



May 14, 2023



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**Change: n. Becoming or making other or different.
From my paper copy of The Pocket Oxford Dictionary**

Here I am again, a year later, still dithering about a topic for the President's bit in our Newsletter. As with last year, I am watching my feeders to admire not only the colours (always the colours first for me) of each species, but also to note aggressiveness, bullying, sharing, tenderness and patience. My picture isn't complete without a scurry (new word for me) of grey, black or brown squirrels, who not only race to grab the fallen peanut in the shell but also to be first to hang upside down to feast on my homemade suet cakes.

I dithered so long, I managed to advance into my last 2 count days for the 22-23 season (November through April). As I entered the last of my data, I thought – job over for this season. Speaking now to the birder, feeder or watcher members, I had to 'add a species' to my list to include a Baltimore Oriole. I think he has returned a little earlier this year.

In the past few weeks, change has forced trees, flowers and grasses into life we can appreciate. Colour is everywhere, except for about 2 dozen tulips which have had their heads removed with almost surgical precision. I have to consider a hungry critter and not an unaccompanied toddler.

Another change from last year is that the slate of officers has been filled already – a mix of 'old' blood and 'not-so-old' blood. We confidently approach our AGM and next year's agenda.

Ageism is another topic that concerns us all. The other day, a friend sent an email with the title 'The Elderly'. (not sure why she sent it to me) The premise centred around the changes in our lives, both those we are responsible for and also, those thrust upon us. There was an explanation as to how we lived through and witnessed more than any other age group in every dimension of life. People who had an analog childhood and a digital adulthood.

I recall a story my sister told of a co-worker who arrived in their staff room, telling them that she had had a bad scare that morning. Being concerned, they pressed for details. Apparently, when she was putting her jacket on, her mother's hand emerged from the sleeve. I, too, chuckled at the time.

Might not be so funny now.

I don't recall how old I was, but the first time a young clerk called out 'ma'am, ma'am', I turned right then left to see who was ignoring him. As I was the only one in line, I discovered it was me. My first experience of thinking that I am being seen as a ma'am. I'm not at all sure why some people in the service industry insist on addressing us as, dear, sweetie, hon or any of those teeth-clenching forms of address. Is it part of their orientation to annoy older women?

Change is built into our genes, but family, friends, critters and interests, help to keep the changes on the positive side.

*Bev Golden
President for April*



**YOUR VOTE AT THE AGM
MAY 24TH 2023**

Any member in good standing may vote at the AGM.

In good standing means that all dues and fees are paid BY the May General Meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact
Dian K, Membership Chair at
dkuzyk@gmail.com .

Marg

This month we said goodbye to Margaret Simpson, a long time member of CFUW Brantford. Marg died at Stedman Hospice on April 30th and her memorial service will be held on May 13th. Marg obtained her B.A. degree from McMaster University in 1983 and joined the University Women's Club of Brantford. She contributed greatly during her 40-year involvement. She was Chair of the Scholarship, Program and Social Committees and was a member of the committee that created the book *Significant Lives* in 1997 and the committee that produced the *Mentorship Directory* in 1989. Marg was also co-chair of the *CFUW Fall Gathering* which our club hosted in 2013 and was on the committee for the All Candidates Nights. Marg was a member of a variety of Interest

Groups: Book Club, Creative Cookery, Bridge, World Awareness, Film, Dining Out, Food with Thought. She will be receiving her 40 Year Certificate of CFUW Membership posthumously. Her obituary lists her many contributions to the community as well:

<https://www.mcclesterfuneralhome.ca/obituaries/Margaret-Grace-Simpson?obId=27846977#/celebrationWall>. Marg will be remembered for her positive attitude, her wonderful smile, her great sense of humour and her hearty laugh. Rest in peace, Marg. You will be missed.



Membership Renewal 2023 -2024

Spring greetings to our membership,

It's that time of the year to renew your membership for 2023-2024 in our Brantford CFUW Club. Our fees are remaining the same amount, just \$121.00, which includes our \$15.00 scholarship donation.

To make the renewal process a little easier for you, I am asking you to put your information by computer onto the Membership and Interest Group Forms that you received by email. Download and enable editing, save the documents with your name in whatever format you wish, and then email them back to me, Dian K., at: dkuzyk@gmail.com. We are hoping to go paperless eventually.

Regarding the statement for photograph use, if you do NOT give permission, you will have to sign the form manually. If possible, forward the completed Interest Group Form straight to: Roma M., romamakreel@hotmail.com.

Of course, you may bring the two forms to the AGM at Brantford Golf and Country Club on May 24th.

The last alternative is to mail or bring the completed forms to Roma and me.

Payment this year can be by e-Transfer directly to Maria T., Her email is mtimmons4653@gmail.com.

Or, you may bring your cheque to Maria at the AGM, or send or take it to her home at 40-11 Heath St., Brantford, N3T 0N7.

You certainly have lots of choices on renewal of your membership this year.

