



University Women's Club of Toronto

Celebrating 113 years

January 2017 Newsletter
Website: <http://www.uwctoronto.ca>

Upcoming Events



Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Elizabeth Smyth

Date: Monday January 23, 2017

Time: 12:00 noon

Reservation deadline: January 20, 2017

Phone: 416-979-2000 or email info@uwctoronto.ca

Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for guests

Convenor: Susan Le Roy 416-992-4114

Dr. Elizabeth Smyth, Professor of Curriculum Teaching and Learning and Vice-Dean at the School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, will speak about "From Cloister to Court: Women Religious in Canadian History."



Dinner Speaker

Dr. Charlie Keil

Date: Monday February 6, 2017

Time: 5:30 pm

Reservation deadline: February 3, 2017

Phone: 416-979-2000 or email info@uwctoronto.ca

Cost: \$40 for members, \$45 for guests

Convenor: Jane Hamer 647-342-3700

Dr. Charlie Keil, Professor of Cinema Studies and Principal of Innis College, is a lecturer with a specialty in American film, plus interests in directors as authors, documentaries and film stars. Dr. Keil will speak about film and all that it entails.

Membership Report

We welcome **Elizabeth Kennedy** and **Penrose McLeod Smith** to our club. We are looking forward to a great new year. Remember the best way to encourage new members is to speak to friends and neighbours. Tell them about all the wonderful things we have been doing and plan to do. The University Women's Clubs are different from many organizations in that we have outreach and are giving back to our community in the form of scholarships and grants to help in so many ways with the further education of girls and women. We also have interesting activities, wonderful speakers and a fabulous home base in the Faculty Club but it is our work in providing educational opportunities, which makes us different and very appealing.

Susan Freeman, Membership Director 416-488-5041

President's Message

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, or if it is over by the time you read this then I hope you had a wonderful holiday.

I will be a great aunt before 2016 ends and to another little girl!

2017 looks to be a great year with our speaker series and other events. International Women's Day in March and Inspire in April to name just a couple.

I hope and pray that 2017 brings you health and happiness.

Fondly,
Judith

First International Cuisine Evening



The first International Cuisine Evening was held on November 29th and I would consider it to have been a big success.

10 of us met at Pukka on St. Clair Ave. W. The food is fractionally Indian with a bit of a twist. The service was marvellous and our server Ladan was more than happy to share her knowledge of all the dishes, their degree of spiciness, what would be large servings and what dishes we could share. She was extremely helpful. All the staff were friendly and very customer service oriented. The butter chicken seemed to be the most popular dish ordered but there was also chicken tikka and lamb chop lollipops. The chilli chocolate torte we had for dessert was delicious. Our overall rating for this event was 4.5 out of 5.

Our next night out is January 18 and the theme is Italy! Hope to see you there!

Judith Lewis, President

Memorial Luncheon

It was a well-attended, thought-provoking event. Members from all six Central Toronto Clubs were moved by Dr. Janet Morrison's speech honouring the memory of the fourteen female engineering students who were killed in Montreal on that day, and applauding the *Ontario Sexual Violence and Harassment Action Plan Act* she and her colleagues are working to implement on Canadian campuses.



Dawn Whitmore, Jenny Beaty, Janet Morrison's niece, and guest speaker Dr. Janet Morrison

Christmas Dinner Party

What a joyous event it was. Well attended by members, husbands and guests, everyone got into the festive spirit with live music by *Gathering Sparks*.

After cocktails and a sumptuous turkey dinner, Rosemary recounted delightful memories held by 4 of our Past Presidents, and they were duly honoured. Mary Jo Leddy, founder of Romero House, then thanked us warmly for our support, explaining that the funds we'd raised would be used to purchase laptops, send children to camp, and purchase art supplies.

All in all, a heart-warming festive event.



Past Presidents: Deborah Maw, Dawn Whitmore, Madeleine Smillie and Harolyn Panetta

Our donations

At the AGM in May the membership voted to allow the Board to award up to \$10,000 in grants and donations to individuals and groups in need. Our mandate is to help girls and women with their education and, with that in mind, we started to explore possibilities.

The previous September we had started to discuss the Syrian refugee situation. Many groups were collecting donations or making arrangements to adopt a family. We felt that we could not practically adopt a family and we wanted to do something that was more involving of our membership than just collecting money. We wanted to learn more. One of our members suggested an organization named Romero House and as you know, the rest is history, as they say. We gave \$1000 to Romero House from our fund at the Fundraiser, Chopin and Champagne, on September 19th.

As you know our fundraiser was a fabulous success and everyone who contributed their time, efforts and money should feel great pride. Apart from our discretionary donation mentioned above, we raised over \$13,000 to help women and girls who are refugees with their education. (See also the follow-up from Mary Jo Leddy.) You can go to the website www.romerohouse.org.

We also decided that another of our priorities would be to investigate how to help with indigenous education. We already helped a wonderful student, Lindsey, from Iqaluit, with her expenses. She studies in Ottawa.

We decided to continue to help Lindsey until she finishes her education and to help another Iqaluit student, Mary, with the same arrangement. Both of these girls were recommended by their high school. They each receive \$1500 a term.

The remaining money is being donated to Indspire, an organization dedicated to the education of indigenous people. The students are chosen by a jury, formed by the organization. Our money will go to girls and women who have been selected by this jury. Our donation of \$4500 will be matched dollar for dollar by the Federal Government. You can go to the website www.indspire.ca to see the work they do.

Our speaker on April 24 is Sonia Prevost-Derbecker, the Vice-president of education at Indspire and we hope that the recipient(s) of our grant(s) will also be able to attend.

