A message from the President …

Though winter has arrived early, it’s difficult not to appreciate the beauty of the snow-covered trees and the spirit of the season that is rekindled.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new members to the FWC. I hope you are making lasting connections with fellow members.

Our ever-popular Wine and Cheese event was well attended, and many thanks goes out to our Executive for their hard work. Our Program Committee, Judith, Cathy, and Marilyn, did a lovely presentation of cheese trays for all to enjoy. Marie diligently tended to the membership table, while others kept things running behind the scenes. I viewed many signatures on sign-up sheets for our varied interest groups, knowing that bonds of friendship continue to grow.

The university tours in October, led by campus historian Ellen Schoeck, were a hit with two enthusiastic groups signing up. The Club’s interest groups have had a busy fall. Living in Sherwood Park makes it difficult for me to join many groups; however, I am always happy to hear about your experiences and remain active in my role as President.

A recent accomplishment was negotiating a deal with Brendan Robbins, the new Faculty Club Manager. Although the Faculty Club is undergoing fee and menu changes, they will allow us to continue our routine with a small facility rental fee and a slight increase in costs for our catered events. Brendan appreciates our business and is more than willing to work with our needs.

It’s amazing to me that we have kept our traditions going since 1933, and I am grateful to be part of this wonderful group of women.

I wish you all good health, happiness, and a cheerful holiday season.

Warm Regards,

Jan Heaman
email: president.fwc@gmail.com
Warm wishes for the season flow to you all. 
May the coming year be full of peace and joy.

Here are some events to look forward to in 2018!

❖ Winter and Spring 2018 Events ❖

Celebration Coffee Morning

*When:* Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
*Where:* Saskatchewan Room, University of Alberta Faculty Club
*Cost:* Free

Everyone is welcome to attend this complimentary event, which is held annually to honour and celebrate our members of long standing.

Pay parking is available at the Faculty Club or the Windsor Parking Lot. We will be arranging rides for members who need them, so please let Jan Heaman know as soon as possible if you require – or are willing to provide – a ride. Jan’s contact information is in the Members’ Directory. **Please RSVP directly to Jan so that she will have an idea of numbers.**
Spring Luncheon

**When:** Thursday, March 15, 2018, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Papaschase Room, University of Alberta Faculty Club

**Cost:** $36.50

Enjoy a buffet lunch and a talk by Bishop Jane Alexander. Bishop Alexander grew up in England, moved to Canada with her family in 1990, and completed her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology in 1996. At the age of 37 she decided to pursue a degree in Theological Studies, which eventually led to her consecration and installation as Bishop of Edmonton in 2008. She is currently one of Canada’s five female Anglican bishops.

Bishop Alexander received an alumni award from the University of Alberta in 2017 for “being a powerful voice for change.” She supports a number of human rights issues, including murdered and missing indigenous women, human trafficking, poverty, and climate change. The title of Bishop Alexander’s talk will be: “The world won’t change if we all keep silent.”

Please reserve your spot as seating is limited. Members may invite guests to this event. The paid registration deadline is **Monday, March 5, 2018**.

Registration forms along with cheques may be mailed to Judith Palfreyman. Forms will also be available at the Celebration Coffee Morning and on the FWC website. Please make cheques payable to the Faculty Women’s Club or pay by credit card at the Celebration Coffee Morning.

If you have questions, please contact Judith Palfreyman (details in the directory) or by email at program.fwc@gmail.com.
Getting to know your new Executive

We are very excited this year to have three very competent new members on our Executive: Rachel Frey, Vice-President; and Marilyn Cree and Cathy de Frece, Program Committee.

Thanks to these ladies for stepping up to the plate.

Rachel Frey (Vice-President)

Rachel has been a part of the Faculty Women's Club since moving to Edmonton in 2008. For many years, she was the co-convener of FWC 2.0, which she helped to start in 2010. Currently, she is one of the co-conveners of Fun & (board) Games. Professionally, Rachel is an ordained minister who has served as a health care chaplain for many years. She has officiated the weddings of several people she has met through the Faculty Women's Club. Rachel and partner Craig Heinke (Physics) are the parents of five-year-old Leo, who dreams of being an explorer/Jedi/ninja. Rachel has dedicated the year 2017 to learning to bake, much to the delight of Craig and Leo. She also enjoys music, knitting, board games, dancing, and long walks in the River Valley.

Marilyn Cree (Program Committee)

Marilyn was born in the U.S. (Nebraska) but has lived in Edmonton most of her life. She joined the FWC three years ago when she shifted from full-time to part-time work with the federal government. She has a daughter in Vancouver as well as a son and grandson in Australia. This is her first position on the Executive, and she currently belongs to several FWC interest groups (two walking groups, the Evening Book Club, and the Garden Club). She keeps active by walking and going to the gym, enjoys reading and gardening, and makes annual visits to Australia to see her son and grandson.
Cathy de Frece (Program Committee)

After graduating from the University of Alberta, Cathy worked as a music specialist in Sherwood Park for 35 years, teaching children in Kindergarten through Grade 6. She especially enjoyed having her students share their work in Christmas and Spring concerts. A highlight of her career was directing school and community children’s choirs. Following her retirement from teaching, Cathy worked for seven years in Visitor Services at the Alberta Legislature, planning and presenting programs for school children and giving guided tours to visiting dignitaries and to the general public.

Cathy and her husband have two adult daughters and two grandsons, aged 7 and 3. She has been a member of the FWC since 2014 and has enjoyed being a part of the Afternoon Book Club. Cathy is pleased to join the Executive as a member of the Program Committee.

