



Our Theme this year:

Shine a Light on Our Community

September 2024

Leadership Circle Members:

President: Christine Pagan president@cfuwpq.ca

Vice President: Position Available vp@cfuwpq.ca

Treasurer: Christine Pagan treasurer@cfuwpq.ca

Website: Val Gunn website@cfuwpq.ca

Club Address: Box 113 Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S7 See: <https://cfuwpq.ca>

Meeting: Monday, September 9 6:30 mingle and chat, 7P meeting QB Civic Centre

Program: A Young Voice for Change

Speaker: Janel Van Dongen, greeters are Membership Committee Members

What To Look For:

President's Message

Program Information

New Interest Group – Fun Walk Group

Membership News

Report on CFUW AGM

SBT: Annual Report, Media Release, Donation Request

Global Outreach

Talking Circle on Indigenous Affairs

Book Box Pickup Schedule, Book Sale News Update

Thoughts and Smiles,

Book Club News, Book Review

President's Message



Greetings everyone, I hope you all had time to rest and relax over the last couple of months, and spend time with those who 'bring you joy'.

CFUW PQ has been such a source of fun, friendship and learning for me, and I am honoured to be taking up the role of club president. Looking back over the club's history, there have been so many great women in this role - I have big shoes to fill.

I am looking forward to serving you: representing our beautiful Oceanside club at local, provincial and national levels; but also closer to home, I look forward to catching up with members of 'long standing', and meeting new members at our meetings and events. There are so many interesting women in our club, and I treasure the camaraderie and sense of purpose that we share.

Our committees and members have been busy over the summer, with informal walking groups, gallery visits, lunches, book groups and crafting. There are a number of lovely handmade 'Pieces for Peace', which we will feature in the next newsletter, there's a new Interest Group starting soon (details to follow), and last but certainly not least, our booksale team have worked hard all summer collecting and sorting books ahead of our annual sale at the end of September. I can't imagine how hot it must have been some days in the storage room.

Coming up soon we will have our first general meeting on September 09. I can't wait for you to see the slate of interesting speakers the programme committee have organised under the theme of 'Shine A Light on the Community', an apt phrase - as I think you will agree once you see the programme. Please visit the website to read more details and mark your calendars.

Before I close - I want to say thanks to everyone who embraced the 'team model' for some of our committees - membership, media, programmes - and stepped forward to muck in. You Know Who You Are!

...so, let's have fun, learn some new stuff, and support each other and don't hesitate to contact me if you have something to share (president@cfuwpq.ca)

(Contributed by Christine Pagan.)

Program for the September Meeting

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cfuw PARKSVILLE
QUALICUM

SPEAKER SERIES 2024/25

Shine A Light on our Community

A Young Voice for Change

SPEAKER:

Janel van Dongen, a Grade 12 homeschool student, senior champion of the 2023 Canadian Young Speakers and founder of 100 Kids for Change Oceanside, will share her inspiring perspective on the need for change.



**Monday
September 09
2024**

**Qualicum Beach Civic Centre
6:30 pm meet and mingle
Meeting starts at 7:00 pm
All welcome**

Realizing potential. For all women.

www.cfuwpa.ca

Janel van Dongen – Biography

Janel is a Grade 12 homeschool student from Nanoose Bay, and the senior champion of the 2023 Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition. When she was seven years old, she discovered her passion for storytelling to a crowd; now, 10 years later, she still feels the same sparks of excitement when standing up on a stage. In addition to public speaking, Janel is a lover of first chapters, discovering new ideas, creating things, and learning about our world. She is the founder of 100 Kids for Change Oceanside, a youth philanthropy organization, and loves reading and playing with her dog, Rex, in her free time.

The Year Ahead for Programs

Programme Committee: Janet Atagi, Mary Ellen Campbell, Sonya Felix, Deb Sullivan

Theme: Shine A Light on our Community

Venues:

September 9th QB Civic Centre
October 7th QB Civic Centre
November 4th Knox United Church Parksville
January 13th zoom
February 10th zoom
March a committee responsibility – information closer to the date
April 14th Knox United Church
May 12th Knox United Church December
June a committee responsibility – information closer to the date

New Interest Group: The Fun Walk Group

How about a lovely stroll along a trail of Rath Trevor Provincial Park with CFUWPQ friends? Please join me and other club members on September 15 at 3pm, for an hour, to enjoy this glorious park. Please meet at the information stand by the main parking lot (lets aim to gather at 2:50pm).

This event will be the inaugural fun walk for the Fun Walk Group. The concept for the Fun Walk Group is to meet up for some light exercise (think stroll!) and fellowship with club members, and to enjoy Oceanside's beautiful parks and quiet urban areas (and perhaps future Fun Walks could finish with a lunch or coffee). Subsequent Fun Walks will be on days and start times to suit participating members. And, of course, weather will be a factor to consider, and a Fun Walk (including the one on September 15) may need to be postponed.

Those who want to participate in the September 15 Fun Walk (or to be a member of the Fun Walk Group) are requested to contact Lisa Marshall. Participating members are encouraged to go at their own pace, and to stop and marvel at Nature as desired (CFUWPQ birders – please feel free to join). Please note participation is at own risk and expense.

See you at Rath Trevor on September 15!

