



# Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club

A Member Organization of The Canadian Federation of University Women since 1957

Newsletter, December 2013

Volume 56, Issue 4

## Christmas Meeting and Raffle



**Monday, December 9, 2013**

**6:30 pm**

at

**Cedar Park United Church**

**204 Lakeview, Pointe-Claire**

*(Parking is available adjacent to the church)*

Our annual festive evening of song, good food, and good company awaits members and guests.

The interest groups are preparing wonderful gifts to be won – gourmet baskets, gift certificates, and other surprises!

The **West Island Chorus** under the direction of Tracey Larder will entertain us with a beautiful concert and sing-along to Christmas carols.

This year our raffle proceeds will benefit the **West Island Women's Shelter**, an organization that provides temporary shelter and various other services to women and children who are victims of conjugal violence. Members are asked to bring toiletries, an on-going need for residents of the Shelter, as well as some Christmas gift items (see list on page 6).

If you are bringing a sweet or savoury to share or are willing to help out, please contact **Shirley Wick** to let her know.

As usual, festive refreshments will be served following the musical performance and raffle.  
Hope to see you there!



## President's Message

The holiday season is here once again and I'm sure many of you are busy getting ready to receive family and friends. For me, this is a magical time of year and I feel like a child again.

I hope that you will attend our Christmas Meeting and Raffle on Monday December 9th. This year, the **West Island Chorus** will be charming us with their sweet voices. As usual, the Interest Groups will offer up a great assortment of raffle prizes.

Our charity this year is the **West Island Women's Shelter**. Further in this Newsletter, you will find a list of items that the Shelter would appreciate receiving. Christmas is a special time but, unfortunately for a lot of women, it can also be a very difficult time. So please be generous and try to make the season a little brighter for some women and children this year by bringing along a few small items.

The Fundraising Committee deserves a big round of applause for their tremendous work in getting Bowser and Blue to entertain us on November 14. It was a great evening and a great success. Bravo to Mary Vlahos and her team: Nicole Awad, Joanne Fraser, Victoria Pinnell, and Suzanne Taylor! Thanks also to you for coming and telling your friends and family about the event. Check out Mary's report to find out how much money was raised for the Scholarship Fund.

I am sure I will see many of you at the Christmas event, but I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you in 2014!

Merry Christmas to all and a very Happy 2014!!

**Gilda Martinello**  
**mluwc1@mluwc.com**

## Membership

This month we welcome **Isobel Wright**, a retired Kindergarten teacher and returning member **Barbara Shapiro**. Please help them to participate fully in the Club to make up for the two months they have missed.

While I realise that not everyone has the time or inclination to be a big sister, I am disappointed by the lack of response. It really doesn't take much. One face-to-face meeting followed by emails and/or phone calls should do the trick. How do you find a little sister? Their names will have been published in the current and previous two newsletters. Now that the directories have been distributed look for a new member who lives in your area and make a call.

This year the collection of dues has taken much more time than is reasonable. The executive is working on a system which will make this process easier for **all** members.

Those members who were not able to collect their copies of the 2013-2014 Directory will have an opportunity to do so at the next general meeting.

We are all looking forward to the December meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to share one of our favourite activities with friends and acquaintances. Always remember that **membership is every member's responsibility**.

**Constance Ellis**  
**Vice-President & Membership Chair**

## POT LUCK DINNERS – January 13, 2014

We have one lunch and eleven dinners scheduled this year. There is one dinner in DDO with six spots open. Please contact Jane Edwards by **December 5** if you wish to attend.

The Hostesses and Assistant Hostesses have been sent their lists so you will be receiving a call as soon as they set up the menu for the home you signed up for.

**Jane Edwards**  
**Linda Ricketts**  
**Pot Luck Dinner Coordinators**

## CFUW News

The following is a summary that I have forwarded to the CFUW to show how we will be supporting the **National Initiative on Violence against Women and Girls** and how we will contribute to the initiative by taking the following steps as a group:

- ✓ Get involved with a local Women's Shelter - Our Christmas meeting fundraiser proceeds will go to the West Island Women's Shelter and we plan on collecting items (toiletries, etc.) for the women and children of the Shelter at our December event. As well, items of need will be collected throughout the year – *Please see the list included with the newsletter.*
- ✓ Local outreach - Our movie discussion group will be showing the documentary, "Buying Sex" and a social worker who works with one of the school boards will take part in the after-screening discussion to shed some light on violence in the world of teenage girls.
- ✓ UN Secretary Ban-Ki Moon has declared the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month as "Orange Day" as part of the UN's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign. We are hoping to make and wear orange ribbons to wear in support of Orange Day.

