



Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club

Annual Reports: 2009-2010

President's Report

In August I had the pleasure of representing MLUWC at CFUW's Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg. It is always a wonderful experience to meet and interact with fellow university women from across the country. Lively debates were held on the proposed resolutions as well as by-law changes to the definition of Associate Member.

We began our Club year in search of a newsletter editor. It seems that Adla Halwani had done such a wonderful job for two years that no one felt qualified to fill her shoes. There was talk of outsourcing this function and I even had a go at it myself in October. Fortunately, Johannah Lloyd graciously came forward and offered to take over the position for the year and has done it beautifully ever since.

In October, along with Nancy Lloyd and Patricia DuVal, I attended a UWC Montreal Inc. dinner meeting commemorating Women's History Month and the 50th Anniversary of the Person's Case.

Our website got a makeover this year thanks to Pauline van Nieuwburg. A bright new full colour version of our logo adorns the home page and welcomes visitors to the site, where they can view our newsletter, as well as information about Membership, Scholarships and Programme.

A decision was made to hold Theatre Night in November this year rather than February. Lakeshore Players presented *Twelve Angry Jurors* and over \$4,500 was raised for the Scholarship Fund. It is hoped that we can repeat our success with this fundraiser next November.

We were fortunate to catch a glimpse of the Olympic torch as the relay passed through Beaconsfield on the night of our Christmas meeting. Through the generosity of our members the raffle that evening raised \$1,200 for the West Island Community Resource Centre's fund to aid the victims of Earl Jones.

In March, we celebrated International Women's Day and learned about the challenges of educating aboriginal Canadians. This theme was then revisited as one of the CFUW proposed resolutions.

It has been my pleasure to serve as President these last two years. I would like to thank the membership for its support and encouragement and the members of the executive for their dedication.

Heather Hamilton, President

Report of the Past President

As Chair of the Nominating Committee, I am proud to nominate the following proposed slate of officers and committee chairs for the year 2010-2011

Executive

New mandate for:

President	Chitra Chopra
1st Vice-President & CFUW Liaison	Céline Dupuis
2nd Vice-President & Membership	Gilda Martinello
Communications	Eva Weiss
Past-President	Heather Hamilton
Recording Secretary	

Returning officers for their 2nd year:

Treasurer	Connie Ellis
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Standing Committees

Fundraising	
Programme	Linda Ricketts

Returning chairs for their 2nd year:

Archives	Evlyn Payton Tayler
Hospitality	Margaret Vost
Interest Groups (3 rd year)	Christine Hamilton
Newsletter	Johannah Lloyd
Scholarships	Barbara Armbruster
Webmaster	Pauline van Nieuwburg

Other committees

Newsletter distribution	Janet Guay
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Returning for their 2nd year:

Photographer	Joyce Fair
Potluck Dinners	Diane Nener / Kirsten Birch

MLUWC Scholarship Fund

Chair	Sandra Smith
Treasurer	Helen Findlay

Members of the Nominating Committee: Marie-Belle Cunningham, Gail O'Reilly and Mary Vlahos.

Pauline van Nieuwburg, Past President
Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Report of the First Vice-President/CFUW Liaison

This has been a good year for CFUW. We had two capable candidates for the office of CFUW President. We took it a step further and asked both candidates specific questions to help us decide which individual we would like to support for president. Democracy ruled across the country as Brenda Wallace, currently Vice President Prairies, was chosen to take over from Patricia DuVal this July in Ottawa.

The new governance proposal passed across the country with a vote of 74% in favour of the proposed changes to the CFUW Board of Directors. The changes took place in time for the new Board structure to take effect in the upcoming Biennium. The National Board also responded to the request from Clubs to provide financial information prior to the AGM and overall the financial health of CFUW is much better.

Six members of MLUWC will attend the Quebec Provincial Council Annual General Meeting in Quebec City on April 25, 2010. It promises to be very informative and to provide a venue for a good exchange of ideas between members of the different Clubs. President Patricia DuVal will address the membership and explain what CFUW has done in the area of education and what is planned for the future. The CFUW Annual general Meeting will be held in Ottawa this July. We would encourage members to attend this meeting since it showcases CFUW and allows us the opportunity to meet members from across the country. The IFUW Triennium will be held in Mexico City in August and members who might find themselves in Mexico in August, or might wish to attend, are encouraged to visit the CFUW website for more information.

