

**MONTREAL LAKESHORE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB**  
**ANNUAL REPORTS**  
**2012-2013**

**PAST PRESIDENT**

As Chair of the Nominating Committee, I am pleased to present the following slate of officers and Committee chairs for the year 2013–2014:

**Executive**

**New mandates for:**

Vice-President & CFUW Liaison	Linda Sestock
Recording Secretary	Joyce Schaaf

**Returning officers for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year:**

President	Gilda Martinello
Vice-President & Membership	Connie Ellis
Treasurer	Hélène Duquet
Communications	Janet Ankcorn
Past President	Chitra Chopra

**Standing Committee Chairs**

**New mandates for:**

Fundraising	Mary Vlahos
Hospitality	Shirley Wick
Scholarships	Sandra Munro

**Returning chairs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their term:**

Archives	Renate Sutherland
Interest Groups	Linda Sestock
Newsletter	Heather Hamilton
Programme	Nancy Doray
Webmaster	Chitra Chopra

**Other committees**

**New mandate for:**

Potluck Dinners	Linda Ricketts and Jane Edwards
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**Returning for a 4<sup>th</sup> year:**

Newsletter distribution	Janet Guay
Photographer	Judy Paquin

## **MLUWC Scholarship Fund**

### **Returning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their term:**

Chair Kate Le Maistre

### **Returning for a 4<sup>th</sup> year:**

Treasurer Helen Findlay (2nd term)

I greatly appreciate the efforts of the members of the Nominating Committee:  
Marie-Belle Cunningham, Patricia DuVal, Connie Ellis and Elizabeth Semmelhaack.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Chitra Chopra  
Past President & Chair, Nominating Committee**

## **PRESIDENT**

My first executive meeting was held in May 2012 when the current and incoming executive members met and portfolios were officially transferred. Monthly executive meetings were held beginning in August and will continue until May 2013 when new executive members are introduced. Our monthly meetings were held at various executive members' homes. During these meetings, we discussed items of interest or concern to the MLUWC, such as fees' increase, a members-only webpage, various programmes, and liaisons with other CFUW Clubs.

In June 2012, I attended the CFUW Annual General Meeting in Victoria, B.C. During that meeting, I met other Presidents from Clubs across Canada and was impressed and inspired by the enthusiasm and professionalism of the attendees. The revised CFUW Constitution and By-laws were approved by the delegates. CFUW and IFUW initiatives were presented and discussed.

In October, the MLUWC hosted the Quebec Council of CFUW Clubs. This group consists of the five CFUW Clubs in Quebec and we meet twice a year: once in the fall and then again in the spring. The fall session dealt with issues that face all the Quebec Clubs including attracting new and younger members. Sixteen people attended the fall session, including Robin Jackson, the CFUW Executive Director, who brought us up to date on some of the activities undertaken by the National Office.

By the end of this year, eight general meetings will have been held, including the Convivium in September and the AGM on May 13, 2013. The Programme Committee did a great job in attracting speakers who covered various aspects affecting our lives – computer security, quality of Canadian waters, animal protection, and human rights. In addition to these general meetings, a theatre night was held in November which generated approximately \$4000 for the Scholarship Fund. Other initiatives by the Fundraising Committee (such as book sales) raised over \$500 and the Games Day on May 2 is expected to bring in about \$1500.

Every year, our December meeting allows us to collect and donate money to West Island charities. This year, two charities were selected to receive money from us: the West Island Mission and Light a Dream Foundation. We collected \$1620 – the most ever – and each charity received \$810.

For International Women’s Day this year, we presented an NFB film entitled “Status Quo: the Unfinished Business of Feminism in Canada”. Two screenings were held in collaboration with the Pointe-Claire Library on March 8. Both were well attended and the afternoon session was an item on that evening’s six o’clock Global TV News.

The executive discussed the possibility of increasing our Club fees by \$5 and a motion was brought forth at the April meeting. Members voted in favour of this increase. Therefore, Club fees for the 2013-2014 year will be \$110.

The Club submitted a resolution to CFUW this year on Bullying and Cyber bullying. Chitra Chopra and her committee worked very hard to develop this resolution on a very important and relevant subject. Chitra will accompany me to the CFUW AGM in Saskatoon this summer to present and defend the resolution.

At the April meeting, members discussed and voted on the four other resolutions proposed by various CFUW Clubs.

As always, our interest groups were very busy this year with various meetings and activities. Two new groups were formed: an evening book club and an investors’ education group. A new initiative undertaken this year to attract younger women to our group is the networking group led by Linda Sestock. On average 14 women attend these networking meetings. The group meets every two months and presentations on LinkedIn, importance of having a will, and financial stability based on a financial pyramid have been held. The final meeting in June will be hosted by Dix Milles Villages at their Pointe-Claire store.

On April 20, I attended the Quebec Provincial Council AGM hosted by the Sherbrooke and District Club in Stanstead-Est. Presidents reported on their Clubs’ past year’s initiatives and in addition, there was a very informative guest speaker. Dr. Jean Manore, a history professor from Bishop’s University, spoke about the issues that led to the “Idle No More” movement. Her presentation was very interesting and generated quite a bit of discussion on how Aboriginal people were treated in the past.

This past year was my first as Club President and I would like to thank all those who helped me along the way – executive members, committee chairs, interest group leaders and members who came to the various meetings.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Gilda Martinello  
President**

## **VP/MEMBERSHIP**

There are currently 206 members including 12 life members and 1 dual member. Sadly, we lost eleven members (three deceased); however we welcomed eighteen new members. We are grateful to Nancy Lloyd who hosted the New Members` reception in late October. Several members of the executive were on hand to provide information on the operation of our Club.