(Contributed by Lisa Marshall.)

Ever been invited to go and see the submarine races?

**Dramatic fight between
two submarines**



Membership News



Congratulations Sheila Reed, Chair of our Membership Team. CFUW PQ was recognized at the CFUW national conference in Edmonton for an increase membership and as well as the greatest increase in membership in 2023/24. Well done Sheila!

(Contributed by Brenda Pengelly.)

CFUW AGM Report 2024

I had the pleasure of representing our Parksville Qualicum club and as outgoing Vancouver Island RD, July 23-24 in Edmonton at the national AGM.

The attendance was good, 132 members, 83 clubs, as this was the first live conference since 2019.

The business meeting went very smoothly, we were finished by 3.30 in the afternoon, all the resolutions were accepted and passed. The only difficulty was with the bylaw section, the wording could not be accepted as presented, the changes were withdrawn and will be reworded and presented next year.

The second day was the speaker series "Realizing Potential" theme. The opening keynote was from a mother and daughter duo, Dr Patricia and Janice Makokis, Indigenous Women &

Sisterhood, Navigating a Forced Life (colonialism) & Remembering a Life Force (indigenous ways). Both these women are highly educated, because of the attitude of the family. Patrica's father was forced (life) into residential school age 5, but ran away age 7, never returned to school, never learned to read but wanted to be educated however encouraged his daughter, who become a school principal, obtained PhD, U of A, and taught at Blue Quills University, an indigenous managed university near St Paul Alberta.

Janice her daughter, was instrumental in Idle No More, created a webpage which had 2 million visits, working at calling out patriarchy where indigenous women were treated as property, to reclaim traditional precontact roles. Clan women in Cree governance, were regarded as warrior women similar to supreme court judges. Women's life force to fix the imbalance.

Both commented on "pretendians" how they harm all other leaders.

Session 2 was hosted by the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights. Here we discussed the history not taught in school, the historical foundation of oppressive social structures in Canada.

We also did an exercise of how your identity, and how you see your own identity, intertwines with ideas which cause oppressive attitudes.

Session 3 Moving Beyond Male Allies presented by Jake Stika, executive director of Next Gen Men.

He spoke about changing the way we see, act, and think about masculinity, toward a future where boys and men experience less pain, therefore cause less harm. The current masculine script says men are to be strong silent and strong. This is a problem.

He pointed out many men by the age of 50 do not have a close friend they can confide in, many have 1 friend or less by that age.

Jake has forthcoming book "A Kids Book About Masculinity" and is the publisher of Voice Male magazine.

As a closing event members Edmonton CFUW hosted at 6 restaurants for Wednesday evening dinner. Janet and I chose Sophia's, Turkish cuisine, where we had a super mezze type meal, and got to speak with CFUW women from all over Canada.

I will be speaking to the Talking Circle, about these topics in greater depth, September 23, 1.30pm. See event calendar on website.

(Contributed by Val Gunn.)

Final Report of Scholarship and Bursary Trust 2023-2024

1. The Scholarship and Bursary Trust (SBT) for 2023-24 consisted of Janet Farooq, Chair; Christine Pagan, Secretary; June Arnett, Treasurer; Val Gunn, Corresponding Secretary; Jackie Worboys, Publicity; Val Tutti, Secondary School Coordinator; Sonya Felix, Assistant Corresponding Secretary and Wendy Reimer (August through April)/Vivien Sears (May through August), Assistant Treasurer. The group worked together very cooperatively and the issues we agreed to address seem to be all or mostly resolved.
2. We revised the applications forms to be more generic and simpler for us and the applicants.
3. We converted the Apprenticeship Trade Award, for which we had had no takers for 2 years, into a VIU award with all female apprentices going into 2 year eligible with preference to females from SD 69. There are very few female apprentices in Trades at VIU and none at the moment from SD 69. VIU is now administering this award. These changes were welcomed by the donor behind this award.
4. Similarly we changed the NIC trade award into one for all women with preference for ones from SD69. NIC administers this award.
5. We have a new donor, The Elm Foundation, with the grant having no restrictions on its use.
6. We revised our poster using the new Club logo and it is brighter, more colourful and eye catching. Several club members helped up put up posters throughout SD 69.
7. We faced a problem in that some of the secondary schools refused to provide us with the emails of all candidates for the award at that school on privacy grounds. We use these to alert students finishing first year post-secondary to apply for our Memorial Scholarships. This is an important pool of potential candidates for us. After some negotiation, we are trying a request on the application form to the applicant to send her personal email to the Corresponding Secretary. This was not successful this year and next year's committee will have to revisit the issue, including possibly going back to the previous method of handling high school applications themselves.
8. We now have dedicated generic email addresses for Chair, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary (who receives all the applications). We are also starting to change the application storage to Club storage but with strict controls on who can access them. Again this is ongoing.