It became apparent this year that the CFUW resolutions process at MLUWC is in need of major reconsideration. The numerous MLUWC interest groups no longer seem to be a source for resolution evaluations. There are individuals, and also the Issues and Resolutions study group, who showed interest in some of the resolutions and provided very good feedback for the consideration of members. It will be a challenge next year to determine how we should proceed to respond to the dwindling interest in the variety of resolutions provided for our input.

Members are encouraged to offer any suggestions for improvement of national services or to let us know what you would like to have from your organization, both at the local and at the international level. I wish to welcome my successor, Celine Dupuis, a very enthusiastic new member, to the Executive of MLUWC. I am certain that she will be a valuable asset to MLUWC and will be very open to any suggestions that you may have regarding CFUW.

Chitra Chopra
Vice-President, Québec

Report of the Second Vice-President/Membership

Membership at present stands at 214 (191 regular members, 15 life members, 6 associate members and 2 honorary members). We were saddened by the death of June Bolger who had been a member since 1987.

Sixteen new members were welcomed in MLUWC this year. With the able assistance of Gail O'Reilly, all new members were assigned mentors (Big Sisters). The new members' reception was held the last week of October, at which time information on the operation of our Club was provided by several members of the executive. We are pleased with the strong involvement of the new members in Club activities during the year.

Directories were available for distribution at the monthly meetings as of November. All changes occurring during the year were listed in the newsletters.

It has been most rewarding to serve on the executive for the past two years. Many thanks to Gail O'Reilly for her excellent assistance and to Jean Hazel who was available whenever needed.

Marie-Belle Cunningham
Second Vice President and Membership Chair:

Report of the Fundraising Committee.

Theatre Night

Our Theatre Night on November 10 was a great success. TWELVE ANGRY JURORS was a solid play that pleased many. Thanks to the co-operation of our members, we made a net profit of \$4,512, after paying our cost to the LAKESHORE PLAYERS of \$660 (\$3 per ticket sold).

The Games Luncheon

The Games Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 6, in the Lawn Bowling Annex in Beaconsfield between 12:00 and 4:00 pm. We are hoping to sell all 100 tickets, at \$12 a ticket. Last year, we made a profit of just over \$1,600 from the tickets and the raffle, and we are hoping to make the same this year, if not a little more.

Nicole Awad, Chair

Report of the Hospitality Committee

The Convivium Dinner Meeting was held on September 9, 2009 at Beaconsfield Golf Club (BGC), Pointe-Claire. We had received very few reservations by the end of August and a reminder e-mail was sent out in early September.

The cost of the meal was \$21.95 (\$28.50 incl. taxes and gratuities). The cost to MLUWC members was \$30.00 (included \$1.50 per ticket to cover expenses). A cash bar was available for pre-dinner drinks and wine at the meal. The final number of meals served was 108 (total cost: \$3,077.00) Expenses for flowers and place name tags was \$27.00 Therefore the profit to MLUWC was \$135.00. Eight tables were set up in the ballroom to accommodate people who were registering for the Interest Groups. Three tables were set up in the Ladies' Lounge for Dinner Registration, Membership and theatre ticket sales.

Coffee, tea and "bought" cookies were served at the monthly meetings held at Karnak Temple, and we thank Bill Pitts for his assistance in preparing the room for our meetings.

On December 8, our Christmas event was held at Beaurepaire United Church. We are very grateful for the generous donations of delicious savoury and sweet confections from our members. My thanks go to all who baked and helped in the kitchen on the day.

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In early February 2010, a meeting was held with Claude Larocque, Manager at BGC, to discuss the menu for the AGM / Dinner Meeting on May 10, 2010. The cost to members will be \$32.00 .The difficulty with the sound system was discussed and we will test it prior to the Dinner. September 14, 2010 was confirmed for the Convivium Dinner at BGC, at that time.