At the beginning of this year all members were asked to complete an updated application form. A majority of the members complied. As a result we now have membership data in a format which will allow us streamline the management of our information. Over the summer we will be working with our web designer on this project. It is expected that the membership will receive a full report on this project in September.

As usual the directories were available for distribution at the monthly meetings as of November. Several members including Orian Leggett, H elene Quaid, Hille Viires and Shirley Wick assisted with this exercise. For security reasons, changes in member listings occurring during the year were conveyed to the membership by email.

A networking group was formed to introduce the Club to working women. By the end of the year there will have been five breakfast meetings - all but one with a short presentation.

There were three financial literacy workshops which were quite successful. The net proceeds from the breakfasts and the workshops will be contributed to the Scholarship fund.

Membership fees remained at \$95 for the year 2010–2011.

**Respectfully Submitted**  
**Constance Ellis**  
**Vice President & Membership Chair**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Four condolence cards and one get-well card were written and sent out to members.

Notices of general meetings, including the names and topics of the speakers, were sent out to local newspapers each month in both English and French. Louise Dagenais assisted with the french translation.

It was decided in January, that we should not advertise the Christmas concert in future.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Janet Ankcorn**  
**Communications**

## **TREASURER**

**Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club  
Interim Statement of Revenues & Expenses  
For the period of June 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Opening bank balance as at June 1, 2012	\$ 2,803	\$ 8,131
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Membership fees collected	\$ 18,524	\$ 17,835
Convivium	4,203	
Other revenue	<u>2,221</u>	<u>674</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 24,948</u>	<u>\$ 18,509</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
CFUW Fees paid	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,139
Other association fees paid	204	0
Annual meeting	500	500
Convivium	4,170	40
Administration	917	441
Communications	706	493
Membership	1,059	322
Newsletter	92	183
Program	167	734
Hospitality	366	194
CFUW convention delegate	1,969	1,619
Rent	980	880
Donations	<u>395</u>	<u>585</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 23,525</u>	<u>\$ 18,131</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	\$ 1,423	\$ 378
Investment cashed	\$ 5,000	
Closing bank balance as at April 30, 2013	<u>\$ 9,226</u>	<u>\$ 8,509</u>

**NOTES:** The 2012 opening balance included the \$5,000 investment. Some adjusting entries had been made to correct some discrepancies between the closing bank balance of 2012 and the opening bank balance of 2013.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Hélène Duquet,**

## REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES

### ARCHIVES

An updated report of our MLUWC history and its activities was submitted to the Montreal Council of Women (MCW). This submission will be published in the Anniversary Book to commemorate the Montreal Council of Women's 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in November 2013.

Thanks to Judy Cardwell, our archivist from 1995-2008, a system of keeping our annual records has been set up. This system includes maintaining the following on-going binders – “The President's Binder” for the two year term; Annual report (Newsletter Editor); Financial report (Treasurer); signed Minutes of the General and Executive meetings (Recording Secretary); Newsletters (Newsletter Editor); Programme (Program Chair); 2 Membership Booklets (Membership Chair); Scholarship Fund Minutes and Financial report (Scholarship Fund Chair).

The archives will continue to receive all printed and properly identified photographs (date, names of individuals and activity), newspaper MLUWC articles and publicity/communications etc. in an annual binder/scrapbook. Digital pictures/photographs, submitted to the archivist, will be kept on properly identified CD's.

All of our archival records are stored at the Community Resource Centre in Valois.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Renate Sutherland**

### FUNDRAISING

Our first fundraising activity of this year was Theater Night. The Lakeshore Players graciously offered us a benefit performance on Tuesday, November 6 at 8:00 p.m. The play was a delightful comedy by Tim Kelly called **The Butler Did It**. We sold 185 tickets at \$25 each, and made a net profit of \$4,025 after having paid \$600 dollars for the rental of the theatre. This is without counting all the donations that were given to the Scholarship Fund. A big thank you goes to all the ladies who helped us sell the tickets, and all those who participated in making this event a successful and enjoyable one.

The second fundraiser is going to take place on Thursday, May 2. It is a Games/Luncheon activity. We have a hundred tickets to sell and we are hopeful to make a net profit between \$1500 and \$2000 from the ticket sales, raffle and half and half. I wish to thank all the ladies who volunteered to help in the kitchen, make sandwiches or cookies for the event.

This year, we also introduced a book sale during our monthly meetings, and so far we made \$526 that will directly go to the Scholarship Fund.

I wish to thank the valuable members of our fundraising committee Joanne Fraser, Suzanne Taylor and Mary Vlahos for their dedication and help.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Nicole Awad**

## **HOSPITALITY**

The Convivium Dinner was held at the St Lawrence Royal Yacht Club in Dorval on September 11. The ticket price was \$35 for a three course meal and guests were able to buy cocktails and wine at the Cash Bar. Attendance was very good - around 105 attendees.

The Christmas event was held as last year at Cedar Park United Church in Pointe-Claire on December 10. Hot spiced apple juice was served with delicious appetizers and sweet confections supplied by many of our members. Thanks again. Approximately 100 people attended.

The 2012-2013 monthly General Meetings were held at the Karnak Shriners Temple and coffee, tea, and cookies were offered.