9. The Trust submitted an application to the 100+ Gentlemen of Oceanside who give a Damn early in 2024 and were awarded a sponsor, John O'Brian, in March. Our application was drawn for the June meeting and we were successful in being awarded their donation, \$13,800, for our Mature Student bursaries. We used \$12,000 this year for 4 bursaries of \$3000 each and so have a balance of \$1,800 for next year's mature student bursaries.
10. The Trust has chosen Val Gunn as the Chair for next year and Bonita Stableford and Pat Morrison-Wheeler as the two new members. These appointments were confirmed at the June AGM.
11. The winners of our scholarships and bursaries were made at our meeting of June 20 and the results were communicated to the winners and their winnings have been deposited in their institution's account directly. A report on the winners and their planned futures was prepared (see below) and an abbreviated version appeared in the PQ news online on July 14.
12. I wish to personally thank all. Members of the Trust for their hard work this year, their cooperation and their congenial attitude at meetings. This has made this year an absolute pleasure to be in the Chair.

Submitted by Janet Farooq
Chair SBT

Media Release by Scholarship & Bursary Trust

CFUW PQ provides record number of scholarships and bursaries this year

June 2024 brought an abundance of excitement for 21 local students entering or returning to institutes of higher learning. Yes, CFUW Parksville Qualicum Scholarship and Bursary Trust did it again, thanks to the overwhelming generosity of local club members, legacy gifts and donations from local benefactors. In times of inflation, high rents and increasing student fees, these awards make a big difference.

Two students from District 69 secondary schools begin their post-secondary studies, each with a \$2000 scholarship. **Sophie Jin** from Ballenas crosses the strait to Simon Fraser University to study neurosciences while **Maya Sailland** from Kwalikum is off to Carleton University in Ottawa.

As well as academic awards, the Trust is pleased to honour women who enter the trades. **Rebecca Segal** receives the Vancouver Island University (VIU) Red Seal Award of \$2,000. She has completed her Level 3 Foundations Electrical program and will continue in this field this year. The North Island College Trade Award of \$1,000 will be given to a student by that college in the fall.

Eva Wickham, entering her second year of two-year diploma program in Early Childhood Education and Care at VIU, receives the Early Childhood Education Award of \$2,000 this year. She will specialize in the care and education of infants, toddlers and those with Diverse Abilities.

With a powerful boost of funds from *The 100 Fine Gentlemen of Oceanside Who Give A Damn*, this year the Trust awards six bursaries of \$3,000 each to local women entering or returning to studies after at least a two year break. **Michela Brown** enters her second year of a Bachelor of Arts at VIU, majoring in psychology, with the goal of pursuing a graduate degree in counselling. **Kyla Campbell** begins her third year of a Bachelor of Arts at VIU and aims to bring accessible and culturally sensitive counselling services to the mid-island areas. **Katherine Cearns**, going into her third year of a BA at VIU, sees a career in the arts with the goal of becoming an art teacher. **Geraldine Elliot** enters third year of the Child and Youth Care degree program at the University of Victoria (UVic) this fall and ultimately hopes to support and improve the lives of children who have extra needs. **Robin Maser Housden**, equipped with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from UVic and the Horticulture Technician program at VIU, enters VIU this fall for a Bachelor of Interior Design. **Danica MacDonald**, accepted into the Dental Hygiene program at the Canadian National Institute of Health in Ottawa, looks forward to finishing her studies and offering dental care in Canada's new dental care program.

The James Craig Reid Scholarship of \$4000, generously provided by the Reid family for many years, is awarded to **Ashley Webb**, who begins her sixth year of a post-baccalaureate program at VIU. Her goal is to pursue the UBC Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Master's degree in 2026.

This year the Trust awarded four CFUW PQ Memorial Scholarships worth \$4000 each. **Jillian Hibbert** begins third year at VIU working towards a Bachelor of Social Work. Upon graduation, she hopes to work as a social worker in the mid-island area to support children and families. **Maria Milligan** heads into her final year in the McMaster Midwifery Program. She intends to join a clinic

on Vancouver Island where she can provide obstetrical and family-centred health care to women in rural communities. **Sophie Pawelko** enters her fourth year of study in Medical Science at Dalhousie University in Halifax. After graduating next year she plans to attend UBC Medical School and ultimately to serve as a physician in a Vancouver Island community. **Camryn Wheldon** goes into fourth year of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at UVic and may pursue a Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy.

The Trust is pleased to offer five CFUW PQ Post-Graduate Scholarships this year, each worth \$4000. **Joyalea Carson-Austin** enters second year of post-graduate studies in the Department of Biology in a soil ecology lab at UBC Okanagan. Her end goal is to work closely with the BC Living Labs project, a collective of researchers, policy makers and BC farmers seeking to integrate agricultural practices and climate solutions. **Juliette Desvaux** enters her Masters of Management at UBC Sauder School of Business with a goal to create an app to address communication for non-verbal dementia patients. **MacKenna Jardine** will attend the University of Calgary for a Masters in Public Policy. MacKenna, interested in social policies, anticipates working on a project focusing on youth homelessness and its connection to crime. **Taylyn Squire**, having completed her Bachelor of Education at VIU, will attend Queens University for a post graduate certificate in Inclusive Education. As a teacher, she hopes to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment for students of all abilities. **Erin Wadge** heads back to Queen's University to complete her last year in the Juris Doctor program. Her career goal involves working for an organization that advocates for those who need a strong voice.

With unexpected donations this year, the Trust presented an exceptional 21 awards totalling \$67,000 to local women. Over the past 38 years, the Trust has given 300 awards — worth more than half a million dollars — to help local students pursue post-secondary education.