Margaret Vost, Chair

Report of the Interest Groups

The year began with twenty-five active interest groups, the Book Discussion Group having divided into Book Discussion I & Book Discussion II. In January, Celine Dupuis became group leader of the dormant Art Appreciation group. All groups are thriving.

Christine Hamilton, Chair

Report of the Newsletter Editor

It has been a pleasant and interesting task to edit and produce the newsletters. I have instituted a very simple format, one that no member need fear undertaking, as Editor in the future. We are most fortunate in having Joan Dyer as our prompt and efficient proof reader.

Johannah Lloyd, Editor

Report of the Programme Committee

For our 2009-2010 meetings, the Programme Committee selected a variety of topics to inform and entertain us. We were very fortunate in having speakers who are experts in their fields and generous with their time.

Once again our general meetings were held at the Karnak Shriners' Temple, with the Autumn Convivium Dinner and the Annual General Meeting & Dinner at the Beaconsfield Golf Club. The Christmas Concert & Raffle in December was held at the Beaurepaire United Church. Following last year's format, the evening schedule was hospitality at 7:15 p.m., the business meeting at 7:45 p.m., and the speaker at 8:15 p.m. Mr. William Pitts at the Karnak Temple was of invaluable assistance in arrangements for the general meetings and hospitality.

Monthly speakers:

<u>October</u>	Yolande James, MNA for Nelligan riding and Minister of Immigration and Cultural Communities.
<u>November</u>	Sheila Kindellan-Sheehan, Pointe-Claire author – <i>Memoir and Fiction: Challenging Companions</i> .
<u>December</u>	Wendy Hamel with the MLUWC choir put us in the holiday spirit. Our Christmas Raffle raised \$1200 for the Victims of Earl Jones Fund organized by the West Island Community Resource Centre. The evening coincided with the Olympic Torch Relay along Beaconsfield Blvd; an exciting event for us to glimpse in passing.
<u>January</u>	Potluck Dinner Parties
<u>February</u>	Professor Edwin W. Holland, forensic anthropologist at John Abbott College, brought unique displays to illustrate <i>The Tales Dead Men Tell</i> .
<u>March</u>	Corinne Mount Pleasant-Jetté, retired professor of engineering and computer science and an educator and advocate for aboriginal issues spoke on <i>Educating Canada's First Nations</i> In recognition of International Women's Day, Wendy Davies from the Board of Directors of Dix Milles Villages in Pointe-Claire, described the mission of the extraordinary Laotian woman who inspired her community to become self-sufficient in creating a cottage industry based on locally-cultivated silk.
<u>April</u>	On Members' Night three new members described their special interests and professional careers: Janet Anderson, Scientists in School; Adeleine Ciebien, MMFA guide; Celine Dupuis, pathologist. CFUW resolutions were discussed and voted upon. Members also brought bring crafts to display or to sell.
May	The Annual General Meeting and Dinner is to be held at the Beaconsfield Golf Club. Cheryl Braganza, artist and activist, honoured in 2008 as the Montreal Woman of the Year, will be the keynote speaker.

Many thanks to the Committee members whose ideas, contacts in our community, and organization provided these outstanding evenings: Janet Ankcorn, Barbara Armbruster, Chitra Chopra, Maria Cranker, Heather Hamilton, (ex officio) Gilda Martinello, Sandra Smith, Renate Sutherland and Hille Viires.

Carol Ohlin, Chair

Report of the Scholarship Fund Committee

The Scholarship Fund Committee has experienced a year that has seen the investments regain a substantial amount that had been lost in the market turmoil of the previous year.

(See Financial Report after May 31, 2010, for details).

We have spent a lot of time investigating various ways in which the investment funds could be managed in order to reduce the risk and to make the work easier for the committee members.

This past year saw us drafting a questionnaire for the membership with the hope of discovering how the majority would like to go forward with replenishing these funds as we continue to give out as much as we can in scholarships each year. We are very pleased with the number of responses and they continue to trickle in to the committee. The results will be tabulated soon and you will receive the report in the fall.

