

# WAMUN Newsletter



Women's Association of Memorial University of Newfoundland  
Volume 35, No. 3



April 2008

## Greetings from the President

### *Salvete amicae!*

The Annual General Meeting is almost upon us. I hope that you all have April 26 marked on your calendars. The menu for the luncheon is set and tickets should be ready by the time that you read this.

Remember that you are welcome to attend the meeting without coming to the luncheon. The meal will start at 12:30 p.m. and we are hoping that the serving will be faster this year. The meeting should start around 1:30 p.m.

We are making a few changes to the AGM this year to see if we can make it run more quickly. You will find that the annual reports of the interests groups are published in this newsletter; they will not be read at the AGM, but the interest group leaders will be available to answer questions or make updates.

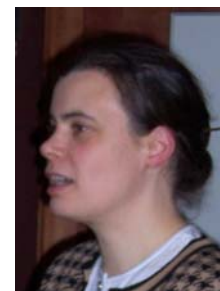
I believe that many of you will have heard about the sexual assault that took place on campus (in an elevator at the Student Centre) back in the fall. The executive was profoundly concerned by this assault and by other events that have happened on campus recently. We thought long and hard about whether WAMUN should concern itself with incidents such as these.

Part of WAMUN's mandate is to make the university a more welcoming place for women; does that mean taking a stand on issues of women's safety on campus? The executive decided that this was too important for us to decide on without knowing the views of our members. As a result, we have put the issue on the agenda for the AGM. (See page 6 of this newsletter for the complete agenda.)

In a happier vein, I am pleased to report that the plant sale will almost certainly go ahead this fall. If you are interested in being on the plant sale committee or in volunteering on the day of the sale (probably Sept. 11), please contact a member of the executive or Marjorie Evans, who has kindly agreed to chair the committee.

Keep safe and plan to come to the AGM.

Kathy Simonsen, president  
722-6339 (h), 737-8531(w), [kathryns@mun.ca](mailto:kathryns@mun.ca)



## Scholarship Winner Presents Graduation Recital

While it is rather unusual for a WAMUN scholarship to go toward purchasing a flute, that is exactly how this year's recipient of our Master's All Course Route Scholarship, Susan Edmonds, used her funds.

On Mar. 15 a dozen or so WAMUN members enjoyed Susan's graduation recital. Susan performed flute repertoire from the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Both Susan and the flute shone especially while playing the *Sonate pour flûte et piano* by Czech composer Jindrich Feld.

Susan must deserve most of the credit for the lovely sounds we heard, but perhaps the flute also deserves some of the credit.

Article and photo by Deborah Rehner.

*Editor's Note:* In February, Ms. Edmonds sent WAMUN a note thanking members for their support and inviting them to her recital on Mar. 15, 2008. The note was e-mailed to members.



## Special Interest Groups

### Book Discussion — Fiction

We continue to have an Evening Group and an Afternoon Group collaborating well! We read the same books which gives us flexibility. In December the Afternoon Group hosted our third Christmas coffee for both groups.

This year's books included:

*The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards,

*Suite Française* by Irene Nemirovsky,

*Love in a Cold Climate* by Nancy Mitford,

*Thirteen Moons* by Charles Frazier,

*The Log of Bob Bartlett* by Robert Bartlett, and

*INSIDE* by Kenneth Harvey.

Yet to be read and discussed are, for April, the *Salvation of Yash Siemens* by Armin Wiebe; and for May, *Fasting Feasting* by Anita Desai.

We look forward to our combined potluck supper and book selection evening in June. New members are welcome at any time. For information, contact:

Julia Mathieson, evening group convenor  
722-3249 or [gmathieson@nl.rogers.com](mailto:gmathieson@nl.rogers.com)

Karen Herzberg, afternoon group convenor  
753-6568 or [karen\\_herzberg@hotmail.com](mailto:karen_herzberg@hotmail.com)

### Book Discussion — Non-fiction

The non fiction book group now boasts 18 members and has had to change locations as a result. The group is very grateful to Eleanor Nesbitt for allowing us to use her home for the last two years. We still meet the 2nd Thursday of the month (but not in July and August) at 2 p.m. but at Tiffany Towers in the common room.

