

The Guelph Line

January 2010

CFUW Guelph June Ayrhart, President

CFUW Guelph is an organization of women graduates living in Guelph and Wellington County with a mandate to enhance the status of women and girls, promote education and encourage member participation in their communities. The Guelph club currently has nearly 200 members; new members are always welcome.

Club activities and membership details are available online: www.cfuwguelph.on.ca.

President's Message

CFUW Guelph Cares!



Thank you to members for generously providing over 15 Christmas gift bags for distribution by Chalmers Community Services Centre to women in our community. Thanks also to Interest Group Chairs for organizing this initiative. The Centre serves those in need through the provision of emergency food, clothing, etc. as well as support and referrals. Our gifts were greatly appreciated.

January is a fitting time to review and discuss CFUW Guelph's values and goals for the coming years. We will begin the January meeting (at its normal 7:45 start) brainstorming, in small groups, ideas for actions that we can take to improve life locally and support women in our community.

Also at the January meeting, I will make a presentation related to CFUW Guelph's local membership dues – the past, present and needs for the future. This information will provide a basis for small group discussion in February.

The January meeting will also include a vote on the By-law changes proposed by CFUW National (please see page 2 of this newsletter for details).

June

Condolences



CFUW Guelph expresses deepest sympathy to Brenda Vegso and her family on the recent death of her mother.

January General Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Guelph

7:45 pm Business Meeting
Program
Refreshments* and Social

Jennifer MacLeod:

"Update on the Children's Charter"

Jennifer MacLeod (Acting Manager, Child and Family Health, Wellington, Dufferin, Guelph Health Unit) will present an update on the Children's Charter of Rights. The document describes what communities need to do to ensure healthy development and bright futures for our children.

**Please bring your own mug!*



Report of Nominating Committee

Serving on the CFUW Guelph executive is the best way to learn how our club and all levels of CFUW work. The executive is elected at the Annual General Meeting and terms of office are for one year. The club's Constitution specifies that an incumbent may hold a position for two consecutive years.

This year, the Nominating Committee is recruiting for the following positions:

- President (there was no Vice President in 2009 - 2010 to step up to President)
- Vice President
- Secretary (Christine Chapman has served for two years)
- Treasurer (Elaine Koopmans has served for two years)
- Program Chair

If you are interested in serving on the 2010 - 2011 executive, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee (Carol Dilworth, Margaret Hull, Diane Squires) by February 28th. If you wish to nominate someone, please obtain the member's permission before submitting her name.

The Nominating Committee will present the proposed 2010 - 2011 executive at the April general meeting. At that time, members may nominate others for any position. Nominations close at the end of the April general meeting. If a position is contested, a vote will be held at the Annual General Meeting.

Carol Dilworth

CFUW

Canadian Federation
of University Women



CFUW Guelph

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CFUW National Governance - Proposed By-law Amendments

The chart below summarizes the proposed changes to the composition and structure of the national board. A vote on the proposed changes will be held at our January General Meeting. Our club can choose to accept or reject the amendments as a whole or vote on individual amendments.

If you would like to see the detailed documents on the amendment process and results or a detailed ballot with all of the individual By-law changes (7 pages), please email June Ayrhart.

Existing Structure Members of the Board

President
Director of Finance
Fellowship
Director of Strategic Planning
Five Regional V.P.s

Director of Education
Director of Legislation
Director of Status of Women and Human Rights
Director of Resolutions
Coordinator of International Affairs
Director of Membership

Amended Structure Members of the Board

President
V.P. Finance
Fellowship
V.P. Communications/Corporate Secretary
5 Regional V.P.s
V.P. Advocacy
1. Education Committee
2. Legislation Committee
3. Status of Women and Human Rights Committee
4. Resolutions

Becomes a Committee
Becomes a Committee
Becomes a Committee
Becomes a Committee
V.P. International Affairs
V.P. Membership
Regional Directors are added. One in B.C. and Ontario.

CFUW National

Brenda Wallace of CFUW Regina has been elected as the next CFUW National President.

CFUW Guelph Membership Update

The following members renewed after the blue book was published. Please consult last year's blue book for contact information. Wendy Ayoub Wade, Azra Duric, Liz Fisk, Donna Kelly.

CFUW Guelph celebrates International Women's Day

Women in the ARTS

Monday, March 8, 2010, 7 – 9 p.m. The Bookshelf Ebar

Admission: \$10

Browse and buy works by local authors and artists.