Interest Groups

Interest groups are the backbone of the Faculty Women’s Club. Over the past few years the FWC Companion has been profiling a number of these groups in depth. This issue we look at a group that has been around for more than a quarter of a century: the Tennis Group.

The Tennis Group
By Tricia Unsworth, Convener

The Tennis Group was started around 1989 by Frances Siemens, who was FWC President in 1990, with the idea of giving ladies a chance to play non-competitive tennis without having to join a club. For many years the group played at the now defunct tennis 'bubble' on the Michener Park site. The University gave the group a couple of courts for an hour or so each week and was happy to see the courts being used. Members in the early days included Sylvia Kernahan, Rhoda Sheinin, Pam Gerard, Angela Pawluk, Jane Wilson, and Eunice Barron, with Jeannie Tucker joining about 20 years ago. When I (Tricia) first joined about 15 years ago, I turned up with my husband’s old wooden tennis racquet but lots of energy. I was happy to have found a place to
take up tennis again, having not been able to play since leaving England 10 years earlier. The
ladies were all very welcoming and I soon became a regular member of the group, eventually
upgrading to a newer racquet!

Since then players have come and gone, and the old tennis bubble has been replaced by the
Saville Centre indoor courts, where it has been somewhat difficult to maintain our court time.
We were determined to keep the group going despite the difficulties, so a few years ago we
negotiated to keep our one hour a week booking in return for a $40 fee. Three years ago, one of
our members suggested we all join the Garneau Tennis Club in the summer, where we have
unlimited access to courts from May to October. This has been very successful, and we have
enjoyed the benefits of the Club, such as private or group lessons, social events and
tournaments, as well as getting to know other tennis players from the Edmonton community.

Currently our group has four or five regular members, as well as a number of ladies who join us
occasionally, so we're able to play doubles most of the time. We are a keen, enthusiastic group
without being too competitive. We enjoy the exercise and have lots of fun and laughs playing
together. Since there isn't much time to chat before or after games, we enjoy going out for
lunch when we play on holiday Mondays. In the
summer we'll walk to a restaurant in the Garneau
area and in the winter sometimes we'll head down to
the Derrick Club.

We play every Monday from 12-1 p.m. at the Saville
Centre from October to April and at Garneau from
May to September. We are always open to new
members, although we aren't really the place for
beginners. The group ranges in age from about 30 to
60+, but we all play at an intermediate (3-3.5) level.
If anyone is interesting in getting up to about that
level and then joining us, both the Saville Centre and
the Garneau Tennis Club offer group or individual
lessons to non-members.

Privacy Matters
All contact information, including phone numbers, addresses and email addresses, is published
in your Members’ Directory, which is mailed out in the fall. PLEASE keep your directory
handy, as this is your main source of contact information. In the interests of privacy, we do not
publish contact information for our members or Executive Committee.

Please refer to your members’ directory, or you may also contact the President at
president.fwc@gmail.com or the Membership Secretary at membership.fwc@gmail.com if you
need further information about the club.
Member News

Condolences

Tova Yedlin, a long-time member of the FWC, passed away in September. Tova received a Ph.D. from the University of Alberta in 1968 and became the eighth woman to receive a tenure appointment at the university. Her obituary published in the Edmonton Journal on 19 September states that Tova was “a trailblazer in many respects – most especially with respect to breaking down barriers for women in the workplace and setting an example for working mothers. Throughout her more than 30 years of teaching at the University of Alberta she inspired many students.” Tova was an active member of the FWC and at one time convened a book discussion group.

Our condolences go to Sheenah Coutts, whose husband Ron passed away on August 19, 2017. Originally from Scotland, Ron and Sheenah came to Edmonton in 1966. He had a 30-year career as a professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy where he was known as a passionate and engaging lecturer.

We also send our condolences to Bonnie Austen, who lost her husband of 48 years suddenly on November 26, 2017. David had a 40-year career in the Physics Department and was an active member of the Faculty Club.

Addenda to Directory

Pat Petersen’s e-mail address has changed. Please contact the Membership Secretary at membership.fwc@gmail.com if you need her new address.

2017 Wine and Cheese Registration Event

Our annual Wine and Cheese Registration Event took place at the Faculty Club’s Saskatchewan Room on Tuesday, September 12, 2017.

Many old and new members met to register for club membership and to sign up for one or more interest groups. We’re so glad so many could attend!

Wine, coffee, and fruit punch flowed, accompanied by an assortment of cheese and fruit. This is one of our best-attended events, and it offers an opportunity for our members to catch up with each other on the summer’s activities and for our Executive to welcome new members to the Club.
Many thanks to the Program Committee – Judith, Marilyn, and Cathy – for all their hard work in organizing the event.

Enjoying food and friendship at the Wine and Cheese Reception

Ready to sign up members to the interest groups
Tour of the University of Alberta Campus
with Ellen Schoeck

On Friday October 20, two groups from the FWC went on a tour of the University of Alberta led by campus historian Ellen Schoeck. Ms Schoek has written the definitive history of the university’s buildings, and leads tours and Jane’s walks on campus. Despite the cold temperatures, tour members enjoyed being led to some of the highlights of the university’s buildings, hearing about the history of students and faculty and interesting stories of campus life.

We were encouraged to look up instead of down and to be aware of all the architectural details that often go unnoticed. Members left the tour encouraged to return sometime to leisurely explore the hidden treasures of the U of A.