A message from the President …

As I sit in the warm sun here in Phoenix, watching the hummingbirds and taking in the sights of this hidden desert gem called the Boyce Thompson Arboretum (photo at right), I appreciate this wonderful year as President of the Faculty Women’s Club. I can hardly believe how quickly the year has passed. I am grateful to have worked with such a competent and creative group of women, our Executive, conveners, and volunteers, who have kept the programs and interest groups educational and entertaining.

A special mention goes out to the Program Committee for spearheading the campus tour in September, led by historian Ellen Schoeck, the Spring Luncheon and talk by Bishop Jane Alexander, and finally the AGM entertainment presented by Eva Bostrand, choral director, voice teacher, and clinician.

After organizing the traditional Coffee Morning, I realized how important this event is for remembering and reaching out to our long-standing members, some of whom may not have access to technology. They very much appreciated a simple phone call and just to be thought of as part of our supportive club.

One important focus this year has been the negotiation of fees with the Faculty Club as they update changes to their menu and event costs. In 2019 we will expect further increases. We are carefully monitoring finances and keeping our membership income working efficiently and in the best interest of everyone.

In closing, I wish to thank all of you for your kind words of support and look forward to seeing you at our AGM on May 2nd, 2018. Details can be found on page 2 of the newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Jan Heaman

(email: president.fwc@gmail.com)
UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Eighty-fourth Annual General Meeting and Banquet

*When:* Wednesday, May 2, 2018 • 5:30 - 9:00 pm  
*Where:* Saskatchewan Room, University of Alberta Faculty Club  
*Cost:* $30.00 per person

This is a member only event. Please contact Marilyn Cree at marilyncree@gmail.com with any questions.

Please plan to attend our Annual General Meeting to elect the 2018-19 Executive Board. A delicious buffet dinner will be followed by a presentation by Eva Bostrand, choral director, voice teacher, and clinician.

Eva Bostrand, M.Mus., began her career in Sweden as a member of the Swedish Radio Chamber Choir and soloist and ensemble singer in professional and semi-professional vocal groups. She came to Alberta in 1983 at the invitation of Pro Coro Canada and the Alberta College Conservatory of Music to be a performer, conductor of Schola Cantorum Boys Choir, and voice teacher.

For over thirty years Eva has conducted and coached a number of choirs. Currently, besides conducting the New Beginnings choir in the Edmonton Institution for Women and the Edmonton Downtown Men’s Choir, she also operates A Joyful Noise Choir Association of Edmonton and conducts its three choirs. (For more information, visit www.ajoyfulnoisechoir.ca.)

Eva also has her own music studio known as storefrontstudio where she provides voice lessons to private students. Many of these students have gone on to careers in music as performers, choir conductors, and teachers in post-secondary institutions and are in turn passing on Eva’s vision and choral techniques to their students.

Eva’s artistic achievements and contribution to the quality of life in Edmonton have been recognized through numerous awards and honours such as the Alberta Choral Federation’s Con Spirito award, the YWCA Women of Distinction 2011 award for Arts and Culture, Global TV’s Woman of Vision, the City of Edmonton Salute to Excellence award, along with a Certificate of Appreciation from Corrections Canada for the humanitarian contribution she has made through her performing arts program in the Edmonton Institution for Women. In June 2014 Eva was inducted into the City of Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame as an Artist/Builder. In April 2016 she was awarded the inaugural Gift of Music award in recognition of “her immense contributions to the music community, the City of Edmonton and the Province of Alberta.”
GET AHEAD of the game and pay for next year’s registration at the AGM!  
You can pay by cash, cheque, or credit card.

Members can also now fill out the membership form online. There is a link to download the registration form on the website (https://www.ualberta.ca/faculty-and-staff/faculty-womens-club). Payment will still need to be mailed or e-transferred to Marie Dafoe, Membership Secretary. For more information, contact her at membership.fwc@gmail.com.

❖ INTEREST GROUPS ❖

Interest groups are the backbone of the Faculty Women’s Club. Over the past few years the FWC Companion has been profiling a number of these groups in depth. This issue will see the club’s newest groups profiled.

Board Games
Conveners: Rachel Frey and Sharon Morsink

Our group has about 15 members, and typically three to six members show up on any evening. We meet at 7 pm on the first Tuesday of the month in the Faculty Club lounge. Conveniently, this allows us to drink wine and eat snacks like nachos while we play!

We play a variety of types of games. The conveners typically will bring a game, and other members will bring along games, too. We usually start off by doing a bit of “show and tell” to explain the games that we brought. Then we see which games people are most interested in playing. Once we choose a game, the person who knows the rules explains them to everyone else, and then we try playing it. If the game is short (takes about 15 - 20 minutes to finish), we might play a second time once everyone is familiar with the rules. Sometimes we play one longer game, and sometimes we play a few short games. Some of the games are word games. One game that was a big hit was Codenames. We also have played trivia and light strategy games.