Confirmed authors: Jane Lind, "*Perfect Red/The Life of Paraskeva Clark;*"

Sandra Sabatini, "*Dantes War;*"

Michelle Wan, *Death in the Dordogne mystery series.*

February General Meeting—Vote to Change CFUW Guelph By-Laws.

At the February General Meeting, club members will have the opportunity to vote on the following proposed changes to our by-laws. Current wording is shown in black and proposed changes/additions in red. Please note that items in red will appear as grey in the black and white printed and mailed version of this newsletter.

BYLAW I – Membership

Bylaw I - insertion of a new section 2:

Section 2: The membership year is September 1 to August 31st. (Subsequent sections would be renumbered).

BYLAW II - Membership Dues

Section 3: Membership dues are to be paid on or before October 31.

Bylaw II section 3 be changed to read:

To be a member in good standing, membership dues are to be paid on or before August 31st.

4. New members joining the Club after February 1 shall pay the annual membership dues less the CFUW levy.

Bylaw II section 4 be changed to read:

New members are women who have never belonged to any CFUW club. Those new members joining the Club after February 1 shall pay the annual membership less the CFUW levy for this year.

BYLAW VII - Meetings

1. General Meetings.

f. A quorum for a general, annual or special meeting shall be 20% of the members eligible to vote.

Bylaw VII section 1.f. be changed to read:

A quorum for a general, annual or special meeting shall be 10% of the members eligible to vote.

December 6th 2009 Memorial Lunch

The seventh annual joint KW-Guelph December 6th Memorial Lunch, held at Kitchener Holiday Inn, was attended by a very receptive audience of CFUW members, local officials, and other members of the public. We were pleased to receive greetings from the aboriginal community in the person of Jeannie Becker, elder in residence in the Faculty of Social Work at Wilfrid Laurier University, who was invited at the suggestion of our keynote speaker, Jessica Yee.

Jessica is a 23 year old activist of Aboriginal and Chinese background who won the 2009 Toronto YWCA Women of Distinction Young Woman of the Year award and is the founder and director of the Canadian and US Native Youth Sexual Health Network. On the topic "Taking Charge: Indigenous Youth, Violence and Activism" Jessica spoke movingly and forcefully about how native women in Canada suffer a much higher level of violence than non-native women. To try to counter this, her organization integrates violence prevention into its sexual health teachings. She noted that violence is not a traditional part of native lifestyle, so we need to look at the deeply rooted causes of violence against indigenous women. The Network also works with young men to change their thinking.



The memorial event is held every year on the date of the 1989 Montreal Massacre to remember the 14 women gunned down at L'Ecole Polytechnique. Their names are read out and one table is always laid with 14 places, roses, and candles as a moving tribute to these young women and women everywhere who are victims of violence.

The proceeds from the event support the 1989 L'Ecole Polytechnique Commemorative Award given annually to a woman pursuing graduate studies. This year we were able to contribute nearly \$2,500 to the award fund.

The 2010 event (Monday, December 6th) will be held in Guelph so please mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

Margaret Hull, Member of the Organizing Committee

A Royal Gala

To mark the 65th anniversary of CFUW Guelph in 2010, we are planning a "Royal Gala" to be held at The Guelph Country Club on Tuesday, May 25 at 5:30 pm. The evening will be a fundraising event for our Scholarship Fund and both current and former members are invited to attend. Guelph historian, Dr Gil Stelter, will speak on John Galt Day.

The banquet will feature Marché-style food stations, a concept centered around fresh foods prepared to order in full view of guests at themed food stations, thus ensuring guest satisfaction and menu creativity. So visit the food stations, pick your ingredients and watch Executive Chef, Sheldon McInnis and his team prepare your dinner. Stations will include salads, pasta and stir fry with chicken and beef followed by tea, coffee and dessert served at your table. Members with mobility issues will be assisted at the food stations.

Tickets will be \$50 with a \$10 tax receipt.

Interest Group Announcements

Virtual Book Discussion Group

In January - February the Virtual Book Discussion Group will be reading and discussing *The Golden Notebook* by Doris Lessing. Doris Lessing won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2008 and *The Golden Notebook* is one of her most famous books. We will read the book in January and begin the overall discussion in early February. However, people are welcome to initiate communication at any point during the process.

In March - April there will be two discussion groups, reading novels by Michael Ondaatje. One group will read *Divisadero* (2007) and the other will read *In the Skin of a Lion* (1987). All CFUW Guelph members are invited to join one or both of these groups.

Please contact Carol Dilworth cdilworth@golden.net if you would like to participate in any of these online discussions.



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