As Chair of this committee, I know that our members have worked very hard and we have done our very best to be as accountable and transparent as possible.

Part of our committee changes annually at our year end which is May 31. The Treasurer, Jane Weber, the Secretary, Linda Ricketts, and the Chair, Marilyn Flaherty, will all be ending their terms. The new Chair will be Past President, Sandra Smith, the Treasurer will be our former Member-at -Large, Helen Findlay. Carol Ohlin will be the new Secretary. Barbara Armbruster will remain as Vice-Chair and Chair of the Scholarship Committee. The new Member-at -Large will be Cathy Maxwell. I am confident that the scholarship funds will be in good hands.

Marilyn Flaherty, Chair

Reports of the Various Interest Groups

Afternoon Bridge

Our afternoon bridge group had another successful year. We took turns meeting in each others' homes every second week. We enjoyed the company as well as the lovely refreshments served. We also tried to improve our bridge game.

Eleanor Shaver (514)697-3877

Art Appreciation

The Art Appreciation Group conducted monthly visits from January to June. We started things off by joining the Jaunters to the MMFA exhibition of 19th C British artist John W. Waterhouse. In February, we saw Peter Knapp's movie: Van Gogh. The film, based on Van Gogh's letters to his brother, offered exceptional images of the artist's paintings reproduced using Imax technology. Jewish Painters of Montreal, an exhibition held at the McCord museum, allowed us to better understand the work of these painters in wartime as well as their impact on Quebec art. We also had the pleasure to view 2 movies during the Festival International of Films on Art. The first one, La Vie Cachée des Oeuvres, showcased the Rembrandt collection of the Louvre assessed by international experts and connoisseurs including Ernst van de Wetering, head of the Rembrandt Research Project. The second film revealed each step of the restoration of Japanese Empress Dowager Cixi's portrait executed in 1905 by Dutch painter Hubert Vos. In April, an exhibit at the Musée d'Art Contemporain on Etienne Zack, a young Montreal painter who studied with Emily Carr, will provide the art group with its first foray this year into contemporary art. May will find us in Quebec City for a cultural experience that will celebrate art, culinary pleasures and history. Our visit of the permanent collection of the Musée des Beaux Arts du Quebec will center on Canadian art from the late 17th to 19th C as a mirror of our emergent society. Lastly, as major exhibitions are often held during the summer, our group will go in June to the National Gallery in Ottawa where Pop Life, Art in a Material World will be our subject.

In art, as in many things, the pleasure is in sharing. The group discussions held before the visits, the lunches and the lively conversations on the way back were the highlights of our meetings. Friendships were formed and it is fair to say that art is alive and well at the MLUWC.

Céline Dupuis (514) 426-8012

Book Club 1

The books we reviewed this past year have covered biographies, historical novels, as well as current issues. Lively and intelligent discussions followed each review. The nine books selected for the 2009-2010 reading list have included: Reluctant Genius, by Charlotte Gray ; Payback, by Margaret Atwood ; The Secret River, by Kate Grenville ;The Guernsey Literary

and Potato Peel Society, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows ; The Elegance of the Hedgehog, by Muriel Barbery ; Tooth and Claw, by Jo Walton ; The White Tiger ,by Aravind Adiga ; Run , by Ann Pachett, and Infidel by Ayaan Hirst Ali. We will now begin the challenging task of book selection for next year. We will consider choices from our members and enjoy an evening with Judith Cartwright of Librairie Clio who might suggest some reading perhaps a little “outside the box” for our consideration. We end our year with a pot luck luncheon, a review of the year, approval of the new choices for the year 2010-11, and some suggested summer reading. The beauty of a being a member of a book club is the adventure of reading a book you might never choose, and being surprised at what is inside the cover. Like it or hate it, the review makes the reading worthwhile! My thanks to all our members.

Margaret Nicoll-Griffith (514) 694-1677

Book Club II

Book Club II started the 2009-2010 season as an autonomous group of 9 participants, the latest members to have joined the original and very popular Book Discussion Group.