Book list for 2008 is:

Feb. 14 *Colour: Travel Through the Paintbox* by Victoria Finlay

Mar. 13 *The Marsh Arabs* by Wilfred Thesinger

Apr. 10 Suggestions and Presentations for 2008-2009

May 8 *A Woman in Berlin* by Anon

Jun. 12 Voting for 2008-2009 and *An Inconvenient Truth* by Al Gore.

Newcomers are welcome at any time.

For more information, contact Annmari Tougui  
726-5567 or [amtougui@nl.rogers.com](mailto:amtougui@nl.rogers.com).

### Coffee Break

Our group has had a quieter time so far this year with around ten members present on Wednesday mornings. This is largely due to the amount of globe-trotting we all seem to be doing, but scrabble may share a small amount of the blame!

It is good to get out of our own houses during this long winter and chat to friends in a relaxed atmosphere. The weather has been kind to us with only one meeting needing to be rescheduled (so far!). As usual, we have sampled some delicious food. As in previous years we hope to continue until the end of July, then start again in October.

If anyone wishes to be added to my e-mail list (or to be phoned), please let me know.

Susan Murdey, convenor, 726-0428.

### International Food Group

The International Food Group had another very successful season with 15 regular and 11 substitute members. We enjoyed dinners from the "ambassador's table", a meal with Lucy Waverman, a dinner with the "stars", and we finally chose menus from a collage of cookbooks.

The group will start another season of delicious dinners and good company after the fall reception next September. For more information phone Susan Jackson at 726-3808, or Brenda Burness at 895-2712.

### Discovery Investment Club

The Discovery Investment Club has decided to dissolve at the end of 2008. Members have continued to enjoy meeting monthly to learn about investing in stocks. However, most of us are retired now and several have new grandchildren and, wonder of wonders, our priorities are changing! A new executive, consisting of Deborah Rehner, president, Maire O'Dea, vice-president, Annmari Tougui, secretary and Diane Hogan, treasurer will serve during this final year.

Deborah Rehner, president  
739-5046 or [dbrehner@gmail.com](mailto:dbrehner@gmail.com)

### GIANT BOOK SALE — CFUW

Arts and Culture Centre. Fri., Apr. 25, 7 - 9:30 p.m.,  
Sat., Apr. 26, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

# Special Interest Groups

## Saturday Walking

The Saturday walking group continued walking regularly, trying not to be deterred by bad weather. We started last May by walking in Mt. Pearl, “trying to find Power’s Pond”. We eventually made it back to the pond and in the process became acquainted with several Mt. Pearl neighbourhoods. During the year, we returned to many of our favourite walking trails: Bowring Park, Long Pond, Trans Canada Trail along the Waterford River, the Virginia River Trail, etc. We also ventured on the East Coast Trail near Torbay and enjoyed several walks in the Southlands.

Perhaps our most unusual walk was the one taken in the halls of Memorial University on a blustery day when there was a basketball game at The Works. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, we walked around the MUN campus before attending Susan Edmonds’ flute recital. We look forward to continuing to walk in old and new places with old and new friends. Join us sometime!

Deborah Rehner, convenor  
739-5046 or [dbrehner@gmail.com](mailto:dbrehner@gmail.com)

## Scrabble

The scrabble group has had a very successful second year with an increase in members to 12 players and with an average of eight to 10 meeting weekly. Starbuck's has been our venue and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for allowing us to occupy two to three tables each Wednesday morning.

As always, putting together seven letter words is a special challenge, and this year was no exception. To show the group’s diversity and talent, we challenged ourselves to be creative with the 13 words. Pam Bruce's sentence was chosen:

“Along the shoreline, which the reeds encumber, the waves undulate and the clouds devolve as pundits, some in gaiters, some astride their steeds, having quested from afar the vessels with sails hoisted, spot with their goggles the remains of the shipments being put aboard and enquire why one vessel tarries.”

Catherine Mason found poetry an ideal format for the words:

### **The Weary Merchant Frees His Soul**

The man came to the office to enquire  
After the shipments of exotic goods.  
As he tarries there so sad and lonely,  
The goggles gather to stare at his grief;  
The pundits gather to define his pain.