It’s not necessary to have any experience in order to play. We will teach you how to play! You can join in any month; it doesn’t matter if you haven't been playing with us in previous months. However, it is good if you can RSVP ahead of time, so that we know how many people will show up. This allows us to bring along the most appropriate games.

Hope you can join us at a future meeting!
Cookbook Club
Convener: Lorraine Thirsk

This is the second year of the Cookbook Club, which was started by Jennifer Hsu and Sandra Ziolkowski in 2016. Members of the Cookbook Club share a few commonalities: we love cookbooks; we compulsively buy cookbooks because of the glossy photos; and we mark recipes from the books but haven’t quite found the time to test them out. Thus far we have consulted a variety of different cookbooks and food blogs including Bill Granger, Vikram Vij, Smitten Kitchen, Jamie Oliver, Barefoot Contessa, Canadian Living, David Tanis, Alisa Segersten, and Yotam Ottolenghi – just to name a few!

Most of the cooks have blogs or websites for us to acquire recipes from if we don’t own the books already, and several of them are available at the library.

We have 12 or so members in total, with usually six to eight of us making it to each dinner. We normally meet on a Saturday evening, every four to six weeks, and whoever hosts gets to pick the cookbook that we will be cooking from. Then we each pick recipes we would like to try, a delicious menu forms (we’re all okay if three desserts show up), and we bring our dishes to share potluck style.

As the photos will attest, each meeting is a feast! Our group is ambitious with new recipes and new ingredients, and demonstrates innovation and skillful mastery of each dish they present to the group. We look forward to more reading and cooking from a variety of cookbooks, and most of all, sharing in the fruits of our labour!
Mall Walkers
Conveners: Gillian Rostoker, Laura Steadward, Kay Quon

After our first year of existence, we have a roster of 16 ladies. So far, about six usually meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, year round, in the food court at Southgate Mall. This specific location makes it easy to have coffee as members arrive, then go off from 10:30 a.m. in one or two small groups. A sociable walk around the mall averages half an hour. Some stay for lunch afterwards. Needless to say, rain, snow, or temperature outdoors do not affect our meetings! Newcomers/visitors are welcome anytime but would be advised to give their name and email ahead of time to receive the advance confirmation message from the conveners.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our condolences...

Our condolences go to long-time member Gretchen Blundin whose husband of 59 years, Robert Blundin, passed away on December 6, 2017. Robert came to the University of Alberta in 1972 to take up a position in Library and Information Studies, first as a visiting professor and later as a professor. He retired in 1995, having given 21 years of service to the university.

Our condolences also go to Jean Frost, a FWC member for many years whose husband, John Shaw, passed away on March 9, 2018. He had a distinguished career as a teacher, mentor, and researcher in Geography and had been a professor at the University of Alberta for many years.
Winter 2017 Events

Convener’s Dinner – January 23, 2018

by Rachel Frey

This year’s Conveners’ Dinner was held January 23 in the Faculty Club. To celebrate the magic made by the conveners of our Club’s 27 interest groups, the room was decorated with a magical theme, and there was even a magician on hand to provide entertainment. The 29 members in attendance were awed, mystified, and amused by the sleight of hand and conjuring tricks of magician Reuben Gazer (Gazer the Amazer), a recent Masters grad of U of A. His final card tricks resulted in some door prizes for lucky winners. A fun evening was had by all.

Thanks so much to all the conveners who give of their time throughout the year. You really are magical!
Coffee Morning – February 7, 2018

By Jan Heaman

The traditional Coffee Morning was well attended, ranging from 40 to 50 guests. Members were served coffee, tea, and sweets donated by the Executive. All were delicious. Tables and chairs were set up in the centre of the room with white table clothes, purple and mauve runners, and tea cups and saucers that had been donated by the members themselves. While some preferred a heavier mug, the setting was nostalgic of a previous era.

Members came together in friendship, and those who have been a part of the Club for 25 to 50 years or more gathered for a photo of recognition. Many thanks go out to our Executive for assisting with this lovely event.

Enjoying the Coffee Morning
50-year+ Members

25-year+ Members
The Spring Luncheon was held on Thursday, March 15, 2018, in the Papaschase room of the Faculty Club. The 34 registered attendees for the event enjoyed a buffet lunch and talk by guest speaker Bishop Jane Alexander. Bishop Alexander recently received an alumni award from the University of Alberta for “being a powerful voice for change.” In her talk entitled “The World Won’t Change If We All Keep Silent,” Bishop Alexander demonstrated her dedication to human rights and challenged us to do our part to bring about positive change.
In the interests of privacy we do not publish contact information for our members or executive committee. Please refer to your members’ directory, or you may also contact the President at president.fwc@gmail.com or the Membership Secretary at membership.fwc@gmail.com if you need further information about the club.