We value the altruism of local foundations, businesses and legacies that have donated to our club over the years. Generous donations and gifts help the CFUW PQ Scholarship and Bursary Trust to provide educational opportunities that benefit students and also the community as a whole. The Trust is also grateful for the support of our local CFUW PQ club members who donate generously, spread the word about the awards we offer and help with the annual book sale at Coombs. All year long we sort books that arrive at the box by Save-On-Foods in preparation for our major fund raising activity, the giant book sale, coming this October 1-5 at Coombs Fairground.

We wish the scholars well and we look forward to supporting more students in the future.
(Contributed by Janet Farooq.)



This is Val Gunn with Sophie Jin, the BSS student who won a scholarship.

*Val Gunn says that a colour picture of the winners will be available at the September meeting.

PLEASE DONATE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP and BURSARY TRUST

The Trust offers scholarships and bursaries to girls and women from School District 69. There is one scholarship for a graduating girl from each secondary school going on to a university degree programme. There are scholarships for university undergraduate and postgraduate students. Local women who want to return to their education at an accredited Canadian institution are eligible to apply for a bursary and there is an award for a woman enrolled in Early Childhood Education. There are also two trades awards available, for programmes at VIU and North Island College.

We depend on your generosity to support the Trust, and we thank you for your continuing support of education.

Your donation is eligible for a tax deduction from the Canada Revenue Agency.

There are two ways to donate:

1. Pay online by **e-transfer** our preferred method, via treasurersbt@cfuwpq.ca
Please include your full name and address in the message portion of the transfer.

2. By **cheque**, made payable to CFUW-PQ Scholarship & Bursary Trust and mailed with the form below to

**CFUW-PQ SBT
Box 113
Qualicum Beach BC
V9K 1S7**

SCHOLARSHIP and BURSARY TRUST DONATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Donation Enclosed \$_____

*By the way, Janet Farooq and Vivien Sears will have a table at our September meeting and be ready to receive donations.

(Contributed by Janet Farooq, Chair SBT)

Global Outreach

Letter to CFUWPQ from Magdalena James in TZ, written Dec. 20, 2023.

Daniel Noud Secondary School,
P.O. Box 242,
Katesh – Hanang,
Manyara, Tanzania

Dear CFUW Parksville/Qualicum University Women,

I hope that you and your family are fine. I'm fine too and I proceed well with my studies.

I would like to tell you that for now we have a new headmaster from Mulbadaw Secondary School, he came in October 2023 and our school headmaster had resign{ed} so now he is not working as a headmaster he works as a teacher.

I would like to say thanks to CHES for the program of English and Mathematics immersion [tutoring provided by Math and English trained staff] that we study here at CHES

during the holiday (twice a *year) We study in June and December every year. In this immersion class I get new knowledge and skill in both English and Mathematics and the program becomes a blessing to all CHES students. Our performance [is] raised up compared to previous year. Personally it is helping me more because my performance increased because I am now aware of English language which help[s] me to understand other subjects.

I thank you so much for your help I have nothing to pay you. I am praying for you that God may protect you against evils.

I WISH YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2024. God bless all your ways.

Yours Sincerely,
Magdalena James

*The schools often do not have properly trained teachers at the high school level. While the school body has gone home for the major breaks, CHES pays for the girls to come back to one of the empty schools for part of the break to receive special tutoring: English, because it is the girls' 4th or 5th language! And Mathematics because the curriculum is weak there. CHES pays for the teachers, meals, transportation home and back. It is the twice yearly opportunity for all the CHES girls to get together in the same school. They sing in the huge indoor space and put on skits for the other CHES girls to enjoy. All in English, of course!

(Contributed by Wendy Reimer.)

Talking Circle – Overview for 2024 -25

Talking Circle participants learn about and discuss aspects of culture, history and matters concerning the Indigenous in Canada. "By understanding and respecting our cultural differences, we can move toward full reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples." [quotation from Bob Joseph and Cynthia F. Joseph in their book, Indigenous Relations – see book reference under suggested reading, below]

For this CFUWPQ year, Talking Circles participants will be exploring the importance of, and how to work towards, Reconciliation at different levels: personal, family, community, municipal, provincial and federal.

Regular meetings of the Talking Circle will be on 4th Monday of the month, starting at 1:30pm, for two hours. Please check the Events Calendar online or contact Lisa Marshall. The first meeting will be on September 23.

Meetings/activities for September and October:

Sept. 6 (Friday) Talking Circle Event

Comox/Courtenay Road Trip: Kwalicum Crossing petrol station (700 Horne Lake Road); I-Hos Gallery (3310 Comox Road, Courtenay, V9N 3P8; ihosgallery.com); lunch in Comox or Courtenay; Courtenay Museum (207 Fourth Street, Courtenay V9N 1G7; courtenaymuseum.ca)
Mary Ellen is the contact person/coordinator for this trip.

Participants are responsible for own expenses. Participation will be at own risk.

Sept. 9 (Monday) CFUWPQ Members Meeting.

Lisa will have sign-up sheets for (1) those interested in receiving emails on Talking Circle meetings and events, and (2) volunteers for the Red Dress Displays activities (the U.N. 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, starting Nov. 25)

Sept. 16 (Monday) Red Dress Displays Volunteers Zoom Meeting starting 1:30pm.