In his gaiters he leaves the town behind,  
And heads for the undulate hills and dales.  
At last he stands astride the wind blown peak,  
Amidst the remains of an old castle  
Where once a flag was hoisted to the sky.

No longer does trade encumber his mind:  
Watch him devolve into a breath of air.  
The freedom he has quested.

Joan Fuller, convener 726-8896

## Tuesday Hiking

The **Tuesday Hiking Group** is taking a winter break. When better weather returns, we hope to resume our hikes on the first and third Tuesday mornings of the month.

It would be great to have a co-convenor for this group. Please contact Pat if you are interested.

Thank you,

Pat Collins, convenor

## WAMUN Plant Sale 2008

We are going to hold a Scholarship Fund-raiser, our 11th WAMUN Plant Sale, on Thursday 11 September in the lobby of the INCO Innovation Centre, just north of the Arts & Administration building. September is still a distant horizon but now is the time to start seeds and cuttings.

We would like to ask you for donations primarily of house-plants but also perennials for the garden. For easy handling and display all plants should be in containers, though large garden plants could be firmly double-bagged.

*Continued on page 4*



# Annual Report of the Scholarship Committee

The WAMUN scholarship program began in 1978 with one undergraduate scholarship. In 1985 WAMUN added graduate scholarships. WAMUN now awards eight scholarships annually. Including the 2007-2008 academic year, WAMUN has awarded 172 scholarships since the program's inception.

Each of the four undergraduate scholarships is valued at \$1,000 while the four graduate scholarships are valued at \$1,200. Since the School of Graduate Studies cost shares this with WAMUN, our contribution for each graduate scholarship is only \$600. Thus, the total annual cost of the scholarships to WAMUN is \$6,400 (\$4,000 for the undergraduate scholarships and \$2,400 for the graduate scholarships).

The scholarship recipients for 2007-08 are:

## Undergraduate (\$1,000) each):

Faculty/Staff	Jeswin Jeyasurya
Undergraduate	Samuel Cove
Single Parent	Kristin Hynes
Mature Student	Nikki Hart

## Graduate (\$1,200 each):

Master's Thesis Route	Shuhana Shanaz	Mathematics and Statistics
Master's All-Course Route	Susan Edmonds	Music
PhD	Ginny Fugarino	Folklore
PhD	Oana Radu	Education

With the exception of the Undergraduate Scholarship, students must apply for the scholarships. Of the eight scholarships, the Mature Student Scholarship is the only one limited to females. Also, aside from the Faculty/Staff and Undergraduate scholarships, demonstration of financial need is a requirement. (Continued on page 5)

## WAMUN Scholarship Fund Summary for April 1 – Dec. 31, 2007

Opening Balance (April 01, 2007)	<b>\$120,283.52</b>
Restricted fund portion	\$ 98,007.17
Unrestricted fund portion	\$ 22,276.35
Revenue to Dec. 31, 2007	\$ 3,829.39
<i>Interest to Sept. 30 – 2624.39*</i>	
<i>Donations to Dec. 31 – 1205.00</i>	
Expenses up to Dec. 31, 2007	\$ 2,000.00
<i>Note that the scholarships awarded since Dec. 31, 2007 are not reflected in the above expenses</i>	
Balance as of Dec. 31, 2007	<b>\$122,112.91</b>
<i>Notes:</i>	
1. As of Dec. 31, 2007:	
Restricted fund portion	\$ 98,007.17
Unrestricted fund portion	\$ 24,105.74
Total as of Dec. 31, 2007	<b>\$122,112.91</b>
2. Anticipated Expenses:	
4 Graduate Scholarships @\$600 each	\$ 2,400.00
2 Undergraduate Scholarships @ \$1,000 each	\$ 2,000.00
3. Estimated Balance (\$120,283.52 less \$4,400)	<b>\$115,883.52*</b>

*\*Please note that interest accrued for Oct/Nov/Dec 2007 is not yet showing in the fund.*

## Plant Sale cont'd

The plants should be critter-free and preferably labelled, with a common name, sun/shade preference, and any special needs. Outdoor plants especially would benefit from a small picture, e.g. from a gardening catalogue, as they may not be in bloom anymore in September. If you donate a less common species, please, suggest a price.