As well, I would like to highlight that **the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence** starts on the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women** (November 25th) every year to raise awareness and trigger action on this pervasive human rights violation around the world.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas event where the reindeers will be busy selling you raffle tickets

**Linda Sestock**  
**Vice President & CFUW Liaison**

### *A Merry Baroque Christmas / Un Joyeux Noël Baroque*

To herald the Advent season, the Stewart Hall Singers will be celebrating a Merry Baroque Christmas to the resplendent music of Bach and Handel on **Saturday November 30, 8:00 pm** at Église Saint-Joachim, Pointe-Claire. Join in the sing-along and get your voice in shape for the Christmas Raffle!

**Tickets, \$20, available through Joan Dyer.**

## Fundraising

On November 14, 2013 our major fundraising event took place. This year we decided to go with something new. As a result, it was an evening of comedy and music with the well-known duo Bowser & Blue. They performed to an almost full house at the DDO Civic Centre. Judging from the comments and happy faces of the audience we can surmise that a good time was had by all. Refreshments were served during intermission and draws of numerous prizes took place. The raffles earned us a profit of \$1,065.00. Although the final accounting is still to be done, we expect to make a net contribution of about \$6,000.00 to the MLUWC Scholarship Fund.

For the first try of a new format, I would say that the event was quite a success. I would like to thank the Committee members: Nicole Awad, Suzanne Taylor, Victoria Pinnell and Joanne Fraser. What a team of dedicated and hardworking ladies! We enjoyed working together and had a lot of fun while doing it. I would also like to thank all the members who helped, in one way or another, to make this evening possible. And last but not least, the following wonderful sponsors who donated prizes for our raffle:

Restaurant Le Chambertin  
Restaurant La Perle  
Coiffure Le Saint Louis  
Angela du Village Spa  
Rallye Tires

Opimian Society  
Bijouterie Robert Richer  
Ares Accessoires de Cuisine  
Joanne Fraser  
Lakeside Academy Library

And now stay tuned for our next fundraiser. Details will follow in future newsletters.

**Mary Vlahos**  
**Fundraising Chair**

### **Where are they now?** ***A search to find former MLUWC Scholarship Recipients***

Connie Ellis has been doing some detective work, and has managed to track down a few. We will run these vignettes from time to time. First up is 2007 recipient **Naima Liamani**:

“After graduating from McGill with my Bachelors, I continued to complete my dental degree at McGill. Following this, I moved to Florida to complete my residency in advanced dentistry (also became a licensed dentist in Florida after successfully completing the boards). I have currently been practising in Montreal for the past 4 years, and have recently (almost a year now) opened my own clinic in Les Cedres (west of Vaudreuil-Dorion). I am also part-time at Fairview Dental Clinic and part-time staff at McGill.”

***Dear Members,***

In this season of goodwill, we invite all our members to take a look at the website for the Charter for Compassion.

[www.charterforcompassion.org/](http://www.charterforcompassion.org/)

Translated into more than 30 languages, it has been signed by almost 100,000 organizations and individuals around the world. The charter rises above the limitations of religious, ideological and national differences; it encourages people to put themselves in the shoes of others.

As University women we are not only concerned about women's rights but also about social and cultural changes, forces that affect our global society. We advocate a move to further consciousness-raising through compassion. This charter is a call to focus on what unites us as human beings. A secular document, the charter recognizes the ideals of the Golden Rule – Do unto others as you would have done unto you. The implications for education, medicine, politics and business ethics are obvious. It is the antidote for most of our present social ills from bullying to child pornography, fairness in public life to other abuses of power.

The charter promotes peaceful co-existence, respect for differences, compassion as a balance to competition; it is a wake-up call for the individual and society as a whole to recognize the need for a more evolved way to engage with each other.