The AGM and Dinner will be held at the Saint Raphael Golf Club in Ile-Bizard on May 13. The ticket price for the event will be \$35 for a three course meal and again a cash bar will be available.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Dutoy and Maria Kolodziej**

## **INTEREST GROUPS**

I can't believe how quickly the year has passed. It seems like only yesterday that I started my job by asking everyone for their annual reports and here we are again! This year we have added new Interest Groups: a new book club, a networking group and an investors education group. I still have hopes of a Mahjong group – if anyone would like to lead this, please let me know. Thank you to all of the ladies who run their interest groups, I'm looking forward to working with all of you again next year.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Sestock**

## **NEWSLETTER**

The newsletter remains MLUWC's most important method of communications with its members. It is published monthly from September to May. The usual deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the Friday following the General meeting. Executive members are given an extension until after the Executive meeting. Submissions are sent to the newsletter editor by email and people are very respectful of the deadlines.

Once the newsletter is compiled, it is sent to the proof reader and a courtesy copy is also sent to the President. The final version of the newsletter is sent out to the membership in .pdf format via email. The target date for distribution is 5 to 7 days before the month end (i.e. the April newsletter would go out around the 25<sup>th</sup> of March).

A small number of members without email access have opted to receive their newsletter by regular mail and they paid \$17.50 to cover the printing and mailing costs for the year. Janet Guay performed the duties of both proof reader and newsletter distribution.

This year business card advertising returned to the newsletter. For a cost of \$90 for the year (or \$10 per issue) a member may have her business card included in the monthly newsletter. We also allowed members to submit short notices regarding community events that they wished to promote. There was no fee for these announcements.

It was my pleasure to publish the newsletter this year. I wish to thank Janet Guay, Maria Cranker, Jeannie Hazel and Gilda Martinello for their proof reading contributions.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Hamilton**

## **PROGRAMME**

**Composition:** The committee was composed of eight members: Janet Ankcorn, Beate Cloetta, Jane Edwards, Connie Ellis, Heather Hamilton, Elizabeth Semmelhaack, Pauline van Nieuwburg, with myself as chairperson. Our president, Gilda Martinello is an *ex officio* member.

**Activities:** At a planning meeting held on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at the home of the chairperson, the speakers and topics were chosen for the year. Thanks to their co-operation and hard work, we were able to have some very interesting and topical speakers. One member of the committee was chosen to for each meeting.

**Meetings:** As usual, the meetings were held at the Karnak Shriners' Temple on Sources Blvd. in Dollard des Ormeaux. They were arranged with the usual efficient and patient cooperation of Mr. William Pitts. The Autumn Convivium Dinner was held at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club while the Annual General Meeting and Dinner was held at St. Raphael's Golf Club, Ile Bizard, to rave reviews and will be held there again this year. Cedar Park United Church hosted the Christmas Concert and Raffle on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The General Meetings began with refreshments at 7:15 and members had an opportunity to chat and sign up for different events. An added attraction this year was the sale of second-hand books organized by the fund-raising committee. The official meeting began usually at 7:45 with the speaker starting about 8:15 p.m.

**Speakers:**

- Oct. 1: **Lynne Perrault**, Director, Electronic Commerce Enforcement Division, C.R.T.C. spoke about how to protect ourselves from telephone, and online scams. A booklet on the subject was handed out to members.
- Nov. 6: Theatre Night “The Butler Did It”, John Rennie High School
- Nov. 12: **Rebecca Aldworth**, Executive Director of the Humane Society International Canada to spoke about her efforts to save animals from cruelty.
- Dec. 10: Christmas Raffle and Carols by the Stewart Hall Singers. Donations in the amount \$1,620.00 was raised and divided between *Light a Dream* and the *West Island Mission*.
- Jan. 14: Lots of fun was had by all at the Potluck Dinner parties.
- Feb 11: **Francis Scarpaleggia, M.P.** spoke eloquently about the need to protect our Canadian Waters.
- Mar. 8: To celebrate International Women’s Day, Connie Ellis organized a film entitled '*Status Quo? The unfinished business of feminism in Canada*', with speaker Mair Verthuy.
- Mar. 11 **Me. Denise Otis**, UNHCR Legal Officer in Canada, and Protection Officer, spoke about how refugees were chosen both in Canada and on Emergency missions in Sri Lanka and Egypt.
- Apr. 8: On Members and Resolutions Night, three of our new members spoke about their backgrounds and interests. **Victoria Pinnell** told us about her life and fulfilling current work as Community Services Co-ordinator at Lakeside Academy. **Sabra Ledent** gave us an entertaining history of her personal life from birth in Virginia, U.S.A. through the heady sixties to marriage and working as an editor in Pointe Claire. **Joyce Schaf** explained how she came to be a lay minister of the United Church of Canada and teacher of pastoral care. Five resolutions were discussed with all accepted to go forward, one of them with amendments.
- May 2: The Games Day luncheon is set to go at the Bowling Club Annex in Beaconsfield.
- May 13: Annual General Meeting with speaker, **Wanda Bedard**, of the *60 million girls* Foundation will be held at St. Raphael Golf Club, Ile Bizard.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Nancy Doray**

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

In 2012, the MLUWC awarded the following Scholarships:

2 Margaret Manson Scholarships, each valued at \$2,000 to:  
**Clémence Briand-Racine and Mahya Dehbozorgi.**

The Amy Williams Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$2,000 to:  
**Melissa Canales-Pannese**

The Joanne Brais Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$3,500 to:  
**Michaela Dickey.**

Please note that this scholarship is a one-time only presentation.

10 bursaries valued at \$150 to Place Cartier Adult Education and 10 bursaries valued at \$150 to Centre Jeanne Sauvé Adult Education.