Zoom call on preparation for the U.N. 16 Days of Activism (which starts on November 25). Attendance by those who want to help with the Red Dresses Displays in Parksville and Qualicum Beach.

Sept. 23 (Monday) Talking Circle Meeting starting 1:30pm

Meeting at Catherine's home.

Agenda: Report from the CFUW AGM on seminars/talks on Indigenous matters. Also discuss/decide Agenda for next meeting.

Sept. 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (CFUWPQ members are invited to find out why an orange shirt is worn on this day and to wear one).

Oct. 28 (Monday) Talking Circle Meeting starting 1:30pm

Meeting at Lisa's home. Also, collection of red dresses from Lisa, for cleaning/pressing, in preparation for the U.N. 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

Suggested Reading:

"Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips & Suggestions to make Reconciliation a Reality" by Bob Joseph with Cynthia F. Joseph (2019) (paperback ISBN 978-1-989025-64-2). Bob Joseph is also the author of "21 things you may not know about The Indian Act".

"A Knock on the Door: The Essential History of Residential Schools from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada". University of Manitoba Press (2016) (paperback ISBN 978-0-88755-785-9)

"From the Ashes: my story of being Metis, homeless and finding my way" by Jesse Thistle (2019) (paperback ISBN 978-1-982101-21-3)

"Halfbreed" by Maria Campbell (1973 updated 2019, paperback ISBN 978-0-771024-09-2)

“Unbroken” by Angela Sterritt (2023) (paperback ISBN 978-1-77840-214-2)

[Left to Right] Gerald Fuller, Dianne Anderson, Jacqueline Russell and Mary Ellen Campbell, standing in front of one of Gerald’s stunning photographs.



Summer Visit to the Pentlatch Gallery, Parksville’s Indigenous owned gallery dedicated to Indigenous Artwork. On July 12, 2024, members of the Talking Circle visited the new Pentlatch Gallery, at 552 Pioneer Crescent, Parksville (off Shelly Road; www.pentlatchgallery.com). It was wonderful to see all the amazing artwork so beautifully displayed, and to have a very informative discussion with Gerald Fuller, the owner. “At the Pentlatch Gallery we believe in the power of art to bridge cultural divides, foster understanding and promote reconciliation.” [from the Pentlatch Gallery’s brochure]

(Contributed by Lisa Marshall.)

Book Box Pickup Schedule and News Updates

Plans for this year's book sale, scheduled for Tuesday, October 1 to Sunday, October 6, are moving forward well.

Update from Sheila Reed and Erin Holmes: “Everything is going as planned. Information on the Sale will be sent out after the Book Sale Team Meets.”

Mark your calendars! See book box pick up schedule below.



(Contributed by Erin Holmes and Sheila Reed.)

APRIL 2024		MAY 2024		JUNE 2024	
Storage Coordinators	Sheila Jane	Storage Coordinators	Susan Deb	Storage Coordinators	Erin Claire
April 1 -7	Jacqueline R	May 6 -12	Janice	June 3 - 9	Christine
April 8 - 14	Barbara B	May 13 - 19	Liz	June 10- 16	Lisa
April 15 - 21	Dianne A	May 20- 26	Pat	June 17 - 23	Erin /Claire
April 22 - 28	Vicki S	May 27 - June 2	Valerie Tutti	June 30 -July 7	Valerie Tutti
April 29 -May 5	Shelley J				

2024		2024		2024	
JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
Storage Coordinators	Brenda Sheila	Storage Coordinators	Vicky J Vicki S	Storage Coordinators	Book Team
July 7 - 14	Mimi	August 5 - 11	Vicky/Vicki	Sept. 2 - 8	Carolyn R
July 15 -21	Val G	August 12- 18	Janice	Sept. 9 -15	Mary Ellen
July 22 - 28	Sheila/Brenda	August 19 - 25	Jackie W	Sept. 16 - 22	Book Team
July 28 - Aug 4	Jackie W	Aug 26-Sept.1	Sheri	Sept. 23 -29	Book Team
				Sept. 30- Oct 6	Book Team

2024		2024		2024	
OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
Storage Coordinator	Sheila Vicky J	Storage Coordinator	Erin Deb	Storage Coordinator	Susan Erin, Sheila
Oct. 7 - 13	Jennifer M	Nov. 4 - 10	Deirdre	Dec. 2 - 8	Maureen W
Oct. 14 - 20	June	Nov. 11 - 17	Jennifer	Dec. 9 - 15	Susan
Oct. 21 - 27	Nora	Nov. 18 - 24	Nora	Dec. 16 - 25	Erin
Oct. 28 - Nov. 3	Bonnie	Nov.25 - Dec.1	Bonnie	Dec. 26- Jan. 5	Sheila