Soon after, requests to join our embryonic group multiplied, and we finished the season with 16 participants, more than sufficient to have animated exchanges.

The selection of books is carried out in a very democratic way. In June every member submits two titles and members vote to constitute the list for the following year. Here is the list of the books we discussed this year:

We started with *The Book Of Negroes* by Lawrence Hill followed by *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows.

Margaret Atwood's *Pay Back* generated a lively discussion, it being closer to our own life experiences.

Then came *The Cello Suites* by Eric Soblin Anansi followed by a more abstruse type of book, *The Echo Maker* by Richard Powers.

The very original *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen taught us much about the travelling circus milieu and the depression period.

La's Orchestra Saves the World by Alex. McCall Smith, *The White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga, a tongue-in-cheek analysis of life in India for neophytes, and *The Other Queen* by Philippa Gregory completed our reading for this year.

Most of us appreciated the variety of themes and literary styles of the books retained for discussion and hope for just such a rich and captivating selection next year

Louise Dagenais (514) 694-7651

Complementary Approaches to Wellness

The Complementary Approaches to Wellness group met the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. We are an educational group, and have been active for many years. This year we met in the homes of Renate Sutherland, BJ Bell and Anna Wilkins. We averaged 10 to 15 attendees per month and often welcomed guests. After an inspiring and informative presentation by our guest speaker, we would enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

Topics addressed were as follows:

In September we opened the year with the topic "Wellness-How Balanced Are You?"

In October, the group organized a "Tuesday Holistic Retreat" at the Harmoni Health Center and explored deep relaxation, breath work, meditation, visualization, and gentle yoga with Rukhshana Surty.

Stephen Schettini, a former Buddhist monk and now a writer, publisher and teacher, made a presentation on "Mindful Reflection" in November.

In January, our speaker was Caroline Courey who told us about her work as a personal life coach as we discussed the topic "New Way Personal Life Coaching".

Two vibrant young ladies, Nathalie Laplante, and Anne Marie Angers, enlightened us in February on their community project, Cabaret Boutique in PC Village, called "La Cooperative des Bons Voisins", which will open in June.

In March Vivianne LaRiviere, a Spiritual Arts Practitioner at the Hudson Song Room, facilitated a mini workshop while leading us on a journey of self discovery through music, peace drums and spiritual conversation.

April will be an interesting talk by Timothy Wideman, a physiotherapist, on "Coping with Chronic Pain". The May meeting is yet to be decided.

We wish to express special thanks to our telephone callers and all those who looked after the "goodies" for each meeting. Thank you to all the participants for their support and valuable contributions in making this a very special group experience. We couldn't have done it without you! There will never be an end to terrific topics and speakers.

Renate Sutherland (514) 695-1970, Heather Roberton (514) 697-8015, Patricia Jones (514) 695-2753

German Conversation Kaffeeklatsch

The *Kaffeeklatsch* group eased into the year by discussing past and future travelling adventures and stained glass work, as well as more ambitious topics such as the life of the sculptor Riemenschneider, author Guenther Grass, Saint Bonifacius, Apostle of Germany and Queen Victoria.

Gourmet II

Officially our membership is at twelve ladies. Most of our dinners average around ten members due to travel plans. We meet monthly for wonderful dinners with different themes; for example, one evening was a tribute to Julia Childs and another was dedicated to Portugal. Twice a year spouses join our group - Christmas and the end of the year. Our gourmet evenings are about wonderful food and good friends.

Jody Gibson (514) 694-4204

Gourmet III

The Members of Gourmet 3 continue to enjoy our once a month dining pleasure. I think we still look forward to our evenings together and always enjoy the food, fun, laughter and discussions. Many, many thanks to all the ladies who make this possible.

Sita Tadros(514) 697-74775

Intermediate Bridge

Another year of Intermediate Bridge; another round of delicious desserts; cards good, maybe bad, but friendly players and substitutes: these are the ingredients for "Enjoyment". Come September, come join us!