The total disbursed in 2012 was \$12,500.

To date this year, 2013, we have received 17 eligible applications for the Margaret Manson Scholarships. The members of the Scholarship Committee are currently busy evaluating these applications in order to select the semi-finalists whom we wish to interview.

At the end of April, we will be receiving the applications from Place Cartier and Centre Jeanne Sauvé and, at the end of May, we shall receive the applications from John Abbott College for the Amy Williams Scholarship.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Armbruster**

## **PHOTOGRAPHER**

Photographs were taken at each meeting by either Janet Ankcorn or Judy Paquin.

Janet Ankcorn will be printing out photos and putting them into albums to display at the annual general meeting in May and at the convivium in September.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Ankcorn**

## **POT LUCK DINNERS**

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Pot Luck Dinners for 2012-2013 were held on January 14, 2013. We were truly blessed with an ideal winter day for such an event with driving conditions being perfect. There was one Luncheon this year and eleven evening Dinners. Although 100 ladies signed up, the approximate attendance was about 95 due to cancellations for various reasons. Feedback from

those who attended was very positive with comments about great food and wine, stimulating conversation and getting to know other members in a relaxing home environment. The sign up format worked very well allowing people to choose where they would like to attend and with whom they would like to attend so they could arrange car pooling and so on. We were fortunate this year to have an off island Pot Luck in Ile-Perot and another one in Pierrefonds for those who live in those areas. The rest were in-Pointe Claire, Beaconsfield, Kirkland, Dorval and Beaurepaire areas.

A big thank you to those who offered to be Hostesses and Assistant Hostesses. Without your help, this event would not be what it is and would not have continued for as many years as it has!

The Hostesses were as follows:

Suzanne Dutoy	Janet McKelvie
Marilyn Flaherty	Yolande Martin
Christine Hamilton	Pat Murray
Phyl Havercroft	Tina Tessari
Janet Guay	Pauline Van Nieuwburg
Kate Le Maistre	Margaret Vost

The Assistant Hostesses were:

BJ Bell	Dianne Nener
Pam Deans	Judy Paquin
Marnie Dezso	Dianne Robinson
Susan Keating	Renate Sutherland
Maria Kolodziej	Leona Smart
Bauni McFadyen	Sandra Smith

We can all look forward to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pot Luck Dinner which will replace the January meeting in 2014.

**Respectfully submitted**  
**Bauni McFadyen and Leona Smart**

### **MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (MCW/CFM)**

Founded in November 1893, the Montreal Council of Women, directly affiliated with the National Council of Women in Canada, is a non-partisan, non-confessional federation that brings together 70 voluntary organizations and 80 individual members from Montreal and surrounding region. The membership represents 30,000 women who work together to achieve the objectives of the Council which are the improvement of social conditions, particularly for women and children. It prides itself on the ability to bring together people of different cultures and backgrounds to work together for the betterment of society in an atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance.

General Council meetings of the Montreal Council of Women are held monthly on the second Thursday of every month at “Les Jardins du Canal”, 2700 Rufus Rockhead in Montreal. These monthly MCW Luncheons (\$10.00), hosted by the Board, are held at 12:00 noon, followed by an afternoon program of interesting and inspiring guest speakers.

This year, The Montreal Council of Women is *celebrating its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary* and, throughout the year, various events have been organized to mark this special milestone.

On Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> there was an *exciting tour to the “PERU: KINGDOM OF THE SUN AND THE MOON”* exhibit at the Musee des Beaux Arts de Montreal *in honour of Amy Williams, Past President (1975-1978 and 1992-1994), born in La Oroya, Peru. Amy Williams was also our MLUWC President from 1968-1970.*

*Other highlights* include:-

An invitation to “*COCKTAIL AT CITY HALL*” on April 16<sup>th</sup>, “*A GOLDEN SQUARE MILE HOUSE TOUR*” along Pine Avenue and Doctor Penfield on May 28<sup>th</sup>, the “*120<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY FEDERATES TEA*” on June 20<sup>th</sup> and *the “120<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER* on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Omni Hotel..

*The program themes presented this past year were as follows:*

***September 2012*** – The President, Sandra Cohen-Rose, and Board members led a *Town Hall Forum*, a lively discussion on issues of importance and concern to all Montrealers.

***October 2012*** – Women’s History Month - “*Honoring Women Journalists*” heard from Janet Bagnall (Montreal Gazette); Sonali Karnak (CBC); Jamie Orchard (Global TV); Camille Ross (CTV); Lea Roboam (Freelancer); Nancy Wood (CBC); and Linda Kay (Chair, Journalism Department at Concordia), who talked about their own personal journeys.

***November 2012*** – “*Education and Cyber-Bullying*” an interesting and informative presentation by Maureen Baron, Pedagogical Services, English Montreal School Board.

***December 2012*** – “*Woman of the Year Luncheon*” honored MCW member *Shirley Rind Cohen* for her outstanding contributions to the community, particularly in promoting the arts.

***January 2013*** – “*Alzheimer’s Disease, Realities and Myths*” featured guest speaker, Meghan Williams, Coordinator of Support Services for the Alzheimer Groupe Inc (AGI)

***February 2013*** – This is Heart Month and the “*Women - Take Heart*” theme heard from Wendy Wray, Nurse Director of the MUHC Women’s Healthy Heart Initiative clinic.