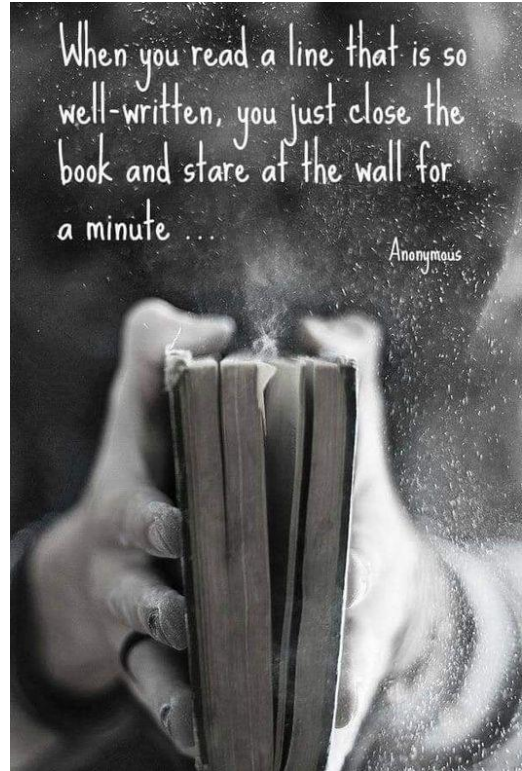
Thoughts and Smiles

Umberto Eco, who owned 50,000 books, had this to say about home libraries:

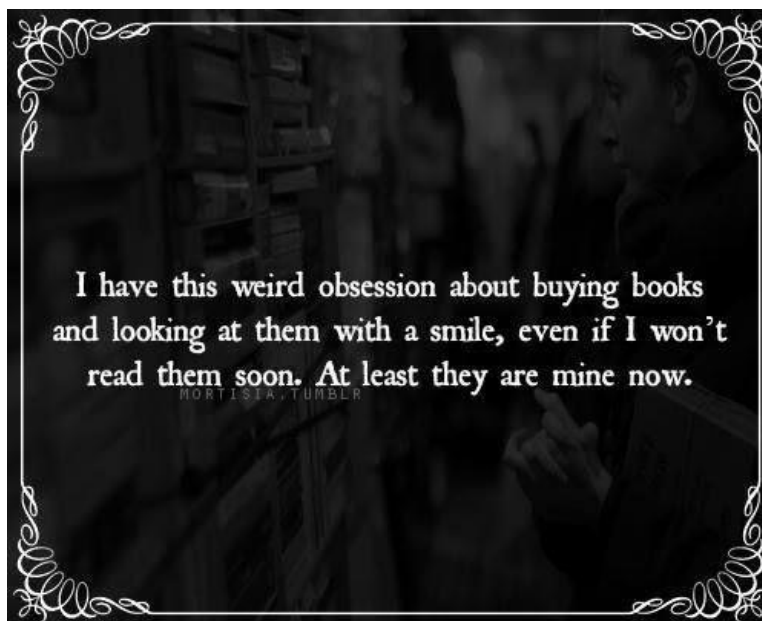
"It is foolish to think that you have to read all the books you buy, as it is foolish to criticize those who buy more books than they will ever be able to read. It would be like saying that you should use all the cutlery or glasses or screwdrivers or drill bits you bought before buying new ones.

"There are things in life that we need to always have plenty of supplies, even if we will only use a small portion.

"If, for example, we consider books as medicine, we understand that it is good to have many at home rather than a few: when you want to feel better, then you go to the 'medicine closet' and choose a book. Not a random one, but the right book for that moment. That's why you should always have a nutrition choice!



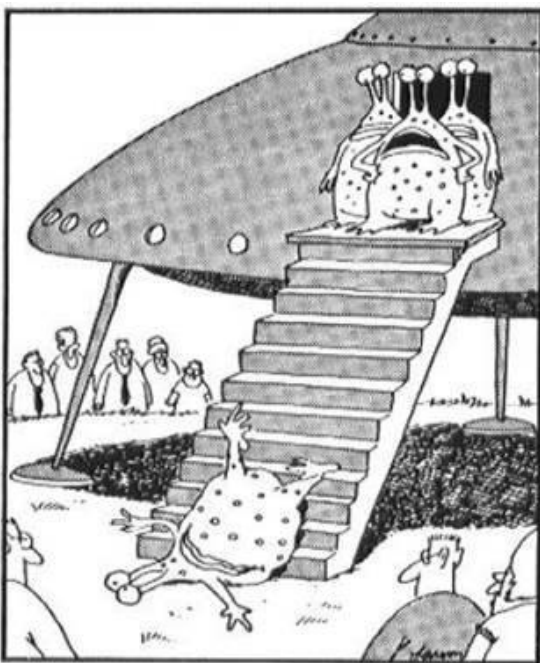
"Those who buy only one book, read only that one and then get rid of it. They simply apply the consumer mentality to books, that is, they consider them a consumer product, a good. Those who love books know that a book is anything but a commodity."