What usually sell best are shade tolerant house-plants and anything with a little bloom: common ivy, spider plants, ice-begonias, etc. We are looking forward to being inundated by greenery. Don't worry if you are unable to deliver your donations as we can arrange to pick them up.

One of us will give you a follow-up call in May to answer any questions - or you can phone Marjorie Evans, 722-1925.

Your Plant Sale Committee

# Report of the Scholarship Committee cont'd

At WAMUN's request the Scholarship Committee has asked the Office of Graduate Studies to award the graduate scholarships in a diversity of academic disciplines. For the past seven years (2001-2007), our 28 graduate winners have been in the following fields of study:

Anthropology	1	Biology	1
Community Health/Medicine	2	Earth Sciences	1
Education	3	Engineering	1
Folklore	8	History	2
Kinesiology	1	Mathematics and Statistics	1
Music	1	Newfoundland Studies	1
Philosophy	1	Social Work	1
Women's Studies	3		

It was a pleasure for us to welcome and meet three of the four Graduate Scholarship recipients at our Coffee Morning in January.

Attached is the Committee's financial report based on the most recent information available at the time of the submission. As in past years a final report will be submitted when the figures for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2008 are available.

As the attached report indicates, our Scholarship Fund is in a healthy condition, due not in the least to the many donations from individual members each year. This year 28 members made individual donations to the Scholarship fund for a total contribution of \$1,230.00. Assuming another six months of interest income yet to be deposited, our fund total will likely exceed \$120,000 by the end of the fiscal year.

A review of the calendar entries reflected that changes requested last year have been incorporated into the MUN calendar. During the review a minor discrepancy in the amount of one of the scholarships was noted and a change has been submitted for this to be corrected.

No active fundraising was undertaken this year, but the Executive has agreed to have the Plant Sale in September 2008. While a lot of work is required for this sale, the revenues have helped to grow the WAMUN Scholarship fund considerably over the years.

This report is relatively short compared with last year's. This is due in large part to the excellent and conscientious stewardship by the Past-Chair, Tonya Bassler. It has made my task as Chair very easy.

I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the Committee who have spent time working with me on ensuring the management of the WAMUN Scholarship Fund reflects the general membership's wishes as well as the University's mandate for sound fiscal responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda R. Hensman, Chair

WAMUN Scholarship Committee members

- Tonya Bassler
- Louise Dawe
- Marilyn Macdonald
- Olga Broomfield-Richards
- Susan Murdey, WAMUN Treasurer

## Thanks to Scholarship Fund Donors

For the past few years, WAMUN members have had the opportunity to make a donation to the Scholarship fund at the time of their membership renewal. Many have chosen to do so and this has helped to sustain and grow our fund and reduce considerably the pressure on the membership for annual fundraising initiatives.

At this time, we would like to recognize the approximately 23 members who have contributed a total of \$1230.00 this year. A full list of names will be posted in the next newsletter. Thank you to each and every one of you for your support.

Linda R. Hensman, chair

## Recycling for WAMUN Scholarships

Although St. John's is starting a curbside recycling program in July 2009, you can still take your recycling to one of the Evergreen Recycling locations\* and ask that the proceeds go to the WAMUN Scholarship Fund during 2008. For more information on how to donate your recycling proceeds contact Marilyn Macdonald, 726-3134 or [m\\_macdonald17@hotmail.com](mailto:m_macdonald17@hotmail.com).

\*Mill Lane Enterprises, 807 Water Street (777-3400), Cowan Avenue at Waterford Bridge Road (777-3832) and Regatta Plaza Building, 92 Elizabeth Avenue (777-3382).



