs to a garden club and practices yoga and meditation.

~ **Roberta Cuthbertson, Membership Chair**

PROGRAM

*General Meetings are held **via zoom** on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month; usually at 10 a.m.*

April 13 at 10 am: General Meeting with guest speaker Natalie Mehra of the Ontario Health Coalition. We will be discussing LTC, Aging in Place and Campus of Care. This should be a very interesting talk. Please read the poster on page 6 for further details. *Watch for the Zoom link which will be sent to each member the day before.*

Please mark your calendar for a **SPECIAL Earth Day meeting 10 am on April 22nd** by Zoom. Odette Bartnicki is a member of the Southport CFUW and will speak about the development of the local Climate Action movement [Grey Bruce Climate Action] since the debut of the *Resilience* film. As well, our own Jan Chamberlain will be speaking about "Glassworks Eco Development, Owen Sound". In preparation for/prior to this special Earth Day program, we are reminded to watch (or re-watch) Liz Zetlin's outstanding documentary film *Resilience* [Resilience: Transforming our Community documentary]. *Watch for the Zoom link for this special program which will be sent to each member the day before.*

May 11 at 10 am: General Meeting with guest speaker Melissa Thomson, GBRH, who will be discussing "MAID", Canada's **Medical Assistance In Dying** program, its history, current and proposed legislation, and the process in Grey/Bruce. *Watch for the Zoom link which will be sent to each member the day before.*

Annual General Meeting: June 15th, 10 am. *Watch for the Zoom link which will be sent to each member the day before.*

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

Nothing especially new to report, except to remind members to feel free to post information in our private Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oscfuwprivategroup> or check out our public Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cfuwowensound>.

We're continuing with our weekly coffee (happy) hour, **Tuesdays from 4-5**. A zoom invitation is sent to each member, so join us for some interesting and lively conversations, or to ask questions and "practise" your zoom skills.

~ **Roberta Cuthbertson, Social Media Committee Chair**



VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY APRIL 13, 2021

10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M., VIA ZOOM

GUEST SPEAKER: NATALIE MEHRA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ONTARIO HEALTH COALITION

NATALIE MEHRA

Natalie has been the executive director of the Ontario Health Coalition for 20 years. She has built the Health Coalition into the largest and broadest public interest group on health care in the province, representing more than half-a-million Ontarians in its network of more than 400 member organizations and more than 50 local chapters. She will talk about Long Term Care, Aging in Place and Campus of Care.



A day prior to the meeting, an invitation will be sent to all our members and guests with the Zoom link to access the meeting.

NEWSLETTER

This Newsletter is posted on the website: www.cfuwovensound.com and emailed directly to members. 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 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.

INTEREST GROUPS

ART EXPLORERS GROUP

On **Friday April 23 at 1:00 pm** we'll have a Zoom talk: "*Women in the Art of Allen Smutylo*" - not to be missed! (www.allensmutylo.com). Allen is well-known as a local artist, writer, adventurer and storyteller. I will send out the link to Art Explorers a few days before. If other CFUW members want to attend please contact me and I will send you the link.

~ Cynthia Porter, Coordinator

BOOK CLUB *- 4th Monday of the Month

We meet online at 1:30 on the fourth Monday of each month. All CFUW members are welcome to join us.

On March 22nd the group discussed *Caste*, by Isabel Wilkerson. We were ably led by Trisha Hendrie. The book made more vivid for us the reality of living as a black person in the present day.

On **April 26th**, we will be considering *The Splendid and the Vile*, by Erik Larson. This book is based on the war diaries of three individuals, and concerns Winston Churchill's first year as Prime Minister. Lynne Cox will lead the discussion. New members are welcome to contact either Trisha or Lynne.