***Christa Triendl, Jeannie Hazel, Renata Bagga, Nini Singh***

### ***And some more Christmas concerts...***

***The Montreal Welsh Male Choir*** will present Dylan Thomas' ***A Child's Christmas in Wales***, Victoria Hall, Westmount, on Dec. 7 at 7:30 P.M. (Tickets - at the door.)

***The Pearson Educational Foundation*** will present ***A Lester B. Pearson Christmas Carol*** at Lindsay Place High School on Dec. 7 at 7:30 P.M. [514-422-3000](tel:514-422-3000), Local 2212.

## West Island Women's Shelter's 2013 Christmas Wish List

Articles that could be used in the Christmas gift bags offered to women and teens (girls and boys):

- Make-up kits
- Jewellery
- Candles and candle holders
- Bath sets
- Hand bags / Wallets
- Picture Frames
- Photo Albums
- Address Books
- Agendas
- Non-violent Games
- Activity Kits
- Arts and Crafts
- Non-violent or non-sexual DVD's
- Baseball caps
- Chocolates
- Perfumes
- Cologne for teen boys
- Watches
- Gift Certificates (Tim-Hortons / WalMart / Target / Movie Passes etc.)

Non-Perishable food item are always appreciated.



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## Interest Groups

**BOOK CLUB I** - Our December meeting will be held on **Wednesday December 11, 1:00 pm** at Johannah's home in Beaconsfield. Please call Johannah if you are not able to join us. The book for review by Jeanette, is **Stephen Leacock** by Margaret MacMillan, a part of the Extraordinary Canadians Series initiated and including an introduction by John Raulston Saul. Hope you all will enjoy this special afternoon! Marg N-G

**BOOK CLUB II** - The members will meet on **Wednesday December 19 at 1:30 pm**. **The Woefield Poultry Collective** by Susan Juby, will be reviewed by Suzanne Dawson; the hostess with the mostest is Louise Dagenais. Please inform her in time should you not be able to attend. This book seems to be a favourite choice of book clubs: it was also reviewed by the members of the Evening Book Club on November 26 and you may find a series of “thought-provoking” questions at [thesavvyreader.ca](http://thesavvyreader.ca). In the acknowledgements at the end of the book, the author “would like to thank all the people who dream of growing their own food and those who actually do it”, perhaps the Leitmotif of what some regard as a “quirky” book.

**EVENING BOOK CLUB** - Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday January 28 at 7:15 pm**. The book for discussion is **And the Mountains Echoed** by Khaled Hosseini.

**INVESTORS GROUP** – Our group meets the last Tuesday evening of the month (except for December). With the guidance of our animator, Anna Malczewska, we are interested in learning more about how the stock market works and developing our own personal investing strategies & expertise. Through researching and following a selection of Canadian large cap companies, we will share our financial news, information and questions. Our next meeting is **January 28, 2014**

**KAFFEEKLATSCH** - The German Conversation Group will meet at Christine Hamilton's house on **Tuesday December 3 at 10:00 am**. This date may change and members will be contacted. **Christine Hamilton**

**MUSIC HISTORY** - The December meeting will be held at Christine Hamilton's on **Wednesday December 11 at 1:30 pm**. Please let Christine and me know if you cannot come. **Joan Dyer**

**TRAVEL** - After two most entertaining, thought-provoking meetings our travels will resume **Monday February 4, 2014** at Le Vivalis. Details to follow in the January newsletter. Best wishes to all in New Year. **Barbara Sauv  and Mary Wells**

**TUTTO ITALIANO** - Tutto Italiano will meet on **December 10** for an Italian Christmas potluck luncheon at a member's home. Members also met on November 12 and discussed the Splendore a Venezia exhibit at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. We will report on our future activities in the new year. **Renata Bagga**

# December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Kaffeeklatsch 10:00 am	4	5	6 National Day of Action and Remembrance on Violence Against Women	7
8	9 Christmas Meeting & Raffle at Cedar Park United 6:30pm	10 Tutto Italiano  January Newsletter Deadline	11 Book Club I 1:00  Music History 1:30	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Book club II 1:30	20	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>			

<p><b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Heather Hamilton <a href="mailto:newsletter@mluwc.com">newsletter@mluwc.com</a>  <b>Proofreader:</b> Janet Guay  <b>Deadline for JANUARY submissions:</b> Tuesday December 10, 2013</p>
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