Corinne Thompson (514) 697-1514 and Diana Nevins (514) 697-3955

Issues and Resolutions

Wow, the time has flown by, and there are so many issues out there. We touched on financial issues, regarding Canadian management of money collectively and individually. Three of us went downtown where Montreal University Women's club presented Jacques Menard, President of BMO Nesbitt Burns and of BMO Groupe Financier, at McGill University. He spoke about financial literacy and accountability with regard to that thing called Credit and of course, Debt!! Montreal University Women have been working on a resolution about financial responsibility within the educational system.

Healthcare continues to concern us. This month the Nursing director from the Lakeshore General Hospital is coming to talk to us about nursing issues. We have a lot of questions for her. We wonder how the general public can help. We are particularly worried about shortages of nurses and burnout in the profession. We also followed the Chalk river Isotope fiasco. Our healthcare system has quite a few problems. Access to primary care, aging populations, many high tech expensive procedures, distribution of funds, distribution of health professionals and shortages, aging equipment, new equipment, crowded ERS, old hospitals, new hospitals!!! just to mention a few. There is a lot to talk about and we do.

In February we went to Hudson to see a "zero net" house being built. This house was the result of efforts by the Canadian Housing and Mortgage Corporation to encourage energy efficient houses. There are other houses being built across Canada and it is possible to see

them on the internet. Just punch in "zero net house" on Google. We were very impressed although at this stage this is an expensive building. There was actually an electric car plugged into the house!! It will be possible to see this house when finished.

And finally, we have been discussing aboriginal education including the draft resolution from the education committee of CFUW. The resolution had much well researched background information. There are many complicated issues for our governments and institutions to cope with to deal with this issue, but we decided to support the resolution with some amendment as to accountability and transparency of organizations.

We meet once a month to talk and socialize; it's a fun way to keep ourselves up to date with what is happening in our own back yard and the wider world. New members welcome.

Marjorie Hamilton Harding. (514) 695-0125

Jaunters Group

These are the Jaunts that we took during the 2009/2010 season. The number of members participating in each trip varied from fifteen to twenty with the exception of the January trip to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, when members of the Art Appreciation group joined us and approximately 35 members participated in the trip.

October 20, 2009 - Guided tour of the Fur Trade Museum in Lachine. Lunch at Ristorante Andrea on St. Joseph Blvd in Lachine.

November 20, 2009 - Jaunters supported and encouraged attendance at the Club fundraiser "Twelve Angry Jurors" presented by the Lakeshore Players at John Rennie High School.

December 15, 2009 - Guided tour at the Centre d'Histoire de Montreal at Place d'Youville in Old Montreal. Special lunch menu at Les Filles du Roi in Old Montreal.

January 19, 2010 - "Waterhouse Garden of Enchantment" Exhibition at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, guided tour with the Art Appreciation Group. Lunch at L'Academie on Crescent St.

March 5, 2010 - "I Musici" Concert featuring the theme "Russia meets America" at Ogilvy's Tudor Hall. Lunch at Europea on Mountain St.

April 21, 2010 - Lunch at Magnan's Tavern on St. Patrick St. Guided tour of the "Maison Gabriel" at Place Dublin in Pointe St. Charles.

Due to the number of members who joined the group, Jaunters was able to offer a \$100 cash prize for the Christmas fund raising raffle.

Virginia Sears (514) 425-0737 and Brenda Plescia (514) 426-4070

Music Appreciation

Our group enjoyed six MSO concerts, five prep meetings to explore the music and composers before the concerts, and a final potluck luncheon. Members carpooled downtown and shared lunch following the concerts. Fifteen women signed up for the group and thirteen participated. Attendance at meetings averaged eight to ten. Eight members subscribed to the matinee concert series while some bought individual tickets. We studied eighteen composers: Colgras, Grieg, Dvorak, Copland, Daugherty, Bernstein, Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Ravel, Shilkret, Chabrier, de Falla, Debussy, Mendelssohn, Hetu, Mathieu and Howard Shore. Members in the group took turns researching the music and composers and came up with some very interesting background information. Not even the December 9th snow could keep this group away from their morning concert. We welcome new members to share with us the enjoyment of some of the finest symphony music performances by the MSO at their morning concerts series.