***March 2013*** –The General Council meeting discussed and voted on the twelve **2013 National Council Resolutions**. It celebrated “*International Women’s Day*” by inviting a member of the Algonquin nation, *Donna Lariviere, Secretary Treasurer of the Quebec Native Women Inc (QNW)*, who addressed important issues concerning Aboriginal women.

**April 2013** – Being *Earth Month*, Vice-President Director, Pierre Lussier of Jour de la Terre Quebec/PROJECTS Saint- Laurent spoke about how Jour de la Terre Quebec helps individuals, organizations and companies improve actions on the environment.

**May 2013** The MCW Annual General Meeting is held on May 9, 2013.

The Montreal Council of Women publishes *a monthly BULLETIN* and its website: [www.mcw-cfm.org](http://www.mcw-cfm.org) provides an important role as a voice for women in Montreal and surrounding areas through a forum of more than seventy member organizations and more than seventy individuals.

Your representatives have enjoyed going to the meetings as did some of the MLUWC members who joined us occasionally. There is lots of “food for thought” to be gleaned from the guest speakers’ presentations and the many different groups that are members of MCW.

A special thank you to our own Chitra Chopra for taking the initiative in researching and submitting the motion on “*Cyber Bullying National Prevention Strategy*”, which has been forwarded to the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) and the National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC) for further action.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Renate Sutherland and Frances Lortie  
MCW Representatives**

## **MLUWC SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE**

The Scholarship Fund continues to benefit from improved market conditions and a conservative portfolio, advised by the fund’s financial manager at CIBC-Wood-Gundy, who specializes in not-for-profit organizations.

As I finish my first year with this excellent committee, I have been grateful to Helen Findlay for her skills as treasurer, to Helena Scheffer for the minutes and to Cathy Maxwell who sends out thank you letters to donors. I would especially like to thank Barbara Armbruster, who has served two terms as Vice-Chair of the Fund Committee and Scholarship Chair for the Club. We look forward to working with her successor, but we shall miss Barbara’s conscientious and principled contributions to the committee.

I would also like to thank Nicole Awad and the fund-raising committee for their innovative fund-raising activities and especially the members of MLUWC for your support of these activities and for your generous donations. Your support allows us to continue to honour our mandate to award scholarships to young women in the community without depleting our capital assets. We hope to continue to increase these assets so that eventually the Fund will be self-sustaining.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Kate Le Maistre, Chair**

## **REPORTS FROM THE INTEREST GROUPS**

### **AFTERNOON BRIDGE**

The Afternoon Bridge Group met in each other's homes every two weeks. There were twelve members in the group. Delicious refreshments were served by the hostesses. We always try to improve our bridge game but we also enjoy getting together.

**Eleanor Shaver**

### **ART APPRECIATION**

Here is a summary of the principal activities that were carried out by the Art Appreciation Group in 2012-2013

To start the season, we were delighted in October in being guided through A History in Impressionism showing great French Paintings from The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute at the Michael and Renata Hornstein Pavilion of the MMFA. This Institute holds one of the greatest collections of French Impressionism in North America. It was a wonderful experience for the eye and the mind.

In November, we visited the new Decorative and Design collection at the MMFA which turned out to be a stimulating layout following the 2011 expansion of the space devoted to decorative arts. The new gallery showcases nearly 1,000 objects laid out on three levels. It invites visitors to discover the evolution and metamorphosis of objects arranged along thematic lines.

In February, at the Pointe-Claire Stewart Hall Art Gallery, we saw Ciné-Art presenting: "Winds of Heaven", an Art Films Series entitled Emily Carr, Carvers, and Spirits of the Forest.

In March, we had a guided tour at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (Contemporary Art Museum) to view two exhibitions, one entitled On Abstraction and the second: Laurent Grasso: Uraniborg, co-produced by the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal and the Jeu de Paume in Paris, which offered a unique foray into space and time.

Organized with the collaboration of the Peruvian government and the city of Lima, "Peru: Kingdoms of the Sun and the Moon" at the MMFA was presented in April by one of our MLCUW members, Maureen Rowe. The exhibition displays an extensive collection of pre-Columbian treasures and masterpieces from the colonial era to Indigenism, including over 100 pieces that have never before been seen outside of Peru. This exhibition covers 3,000 years of history, including archaeological discoveries in recent decades.

Coming up in April and May, we will have the opportunity to view the eagerly-awaited exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts: Manet: Portraying Life which will be captured for cinema screens worldwide. This is the first ever major exhibition in the UK devoted to the portraiture of Édouard Manet, spanning his entire career. The exhibition will bring together great works from across Europe, Asia and the USA.

**Louise Dagenais**

## **BEGINNERS MORNING BRIDGE**

This year we were able to meet for 10 sessions with 8 players and 1 spare. It was another successful year and everyone enjoyed themselves. We are looking forward to meeting again next year.

**Doris Leckie**

## **BOOK CLUB I**

This past year we reviewed eight books, covering historical behaviour from the past, presented in wonderful biographies and fiction.

I would say the highlight of our year would have to be the special meeting we held in November organized by members of our book club in collaboration with the Book Club at The Cambridge, and our invited guests, the members of Book Club II. Eva Stachniak, author of **The Winter Palace**, gave us an insight to her writing and imagination, and we spent a memorable afternoon asking her questions and learning a great deal about the trade of writing an historical novel. We look forward to the sequel- she gave us a small hint as to how the tale might unfold.