~ Lynne Cox, Coordinator

*Note from The Editor:

Long-time member of our CFUW Club AND our Book Club, Mim Cady (who moved away a few years ago to live closer to her daughter in Ohio, but still maintains her membership in our Club) recently wrote to Meran Farmer in response to the long list of Book Club selections over the years. *"What a delight it was to receive this email from you. I must say I can't remember some of the books, but it was an interesting group of women and always a fun evening as well as most enlightening. I am so glad CFUW is going great guns in Owen Sound. I wish there was something comparable here... I hope you are enjoying the best of health. I had COVID in late December and am just now home again [mid-March] ... I must say I am weak, lost nearly 20 pounds, am learning to walk again, and will be recuperating for awhile ... I am fortunate to have survived. Cheers!!!! Keep up the great work in CFUW. Cordially, Mim"*

GAMES GROUP - 1st Friday of the Month at 1:30 p.m. and 3rd Friday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

Games group meets monthly (twice a month during COVID) to play a variety of card and board games. We have been very successful in continuing our gaming on zoom. Several games such as Tribonds, Code Names, and Just One are amenable to being played on zoom. A Zoom invite will be sent to all current members of the Games interest group a few days prior to the meeting. If you would like to join the Games interest group to receive invites and updates please contact Trisha Hendrie [solafyre@yahoo.com 519-778-2052]. **Our next meeting is on April 16th at 7:00 pm.**

~ *Trisha Hendrie, Coordinator*

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

March started off with Katrina Cuthbertson speaking to us on Zoom about Food and Culture and some of the foods that are found in many parts of the world. Particularly funny was her video of the Disgusting Food Museum in Sweden. We all really enjoyed Katrina's presentations and hopefully, can have her talk again soon. We also got together for a walk at Harrison Park and a walk at Cobble Beach.

In April we expect to get outside more often as the weather turns nice. It is hoped that we can have one or perhaps two meetings a month, while abiding by the restrictions of the day. If anyone would like to co-ordinate a meeting with a speaker or a walk someplace, your assistance would be very gratefully accepted. Please feel free to contact me at: meranjoan@gmail.com

~ *Meran Farmer, Coordinator*

WOMEN WHO WONDER (WWW) – 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

Women Who Wonder or WWW for short provides a path for intellectual exploration and discussion in a relaxed and fun environment. The goal of WWW is to provide an additional avenue for member engagement through opportunities for social interactions and continuing education. 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. If you would like to join the WWW group to receive invites and updates please contact Trisha Hendrie [solafyre@yahoo.com 519-778-2052].

Our next meeting is April 14th at 7:00 p.m.

~ *Trisha Hendrie, Coordinator*

YARN CLUB (Knitwits) 2nd Wednesday of the month

Our April meeting will be held online on **Wednesday April 14**, with the Zoom starting at **1:30 pm**. The link will be sent out to all current Knitwit members a few days ahead. This is a very casual group that enjoys chatting with other women. All crafters (not just knitters) are welcome. If you would like to join, or have any questions, please e-mail Shawna Macivor at: Shawna.macivor@gmail.com

~ *Shawna Macivor, Coordinator*

CFUW – OWEN SOUND
CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES
print this page to keep by your calendar

APRIL 2021

- 6 - Executive Meeting, 10 a.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom
- 6 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 7 - Deadline for submissions to April Newsletter. Email to Judy Beth Armstrong.
- 13 - General Meeting, 10 a.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom with guest speaker Natalie Mehra. *Your Zoom invitation will be emailed the day before.***
- 13 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 14 - Knit Wits, 1:30 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Shawna Macivor
- 14 - Women Who Wonder, 7 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Trisha Hendrie
- 16 - Games Group – 7 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Trisha Hendrie.
- 20 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 22 – SPECIAL Earth Day meeting 10 am. Save the Date! Details to follow. *Your Zoom invitation will be emailed the day before.***
- 23 – Art Explorers, 1:00 pm: "*Women in the Art of Allen Smutylo*". Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Cynthia Porter
- 26 - Book Club, 1:30 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Lynne Cox.
- 27 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 28 - Women Who Wonder, 7 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Trisha Hendrie

MAY 2021

- 4 - Executive Meeting, 10 a.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom
- 4 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 5 - Deadline for submissions to May Newsletter. Email to Judy Beth Armstrong.
- 11 - General Meeting, 10 a.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom with guest speakers Melissa Thomson, GBRH on “MAID”, Canada’s Medical Assistance In Dying program. *Your Zoom invitation will be emailed the day before.***
- 11 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 18 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson
- 25 - Tuesday Coffee Hour, 4 – 5 p.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom. Contact Roberta Cuthbertson

JUNE 2021

- 1 - Executive Meeting, 10 a.m. Virtual meeting by Zoom
- 2 - Deadline for submissions to June Newsletter. Email to Judy Beth Armstrong.
- 15 – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Save the date! Details to follow.**

Watch for more activities and events in the NEXT Newsletter