Maria Cranker (514) 694-3963

Music History

The Music History group got off to a good start with two new members. As usual, we worked our way through the history of music in one year.

Starting in September with the Baroque period, we chose a date from the early Baroque, before 1600, and listened to music from the English composer Purcell, then continuing on to Couperin, Buxtehude, Corelli, and early Vivaldi. In October, when I was travelling in the Middle East, Maureen hosted and Joan led a session on Mozart's final year, 1791, and listened to the Clarinet concerto and the Requiem. We continued in November, December and January with music from the Romantic period: 1844: Berlioz, Wagner, Mendelssohn and Chopin; 1872: Dvorak, Tchaikovsky, Bizet and Verdi; and from 1890: Sullivan, Saint-Saens, Brahms, Debussy and Mascagni. In February, we went to Christine's home to watch a video of Gershwin's opera 'Porgy and Bess'. The three spring sessions (I think we can call March a 'spring month' this year) were devoted to 20th century music. Composers we studied were Debussy, Mahler, and Vaughan Williams in 1902, Sibelius, Walton, Poulenc, Ibert and Ravel in 1923, and Bernstein, Milhaud, Rodrigo, Shostakovich and Matthieu in 1955.

Thanks to everyone in the group who brought refreshments, to Maureen and Christine for each hosting a session, and especially my two assistants, Suzanne and Joanne. Thank you all also for the stimulating discussions which I sometimes had to shush up so we could listen to the music.

Joanne Brais (514) 695-2392

Out-to-Dinner Annual Report

Although attendance could have been better, we enjoyed a good year. An average of fifteen people took part in various cuisines, mostly on the West Island. These are the restaurants we went to or are going to this year:

September	Terra Mare
October	Maiko Sushi
November	La Sirene
January	Mont Vino
February	Bombay Palace (cancelled)
March	Fuji
April 22nd	Elixor
May 27th	Le Charlesville
June 24th ?	Mundo Trattoria

There is still time to sign up for our remaining dinners. Hope to see you at the next outing!

Carol Kelly (514) 697-1335

TRAVEL

We were fortunate this year to be able to hold all of our meetings at Sunrise Senior Living Residence in Beaconsfield where refreshments, provided by our members and Sunrise, were served in a lovely kitchen adjoining their multipurpose room. We were joined by any residents of Sunrise who were interested in attending and their numbers grew as the year went on. Sunrise was very accommodating if we had any special requests.

We had seven meetings and travelled with Renate and Arun Bagga to Malta, Pompeii and Poland. Joanne and J.C. Brais took us to East and South Africa and later to India. Ian and Marney MacDonald showed us Scotland and with Margaret Eastwood, we went to Chile and Patagonia. Mary Vlahos informed us of the latest Travel Tips and in May, Victor Breedon will take us Cycling from Bangkok to Ho Chi Minh City.

We would like to thank all of our presenters with special thanks to Ian MacDonald who loaned his screen to other presenters. Thanks also to the ladies who brought the goodies we enjoyed so much.

Judy Paquin (514) 428-0541 and Janet Ankcorn (514) 426-0729

Tutto Italiano

The Tutto Italiano group started the year by losing two long-time members: Sue Callaghan, the founder of our group, who moved to Toronto and Anna Belleau. Despite these departures, we had a good year – we learned a little bit of the history of the Italian language; “visited” Pompeii and re-discovered Michelangelo’s great work, the Sistine Chapel. Our final meeting of the year will be a tour of the Italian artists at the Montreal Museum of Art. And of course, lunch at a nearby Italian restaurant - what better way to end the year than by eating Italian food!

Gilda Martinello (514)364-7210

Wine Appreciation

This year we had a full group again (10 regulars and 4 spares), averaging 8 wine-tasters at each monthly Wednesday evening meeting. Tasting three wines each time at a member’s home; we laugh, learn new terms and enjoy the complementing foods. We have nine women on a waiting list (waiting for a minimum of 10) who want to form a new group. If you are interested, please let me know and we will start a Wine Appreciation II in the fall.

Cheers, Pamela Deans (514) 697-2195