Other books reviewed included: **Rules of Civility** by Toweles, **Emily Carr** by Lewis DeSoto (part of the extraordinary Canadian Series), **The Hare with The Amber Eyes** by Edmond de Wall, **Alfred and Emily** by Doris Lessing, **The Dove Keepers** by Alice Hoffman, **Beauty of Humanity Movement** by Camilla Gibb, and **The 1000 Autumns of Jacob Zoet** by David Mitchell.

The books were reviewed by our members, as we enjoyed hospitality and discussion. We are presently busy choosing our books for next year with some advice on new books from Judith. (Clio Books in Pointe-Claire). It is difficult to select 8 or 9 books of interest to everyone, but I think that is the beauty of belonging to a book club, in that you sometimes read outside your comfort zone, and always learn something new!

**Marg Nicoll-Griffith**

## **BOOK CLUB II**

Book Club II maintained its membership at 13 members and presence at the meetings was very high, confirming again that a smaller number of participants favours the dynamics. Indeed, the discussions were stimulating and enriching. Several of the books chosen this year covered parts of history; two had psychological subject matter. The books reviewed were:

In October, **The Rose of Martinique** by Andrea Stuart tells the story of one of the most remarkable women of the modern era, Josephine Bonaparte (Marie Josèphe Rose Tascher de La Pagerie). Rescued from near starvation, she grew to epitomize the wild decadence of post-revolutionary Paris. A true partner to Napoleon Bonaparte, she was equal parts political adviser, hostess par excellence, confidante, and passionate lover. We finally understand why Napoleon's last word before dying was the name he had given her: Josephine.

In November, **Half Blood Blues** by Esi Edugyan tells the story of the death of jazz at the dawn of Nazism in Germany, and is set in Paris, 1940. A brilliant jazz musician, Hiero, is arrested by the Nazis and never heard from again. He is twenty years old. He is a German citizen. And he is black. Fifty years later, his friend and fellow musician, Sid, with his distinctive and rhythmic German-American slang, leads the reader through a fascinating world alive with passion, music and the spirit of the Resistance.

In January we talked about **The Paris Wife** by Paula McLain, a deeply evocative story of ambition and betrayal which captures a remarkable period of time and a love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley.

In February, **The Elephant's Journey** offered us a very unusual and different story by José Saramago, described as his most optimistic, humorous and magical, rich in irony and empathy.

**The Proud Tower** by Barbara W. Tuchman, our March book, presents a portrait of the world before the Great War, from 1890 to 1914. “The fateful quarter-century leading up to the World War I was a time when the world of privilege still existed. The age was the climax of a century of the most accelerated rate of change in history, a cataclysmic shaping of destiny”.

In April, **Stumbling on Happiness** by Daniel Gilbert examined the nature of happiness and explained the numerous psychological illusions that tend to distort our perception of joy.

May will feature **Catherine The Great** by Robert K. Massie, a Pulitzer Prize-winning book. The author brings back the Romanovs with another masterpiece of narrative biography, the extraordinary story of an obscure German princess who became one of the most remarkable, powerful, and captivating women in history.

Finally in June, **Why Men Lie** by Linden MacIntyre offers a moving and emotionally complex conclusion to the Cape Breton trilogy in which one learns that no amount of experience can prepare you for what might resurface from the past, and for the damage that it might cause, emotionally or otherwise.

N.B. The resumés are excerpts taken from reviews by Amazon.

## **Louise Dagenais**

### **CROSS COUNTRY SKIING**

The cross-country ski group aimed to ski at The Morgan Arboretum every Tuesday morning from mid-January to mid-March. Our keen group of 5 or so members began the season in January in minus 18 degree C cold (our cars were the only ones in the parking lot and we had the trail to ourselves) and we continued, weather permitting, through until March when we definitely had spring ski conditions. Each morning finished with a well-deserved cup of hot chocolate in the clubhouse.

## **Janet Anderson**

## **DUPLICATE BRIDGE**

This year 20 players signed up for the duplicate bridge which meets in the morning on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, at Centennial Hall in Beaconsfield.

Our sessions average 4 tables per Thursday and we were most grateful to our long-term members who had switched to our substitute list for helping us out when needed. During the year we were fortunate to have several good players join us permanently.

Our final lunch will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April at the Forest & Stream Club. I hope you will consider joining this group in September. We're not experts – no Director! Just a group who enjoys Duplicate Bridge.

## **Margaret Burwash**

## **EVENING BOOK CLUB**

Our new book club was a great success this year – we may be small in numbers but we are large in spirit. Our books took us on a journey from Montreal to New York, from China to the US and we are ending with a novel set in Newfoundland. Anyone with a love of reading and wine is welcome to join us next year.

## **Linda Sestock**

## **GOURMET I**

The group met each month at a different member's house. As usual, three of us cooked each time, and the rest enjoyed the meals and the company. Our chefs used their imagination to find new recipes for familiar foods, as well as adding some less familiar foods to our repertoires.

We had menus featuring seasonal fruits and vegetables in the fall, a wish-it-was-summer Nova Scotia dinner in January and a spring menu from Ina Garten among others. We had soups from strawberry to pumpkin to borscht. We had main dishes of Welsh style leg of lamb, rum-marinated pork tenderloin, salt-cod cakes, and stuffed chicken. Appetisers were as varied as vegetarian pate, artichoke hearts and escargot. Side dishes included wild rice with fruit, a potato and celery root puree and quinoa pilaf, and even homemade barley bread. And of course desserts! Maple Pear Tarte Tatin, Ginger-Yogurt Mousse with Pistachio Meringue, Pumpkin Coconut Cream Tartlet, an impressive Frozen Caramelized Pear Torte, Rum Runner Pie & Cape Breton "Pork Pies" (really!).