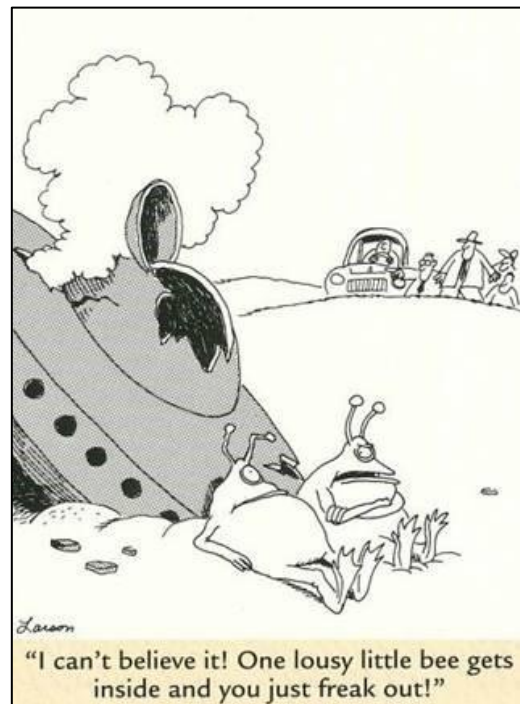
A truck loaded with thousands of copies of Roget's Thesaurus crashed yesterday losing its entire load. Witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, taken aback, stupefied, confused, shocked, rattled, paralyzed, dazed, bewildered, mixed up, surprised, awed, dumbfounded, nonplussed, flabbergasted, astounded, amazed, confounded, astonished, overwhelmed, horrified, numbed, speechless, and perplexed.

You've heard the expression that getting a group organized is like herding cats? Well, see this video and congratulate yourself if you succeed! See:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=herding+cats+video#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:bed4a20c,vid:YMrr4RnQ0Cs,st:0>



"Wonderful! Just wonderful! ... So much for instilling them with a sense of awe."



Laxson

"I can't believe it! One lousy little bee gets inside and you just freak out!"



DOVE BY UNIVERSAL UCC/UC



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WWW.UNIVERSALUCC.NET

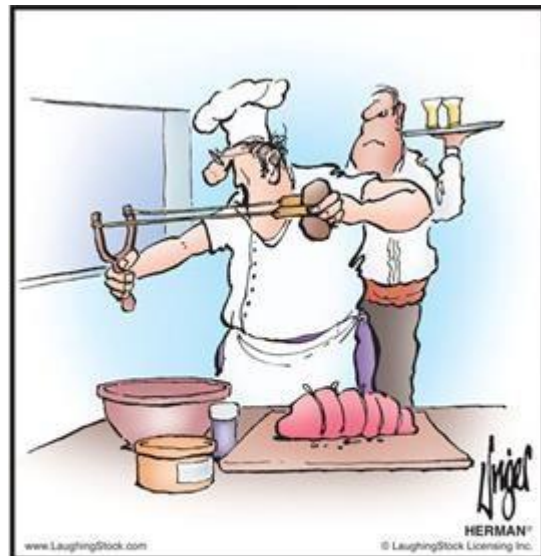
680-COMICS.COM/HUMOROUS/1008



I really think it's time to take the warning labels off of everything and let stupidity work itself out of the gene pool.

But, sometimes . . . a smile is good!

Finally, a wet floor sign that makes sense.



"Is the guy in the green jacket the one who complained about the baked potatoes?"



"Heel."

Book Clubs, Book Review

Quality Foods Parksville Book Lovers

No reading list given, as yet.

Shrinking Violet Book Club Tuesday August 20, 2024

Theme: East Asian, any genre

Gowda, Shilpi, 2012. *Secret Daughter* (Toronto, Penguin Random House Canada)

- Somer's life is everything she imagined it would be — she's newly married and has started her career as a physician in San Francisco — until she makes the devastating discovery that she never will be able to have children. The same year in India, a poor mother makes the heartbreaking choice to save her newborn daughter's life by giving her away. It is a decision that will haunt Kavita for the rest of her life, and cause a ripple effect that travels across the world and back again. Asha, adopted out of a Mumbai orphanage, is the child that binds the destinies of these two women. We follow both families, invisibly connected until Asha's journey of self-discovery leads her back to India. Compulsively readable and deeply touching, it is a story of the unforeseen ways in which our choices and families affect our lives, and the indelible power of love in all its many forms.

Vergheese, Abraham, 2009. *Cutting For Stone*

- A sweeping, emotionally riveting first novel - an enthralling family saga of Africa and America, doctors and patients, exile and home. Marion and Shiva Stone are twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon at a mission hospital in Addis Ababa. Orphaned by their mother's death in childbirth and their father's disappearance, bound together by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine, the twins come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution. Yet it will be love, not politics—their passion for the same woman—that will tear them apart and force Marion, fresh out of medical school, to flee his homeland. He makes his way to America, finding refuge in his work as an intern at an underfunded, overcrowded New York City hospital. When the past catches up to him—nearly destroying him—Marion must entrust his life to the two men he thought he trusted least in the world: the surgeon father who abandoned him and the brother who betrayed him. It is an unforgettable journey into one man's remarkable life, and an epic story about the power, intimacy, and curious beauty of the work of healing others.

Choy, Wayson, 1995. *Jade Peony*

- The novel features stories told by three siblings, Jook-Liang, Jung-Sum and Sek-Lung (or Sekky). Each child tells their own unique story, revealing their personal flaws and differences. Set in Vancouver's Chinatown the novel takes place during the 1930s and 1940s and among other events, explores the ways in which the Chinese and majority of Canadians once viewed the Japanese, especially during Japan's occupation of China during WW2 and in the events following Pearl Harbour. Other issues dealt with in this novel include the sense of belonging to a nation, and how young children of immigrants felt at this time, trying to find their identity when they were alien residents in Canada, but were not born in the same country as their parents were. They work to find their identity as Chinese Canadians, and find ways to either embrace being Canadian, or keep the Old China ways alive. This issue becomes especially important in the wake of their grandmother (called Poh-Poh or the Old One)'s death.