We are confident that this money, our \$10,000, is being put to good use and is given in the spirit you intended in allowing us to make these decisions on your behalf

Susan Freeman, Membership Director

Romero House

Our guest speaker at this year's Christmas dinner was Mary Jo Leddy, founder of Romero House. Mary Jo thanked our club for the incredible fundraising effort undertaken in September for the benefit of Romero House.



Mary Jo Leddy thanked us warmly for the funds we raised at our Chopin and Champagne Fundraiser

The team at Romero House intend to use the funds raised in a way that would honour our wish to support women and girls.

They have decided to purchase laptops, which would encourage women and girls to develop the skills they need to navigate their future in our Canadian culture. With any money that is left, the funds will be used towards registering young girls in March break day camps, which would enhance their language skills and other skills learned through music, leadership and art programs. Finally, Romero House staff plans to use the remaining funds for art supplies for the children's program that takes place once a week at their Centre.

In closing, Mary Jo expressed her thanks and sincere wish that our organization keep in touch with Romero House to share the talents of our members, which would be so helpful to newcomers to this country

Jane Hamer, Program Director 647-342-3700

SAVE THE DATE

Morning Book Group

Thursday February 2, 10:00am

Convenor: Jean Thomson 416-421-2732

Speaker Series

Monday February 6, 5:30pm

Luncheon Speaker: Dr. Charlie Keil

Program Director: Jane Hamer 647-342-3700

Valentine's Stop the Violence Breakfast

Monday, February 6, 2017 8:00-10:00 am at the Canadian Restaurant, Six Points Plaza, 5230 Dundas St. West., Toronto M9B 1A8 Tickets are \$30 and are available by calling 416-238-6664 or going to Eventbrite <http://bit.ly/2fkA7rQ>

Sponsored by Canadian Federation of University Women, Etobicoke in support of Ernestine's Woman's Shelter. The speaker is lawyer, Judith Wahl, from the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly. Surprised to hear that elderly women are also forced to seek shelter from violence and abuse? Come and learn more from this acclaimed speaker. Your ticket includes a full buffet breakfast. Buffet opens at 8 am. Judith speaks from 9:00 to 9:45. In just 2 hours you'll be well fed, better informed, and you will be supporting Ernestine's, one of Etobicoke's women and children's shelters.

UWC Saturday Afternoon Film Group

Saturday February 18 at the Varsity Cinema in the Manulife Centre. All UWC member are welcome! Movie TBA

Convenor: Dawn Whitmore 416-922-6659

International Women's Day Luncheon

Wednesday March 8, 11:30a.m.

A luncheon of all Toronto area

UWC will gather at the Faculty Club, 41 Willcocks St., to celebrate International Women's Day. Our speaker will be Jodie-Lynne Waddilove, Senior Counsel to the Police Services Board. A delicious lunch will be served. Tickets are \$50.00 and can be purchased from Deborah Maw or Rosemary Hales. We look forward to having you with us.

Convenors: Rosemary Hales 416-966-4227,

Deborah Maw 416-966-2856

2017 SPEAKER SERIES

We're already looking ahead to the end of 2017, and have lined up some fascinating topics to be presented by impressive people.

For a complete list, together with photos, click here: www.uwctoronto.ca

We'll be keeping you updated in the newsletters and on the website as speakers are confirmed.

Meanwhile, do mark these on your calendars:

March 8, 2017

Luncheon Speaker: Jodie Lynn Waddilove

Topic: Celebrating International Women's Day

April 24, 2017

Dinner Speaker: Sonia Prevost-Derbecker

Topic: Indspire: Educational Scholarships and Programs for Indigenous People

May 15, 2017

Dinner Speaker: Dr. Marcel Danesi

Topic: Puzzles and the Aging Brain

June 12, 2017

Luncheon Speaker: Donna Jean Mackinnon

Topic: Newsgirls: Gutsy Pioneers in Canada's Newsrooms

September 18, 2017

Dinner Speakers: Jim and Sue Waddington

Topic: In the Footsteps of the Group of 7 and Tom Thompson Paintings

October 30, 2017

Dinner Speaker: Dr. Adam Chapnick

Topic: Multiculturalism in Canada

Website

The website is constantly
being updated.

Do check it out.

www.uwctoronto.ca

January

2017

UWC & Faculty Club Events

UWC events in red, FC events in blue

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|-----------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 FACULTY CLUB REOPENS | 10 10:30AM DUPLICATE BRIDGE AFTERNOON TEA | 11 GOURMET BURGER WEDNESDAYS | 12 | 13 FRIDAY FISH AND CHIP SPECIAL | 14 |
| 15 | 16 MAC & CHEESE FESTIVAL | 17 10:30AM DUPLICATE BRIDGE MAC & CHEESE FESTIVAL AFTERNOON TEA 5:30PM BOARD MEETING | 18 GOURMET BURGER WEDNESDAYS MAC & CHEESE FESTIVAL 5:30PM INTERNATIONAL CUISINE | 19 MAC & CHEESE FESTIVAL | 20 FRIDAY FISH AND CHIP SPECIAL MAC & CHEESE FESTIVAL ROBBIE BURNS DINNER | 21 SATURDAY AFTERNOON FILM GROUP |
| 22 | 23 | 24 10:30AM DUPLICATE BRIDGE AFTERNOON TEA | 25 GOURMET BURGER WEDNESDAYS 5:30 EVENING BOOK GROUP | 26 OYSTERS AND JAZZ IN THE PUB | 27 FRIDAY FISH AND CHIP SPECIAL | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 10:30AM DUPLICATE BRIDGE AFTERNOON TEA | | | | |