## **Patricia DuVal**

## **GOURMET II**

A group of eleven, we met at various members' homes throughout the year enjoying beautifully presented tasty food and much camaraderie. Only at Christmas and the final dinner in June were husbands invited.

## **Sydney Ball**

### **GOURMET III**

Another year of fine dining, good wine, laughter and conversation has been enjoyed by the seven ladies of Gourmet III. We meet the third Wednesday of the month to enjoy a meal planned by the hostess. We each bring a dish assigned to us from her menu. It has allowed us to sample some wonderful dishes and we get to keep the recipes for future use. We are looking forward to another year of sharing our cooking talents and are always on the lookout for recipes to use when it comes our turn to host!

**Leona Smart and Bauni McFadyen**

### **GOURMET IV**

There are 10 members of Gourmet IV and we cook in groups of four. Once again we enjoyed a year of fine dining and friendship, with nine dinners in each other's homes, welcoming spouses in December and for the up-coming end of year dinner in June. Mary Vlahos was very pleased to be able to join us for our January dinner, as the winner of our Christmas raffle prize. We remain at our maximum capacity.

**Valerie Fortin**

### **INTERMEDIATE BRIDGE**

The evening Intermediate Bridge group tries to meet every second Wednesday in the home of one of the group.

**Eibhlin McHale**

### **INVESTMENT**

The Savvy Women Investors group got off to a late start, but the good news is that we will be meeting on the last Tuesday of every month. Our first meeting was great success. The goal of this group is to educate and provide information to help navigate through important financially life impacting events and concerns such as;

- Settling of an Estate/ Planning and Transferring assets
- Planning for a comfortable retirement by answering "How much money do I need?"
- Protecting your wealth addresses concerns of "Will I out live my money?"
- Understanding RRSP's ,RRIF's, TFSA accounts and what are the best investment vehicles: stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.

New members are always welcome.

**Gina Spiridigliozzi**

## **JAUNTERS**

The Jaunters group has seen another successful year in 2012-2013. All the members have been involved in the planning of the various activities.

We started the season in September with a jaunt to Hudson to tour the **Greenwood Center for Living History**. In October we joined forces with the Art Appreciation group and toured the **MMFA Impressionist exhibit**. In November we visited the **Pointe à Callière** for the dazzling Samurai exhibit. No jaunts in December.

January saw us enjoy the **I Musici concert at Olgivys, Viva la Marimba**. In February we heard about and tasted Sushi at the new **Avocado Sushi restaurant in Pointe-Claire Village**. March took us sugaring off to the **Sucrerie de la Montagne** for a sleigh ride and a delicious lumberjack lunch. April will see us at the **Maison St-Gabrielle**, and **Magnum's**. Look for the May jaunt in the next newsletter.

I hope next year will see all the members return and many new faces as well. This is a group effort and the rewards are enormous when the whole event falls into place. Bravo to all the jaunters who made this interest group a lot of fun.

**Pat Jones**

## **KAFFEEKLATSCH (GERMAN CONVERSATION)**

Our discussions included the following subjects: the flute concert of Frederick the Great's at Sanssouci, the composers Franz Lizst, Johann Strauss, Schubert and Joseph Ivanovici and the cities of Bonn and Goerlitz/Zgorzelec.

**Christine Hamilton**

## **MIXED MARATHON BRIDGE**

We are a group of eight mixed couples (not necessarily spouses) who play a game of bridge (20 hands) against each other couple over the course of the year. It is a sociable game with hosting and refreshments alternated i.e. the total number of games being seven, each couple hosts three or four times. Cumulative scores are kept and prizes awarded at the windup dinner and bridge at the end of May.

**Eileen Ross**

## **MSO MUSIC APPRECIATION**

Twenty music lovers attended 5 meetings to prepare for 6 Morning MSO Concerts.

Sixteen varied selections by diverse composers from Bernstein to Debussy to Shostakovich entertained us. Over lunch following we discussed our concert experiences. Many thanks to our hostesses, bakers, presenters and drivers. We look forward to the 2013-2014 series which will again be 6 morning MSO concerts. Although the deadline for subscription renewal was April 12th, there may be a few seats left in our section. A potluck luncheon will follow our final wrap up meeting on May 3rd at Dianne Robinson's home.

**Maria Cranker**

## **MUSIC HISTORY**

Membership in the Music History group stood nominally at 20 in the 2012-2013 year, with attendance at monthly meetings ranging between 13 and 15 members. As last year, the group met monthly on the second Thursday afternoon of the month, to enjoy a program designed largely around the Concerts Espresso 3-concert series offered by Les Violons du Roy at the Bourgie Hall.

We began in September with a video presentation on the Masters of Cremona illustrating the history of the Stradivari and Amati families of luthiers in 17th and 18th century Cremona. In October one of our members, Marne Deszo, gave an excellent presentation on the history of opera, prior to our attending the MetOpera Live in HD screening of Verdi's Otello in November, in recognition of the 200th anniversary of his birth.

December and January were devoted to deepening our knowledge of the lives and music of Bach and Mozart in preparation for the repertoire to be played at the February concert with the help of DVDs Bach and Friends and In Search of Mozart. March was given over to consideration of Tchaikovsky and Sibelius prior to the early April concert. The final concert in late April featured the group Bataclan in a wide-ranging, tango-tinged repertoire.

May saw the group wrap up this year and look forward with anticipation to next season.

Many thanks to all members who provided goodies at our monthly meetings and especially to Louise Dagenais for organizational assistance and dealing with Arte Musica in connection with our concert subscription.