Badami, Anita Rau, 2006. *Can You Hear The Nightbird Call?*

- Set against the tumultuous backdrop of a fragmenting Punjab and moving between Canada and India, *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* elegantly moves back and forth between the growing desi community in Vancouver and the increasingly conflicted worlds of Punjab and Delhi, where rifts between Sikhs and Hindus are growing. In June 1984, just as political tensions within India begin to spiral out of control, Bibi-ji and Pa-ji decide to make their annual pilgrimage to the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest of Sikh shrines. While they are there, the temple is stormed by Indian government troops attempting to contain Sikh extremists hiding inside the temple compound. The results are devastating. Then, in October of the same year, Indira Gandhi is murdered by her two Sikh bodyguards, an act of vengeance for the assault on the temple. The assassination sets off a wave of violence against innocent Sikhs. The tide of anger and violence spills across borders and floods into distant Canada, and into the lives of neighbours Bibi-ji and Leela. *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?* weaves together the personal and the political – and beautifully brings the reader into the reality of terrorism and religious intolerance.

Harini, Nagendra, 2022. *The Bangalore Detectives Club*.

- The first in a charming, joyful cozy crime series set in 1920s Bangalore, featuring sari-wearing detective Kaveri and her husband Ramu. Perfect for fans of Alexander McCall Smith's *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency*. When clever, headstrong Kaveri moves to Bangalore to marry handsome young doctor Ramu, she's resigned herself to a quiet life. But that all changes the night of the party at the Century Club, where she escapes to the garden for some peace and quiet—and instead spots an uninvited guest in the shadows. Half an hour later, the party turns into a murder scene. When a vulnerable woman is connected to the crime, Kaveri

becomes determined to save her and launches a private investigation to find the killer, tracing his steps from an illustrious brothel to an Englishman's mansion. She soon finds that sleuthing in a sari isn't as hard as it seems when you have a talent for mathematics, a head for logic, and a doctor for a husband.

(Contributed by Christine Pagan, in Val Gunn's absence.)

Book Review of the Month

The Briar Club (2024) by Kate Quinn as of August 2024

Many of you are familiar with Kate Quinn's work, as I am, so when I saw this book (in paperback) on sale, I bought it. She most usually writes historical fiction and I have particularly enjoyed *The Alice Network*, *The Huntress*, *The Rose Code*, and *The Diamond Eye*. This book is set in Washington, D.C. from 1950- 1954, at the height of the 'Red Scare' and Senator McCarthy's crusade against Communism. Like you, I am familiar with the broad outlines of that time, but this book gives you a more intimate look at what it was really like to be a lone woman living and working in the America of the time.

It takes place in and around Briarwood House, a boarding house for ladies (respectable women only). The house has been subdivided into a number of very small apartments and tiny bachelor rooms. It houses seven women (one of whom has a child), the woman who runs it, and her two children. The latest arrival, Grace March, begins changing everything, ever so slowly. What had been seven dispirited single women becomes a community of supportive, caring friends (well, not quite completely). On Mrs. Nilsson (the landlady's) night out, Grace begins inviting everyone to her room for a drink of her sun tea. Then, she institutes a Thursday evening supper in her room, where each person takes it in turn to bring the main dish. She cautiously begins to paint the hideous walls with vines and flowers. She allows a stray cat in through her window. The house (an almost conscious character) notices the small changes.

Each of the residents is foregrounded, one by one, and we get to understand who they are, why they are in the house, and what troubles them. We begin to care about them. As well, the other people the residents know (like neighbours and boyfriends), allow us to better understand aspects of life at that time in that place and we learn more about contemporary conditions: prejudice against gay people, the difficulties of being black, the effect of the Korean conflict, the process and effects of wartime immigration, the end of the programs of wartime (such as the women's professional baseball league), the condition of the police and the FBI, the state of politics, the extent of criminal enterprises, and wariness of the Soviet intentions. That decade presaged change but the change is not complete. The same issues are persistent and could, again, become of deep concern.

Not only do we get a sociological and psychological profile of the people and the place, we get a recipe that is suitable for each participant. The recipes seem to arise effortlessly from the story, which may lead you to speculate on the value of food as a focus of community. You may reflect on food choices as an indicator of character and . . . find a new dish to make.

This scenic survey of the preoccupations and troubles of the time builds into one tumultuous Thanksgiving Day. It begins with a planned dinner for nine (since Mrs Nilsson is out) and, by the end, eight more people have arrived at the house. It is so chaotic that I re-read the chapter more than once. The excitement had led me on quickly and I realized I could not quite remember all the details of exactly what had happened! It was worth waiting for!

Fortunately, the author provides an epilogue set later (in 1956), to ease the tension. Her author's note specifically tells you to stop reading to avoid learning the biggest secret of the book if you have not yet read it. She also provides the biographical situation of some of the real people who inspired different characters. It was warm, interesting, and suspenseful.