# Interim Financial Statement to Mar. 31, 2008

## Revenue

Memberships (72 x \$15)	\$1,080.00
Memberships (14 x \$20)	\$280.00
Memberships (2 x \$25)	\$50.00
Personal scholarship donation through WAMUN account	\$50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,460.00</b>

## **Expenses\***

Gift for Auditor	\$20.00
Fall Reception	\$167.80
November talk (refreshments, gift)	\$99.05
January coffee morning	\$41.69
Postage, printing, stationary etc	\$89.10
Personal scholarship donation through WAMUN account	\$50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$467.64</u></b>

Account balance July 31 2007	\$1,653.17
Interim increase in cash	\$992.36
<b>Account balance March 31 2008**</b>	<b><u>\$2,645.53</u></b>

## Scholarship Fund (straight to separate account)

Personal donations (28)	\$1,230.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$1,230.00</u></b>

Susan Murdey, Treasurer

\* Invoices for approximately \$70 for the Nov. talk and \$50-60 for a new coffee pot are outstanding, as are costs associated with the Spring Luncheon.

\*\* A minimum bank balance of \$1,500 is required to avoid monthly fees.

## Annual Newsletter Report

You are reading number three in the series of four WAMUN newsletters for 2007-2008. This year, the executive has approved a standard focus for each of the four issues, as follows:

- Fall issue concentrates on welcoming members back, summarizing information about what events to expect in the coming year, and providing an overview of special interest group activities.
- New year issue provides information on scholarship awards, items submitted by members, other recent events of interest, and brief updates of interest group activities.
- Spring issue focuses on the upcoming spring luncheon/annual general meeting and includes items of interest from members; and
- Summer issue contains a full report of the spring luncheon and annual general meeting, and items of interest from members.

Many, many thanks to all who have submitted information, articles and photos for publication. The content is greatly enhanced by this generous sharing of news.

## Annual Report on Membership

The 2007-2008 membership now stands at 93 paid members. An additional 15 former members are still expected to renew since many continue to participate in WAMUN activities. We very much appreciate that members continue to introduce new MUN employees (and existing ones) to the organization. Even though information about WAMUN is routinely included in the welcome packages given out, there really is no substitute for personal contact.

Annmari Tougui, membership secretary, 726-5567 or [amtougui@nl.rogers.com](mailto:amtougui@nl.rogers.com) or [wamun@mun.ca](mailto:wamun@mun.ca).

## Annual Report on the Archives

The archive has been in hibernation this year! This is good for documents, as long as they are in a stable, dry, cool atmosphere, which they are. The less handling the better. Having said that, it is time for the papers I hold to be processed. I plan to do that this coming spring and summer with a view to handing them in to the MUN archive by September.

Julia Mathieson, archivist

Want to contact WAMUN? Executive and committee members and special interest group leaders are listed on the WAMUN website at [www.mun.ca/wamun](http://www.mun.ca/wamun). Phone any of these people, e-mail [wamun@mun.ca](mailto:wamun@mun.ca), or write to the following address:

WAMUN, Arts and Administration Building, Mail Room Box 130, Memorial University, P.O. Box 4200, St. John's, A1C 5S7

## Update on Karin Khan

Most of you know that in late January 2007 Karin Khan suffered a brain aneurysm and has been hospitalized ever since. Because her condition has stabilized, she was transferred to Escasoni in May, 2007.

Although she is still immobile and not speaking, she is often awake and alert now. It's not possible to know if she recognizes her visitors, but she does respond.

Karin is a widow with two daughters. Sabrina, recently finishing her degree, has started a new job and is working long hours. Miriam is in Toronto, working full time as an air traffic controller.

Visits from WAMUN members are welcome. The stimulation and variety of our visits seem to have improved her condition somewhat. Although she does not speak, her SMILES are most rewarding. Even if you were not a close friend of Karin's, your visits may be beneficial. Two people might find it easier to visit her together as she seems to enjoy a little chatter.

If you are interested in visiting, here are some points to consider:

- Karin is at Escasoni, 3 West, Room 312. The visiting hours are very liberal, and anytime after 10 a.m. and before 9 p.m. would be fine.
- Because Karin takes nothing by mouth yet, we can visit even during meal times. She receives liquid nutrition directly via a stomach feeding tube three times daily.
- If Karin is up in a "Geri-chair", you can take her out of the room and into the lobby or even further. Check with the nursing staff first, but it is excellent to get her into a new situation.
- Stimulation might include talking to her, singing, reading, poetry, chatting, moving her fingers gently, German if you know any.