**Joan Dyer**

## **NETWORKING GROUP**

Our networking group has been a great success: we average 14 ladies every time we meet (from a pool of about 30). We met every two months and enjoyed a delicious breakfast (thanks to a member's catering) and had the opportunity to learn about our members and the work they do. Some past presentations included a lesson on LinkedIn, a seminar on how to deal with, the importance of having a will in Quebec, financial stability based on a financial pyramid. Our next meeting will be in May and our last meeting of this year (month of June) will be hosted by Dix Milles Villages at their store in the Pointe-Claire Village.

**Linda Sestock**

## **NEW BOOK EXCHANGE**

This group just keeps on exchanging! A record number of members joined us this year and as a result we have four groups of eight and one of nine...total 41. There are lots of avid readers out there! We modernized our organization thanks to the skills of Helena Scheffer who sent our book lists by computer so that each member printed her list and secured it in her book. Thanks Helena. We can always form new groups if more ladies are interested in exchanging new books next fall.

**B. J. Bell**

## **OUT TO DINNER**

About 28 members signed up for our monthly outings this year. 4 new restaurants were tried and some restaurants were re-visited. All in all, everyone seemed to enjoy our choices. While not all were able to attend each venue, we had 5 to 15 ladies at each.

High marks were given to Bistro 1843 in Ile-Bizard, one of our new restaurants. The best part of this is meeting new people and trying new places. We're looking forward to next year's program.

These are the restaurants we will be going to in the next months:

April 25	Portovino	Dorval
May 23	Le Biftheque	Ville St- Laurent
June 27	Auberge des Gallant	Rigaud

As always, we welcome any member who wishes to join us at any dinner. Thank you to the organizers for each dinner and to all who were able to join us.

## **Carol Kelly**

### **TÊTE-À-TÊTE (FRENCH CONVERSATION)**

Tête-à-tête a connu une excellente année, nous en sommes ravies. Nous nous réunissions le troisième vendredi de chaque mois, autour d'un thème que nous avons déterminé avec la bienveillante collaboration de l'hôtesse, lors de la rencontre précédente. Entre autres, nous avons abordé les voyages, les activités des participantes, leurs intérêts, les lieux qu'elles fréquentent dans l'ouest-de-l'île quant au point de vue culturel, panoramique, gastronomique, etc. Nous pouvions toujours compter sur l'assistance de Gisèle Aubin pour peaufiner nos phrases.

## **Dianne Robinson**

### **TRAVEL**

Once again the TRAVEL members have visited many areas of our world.

In October Renata Bagga and her husband took us to the area of her home town L' Viv in the Ukraine. November brought a trip on safaris in Kenya and Tanzania presented by Margarita Reti's son.

J.C. Brais had filmed his travels in the Middle East and Israel and was viewed in February.

Peru - Land of the Incas was the title for March presented by Joyce Schaaf.

In April Victor Breedon will add his knowledge of life in Syria, Jordan and Egypt.

Taking us back home in May, Ian MacDonald will provide "Ramblings in Western Canada".

We appreciate and thank all those who assisted with our programs. Our new location is the Vivalis (300 Stillview, Pointe-Claire).

## **Barbara Sauvé and Mary Wells**

## **TUTTO ITALIANO**

Our study group is made up of ten members who are passionate about everything Italian. In that vein we watch Italian movies, visit exhibits of an Italian nature, we dine at Italian establishments, listen to Italian operas and anything Italian that comes to our attention.

This was a very successful year for our group since the handy little cookbooks that we printed by the end of last year were sold out before Christmas. We raised \$250.00 for the Scholarship Fund. The recipes were all Italian and provided by our members.

We always welcome new members.

November - Visited the “Etruscan” exhibit at Pointe à Callières Museum.

December - Christmas pot luck luncheon. All the recipes were taken from our own cookbook.

January - Video on “Malocchio” (evil eye)

February - Watched the film “My House in Tuscany”

March - Presentation on Mozart’s librettist and film “Io Don Giovanni”

April - Rigoletto Opera at Colisée Kirkland.

May - Our closing luncheon at an Italian restaurant in Lachine.

All in all a very productive and pleasant year for the Italian aficionados. Wishing all an enjoyable and safe summer.

**Mary Vlahos**

## **WINE APPRECIATION I**

This year was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our group. Our first meeting was held in January 2003 and after sharing many bottles of wine we continue meeting with great enthusiasm. We have 10 members and 7 spares that were frequently called upon to join our monthly meetings. Our activities for 2012-2013 consisted of eight wine tasting meetings hosted by individual members. Each hostess provided information about the featured wines. The cost of the food and wine was shared by attending members. Our meeting time was changed to 7:00 pm. Our group has provided a great opportunity to share wine discoveries, great food and stimulating conversation. Here’s to the next ten years!

**Marie-Belle Cunningham**

## **WINE APPRECIATION II**

It has been another enjoyable year for the eight ladies of Wine Appreciation II. We meet the first Wednesday of each month to taste three wines chosen by the hostess of the evening. Information about the particular wines chosen is shared with the group as we taste the wines and nibble on finger foods. The cost of the wine is divided up at the end of the evening among those in attendance. We had one field trip in which we attended the Wine Tasting Show at Holiday Inn, Pointe Claire. One of our lucky members won a contest to have a sommelier attend one of our evenings so we are looking forward to an extra treat this year. We look forward to continuing next year to share many more wines, great food and much laughter and conversation.

**Tina Tessari and Bauni McFadyen**