Only effort and time will tell how far she'll progress. This is the time when those of us who can, need to pull together for Karin. We know she'd do as much as she could for us if the situation was reversed.

There is a NOTEBOOK at her bedside table. Please take the time to jot a little about your visit as this helps Sabrina and other visitors know how things are going.

Please don't feel badly if you're not able to visit. You can continue to check the wonderful website which the girls have set up : [http://](http://groups.google.com/group/karinbkhan)

[groups.google.com/group/karinbkhan](http://groups.google.com/group/karinbkhan)

If you have any questions or want to meet me at Escasoni to visit Karin, please email or call me, Karen Herzberg, at 753-6568 or [karen\\_herzberg@hotmail.com](mailto:karen_herzberg@hotmail.com).

The photos show Karin (top) at our last WAMUN Plant Sale, September 2006 and (centre) at her birthday party at Escasoni March 2, 2008.

The bottom photo shows Karen with her daughters, Sabrina and Miriam.

Article and photos by  
Karen Herzberg  
753-6568  
[karen\\_herzberg@hotmail.com](mailto:karen_herzberg@hotmail.com)

## Support for Campus Food Bank Continues

Although WAMUN interest group activities will soon be winding down for the summer, donation of food items or cash are still welcome at the food bank in Corte Real, near Burton's Pond on the MUN campus. Items such as peanut butter, chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup, canned milk, canned fruit, and Kraft Dinner (or similar macaroni and cheese dinners) are always in demand.

Don't forget to bring something for the food bank hamper when you come to the AGM!

# Spring Luncheon and Annual General Meeting 2008

## Spring Luncheon

Saturday, Apr. 26, 2008  
Junior Common Room, R. Gushue Hall  
12 noon for 12:30 p.m.

### MENU

Vegetable Soup and Garden Salad with mix dressings

*Entrée Choices:* Roast Leg of Lamb or Fillet of Sole  
Green Beans and Roast Potatoes

*Dessert Choices:* Fresh Fruit Cup with Shortbread  
or Boston Cream Pie

Cost: \$25

Tickets may be purchased from special interest  
group convenors and members of the executive

Or

Mail your menu choices and a cheque for \$25 to

WAMUN  
Arts and Administration Building  
Mail Room Box 130  
Memorial University, P.O. Box 4200  
St. John's, A1C 5S7

Parking: in front of Gushe Hall or Area 11 (immediately  
behind Gushe Hall, access from Livyer's Loop)

Campus Food Bank contributions are welcome.

## AGM Agenda

Saturday, Apr. 26, 2008  
Junior Common Room, R. Gushue Hall  
1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from 2007 AGM
3. Business Arising
4. Reports of 2007- 2008:
  - President's Report
  - Membership Secretary's Report
  - Treasurer's Report
  - Newsletter Editor's Report
  - Interest Groups
  - Archive
  - Scholarship Committee
  - Plant Sale Committee
5. Distinguished Service Award Presentation
6. Election of Executive for 2008-2009
7. WAMUN and Campus Safety
8. Any Other Business
9. Adjournment



## A New Approach

Last year, many members felt the spring luncheon plus annual meeting lasted too long. The executive has taken this feedback very seriously and is working to streamline this year's event.

We are asking the caterer to provide a more efficient lunch service so we can start serving promptly at 12:30 p.m. and complete the meal in one hour. So, if you can only spare one hour, the meal should be completed in that time.

A new strategy is in place for the annual general meeting as well. The AGM will begin at 1:30 p.m. Since they were printed in the May 2007 newsletter and circulated to all members, last year's minutes (agenda item 2) will not be read aloud. One copy per table of the minutes, the interim financial report and the scholarship report will be available on Apr. 26. Please feel free to bring your own copy for

reference when preparing to vote on these items

In the past, verbal reports from our many committees and special interest groups have occupied a good part of the meeting. This year, reports included in this newsletter will not be read aloud at the AGM. However, convenors and chairs will be introduced and thanked and are prepared to answer questions from the floor.

We hope this approach will allow more time for members present to consider new business and future directions for WAMUN in a timely way.

To ensure that all members have access to the resulting information, a full report of the 2006 AGM, including minutes and decisions taken, will be printed in the May/June newsletter.