Learning this technology has been quite an experience for me, but I enjoy new challenges and I hope you do too. We are smart women and always open to new learning.

Cheers,

Dian K., Membership Chair



We are very pleased to welcome our 5 new members, Jill Ballantyne, Diane Bradley, Lee Ann Chan, Kate Gardiner, and Cookie Hadley.

Events

Annual Blue Lake Picnic

Wednesday, June 28th at the home of Pat Clemons

4:00 – 6:00 Swimming & Conversation

6:00 potluck meal

Please bring:

a Potluck dish

plate, cup, and cutlery

perhaps some wine

lawn chair

a bathing suit and towel for a dip in the lake (for the brave ones!)

DIRECTIONS:

- Go north on 24 toward Cambridge
- Turn left onto Blue Lake Rd.
- Follow for 3 km until you come to an open wrought iron gate on the north side – number 501
- Enter and follow the driveway
- Watch for a split in the drive
- Follow the centre drive to a white garage and house



Sunday, May 28th
10:00AM - 5:00PM

BRANTFORD

25+ locations
over 40
artists

free admission
holmedaleartcrawl.ca

QR code and social media icons for Instagram and Facebook.



Brant Visual Artists Guild

Spring Art Show & Sale

May 19th & 20th, 2023

Friday & Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

FREE ADMISSION

Glenhyrst Coach House
20 Ava Road, Brantford

www.brantartists.ca



Coronation of Charles III

[King Charles III's coronation: Replay the ceremony | CTV News](#)



Victoria Day, May 22, 2023

Interest Groups

Walking Group: We have two Walking Groups: those walking 90 min begin at 9:30 and those walking 60 begin at 10am. We aim to meet midway, then walk the rest of the way together and grab a coffee and chat together. The Trilliums were out. Such a beautiful day!



Monday Evening Book Club: We met at the home of Naomi K. to discuss the novel *Braiding Sweet Grass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

A botanist, the author weaves together her interpretation of Indigenous wisdom through folk stories and her own spiritual journey.

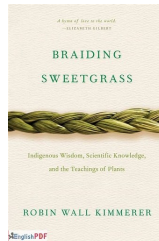


Woven into the braid are the teaching of plants to explain her view of life, beginning to end, showing how this knowledge allows the reader to focus on survival in our ever challenging world.

The third part of the braid is her interjection of scientific knowledge as she struggles to resolve and connect the scientific and spiritual world.

Overall, a fascinating read, although at times a little repetitive that could use some editing that would help to keep the reader fully engaged.

Lynda S.

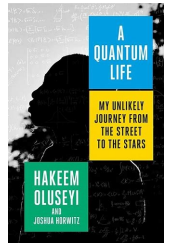


World Awareness: The World Awareness Group meets again on May 15th at 9:30 a.m. We have been exploring the issue of AI and its impact on us and universities.
Nora F.

Games Group: The Games Group met at Linda T's home on Monday April 23. We played Scattegories. We laughed the whole afternoon at some of the outrageous responses. It truly was good for the soul! Patti K.



Thursday Evening Book Club: Members of the Book Club met and discussed the book *A Quantum Life: My Unlikely Journey from the Streets to the Stars* by astrophysicist Hakeem Oluseyi and writer Joshua Horvitz.



In this inspiring and fascinating coming-of-age memoir, a world-renowned astrophysicist emerges from an abusive and impoverished childhood, a crime-filled adolescence, racial discrimination and bouts of severe drug addiction, to make it to the top ranks of scientific research and a PhD in Physics from Stanford University. The book was highly enjoyed by all members of the book club, and they voted unanimously and enthusiastically to recommend it to anyone who is looking for a good read. Janet K.

Dining Out: The group is identifying restaurants to consider as they develop the 2023-24 schedule. There are 22 members in our group. Some prefer dinner while others prefer lunch, so we vary the times when we dine out. Some have commitments every week, so we vary the times of the month and the days of the week in hope of accommodating all of the members most of the time. As a result, there are usually 8-14 members each month who enjoy good food and great conversation. We usually go farther afield in the good months and stay close to home in the snowy weather. We like to car pool, and believe the travel time is part of the socializing. We welcome new members.
Lin F.



I am still waiting for many **Interest Group Selection Forms** to come in. Even if you completed a listing for last year, one for this year is required. You may bring it to the banquet, drop it off at my house, mail it or send via e-mail to romamakreel@hotmail.com .

New Interest Group Suggestion

Tennis - If this appeals to you please let me know as soon as possible. Patti K. will be the contact/organizer.

Roma M., Interest Group Coordinator

2022 –2023 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT IN NAME:

- Elizabeth Capitano

PAST PRESIDENT:

- Lin Fines

ROTATING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM:

- Elizabeth Capitano—June, July, August, February, May Second 1/2
- Lin Fines—September
- Anne Martin—October
- Janet Kempster—November
- Maria Timmons—December, January
- Bev Golden—March
- Catherine Sawyer-April, May first 1/2

SECRETARY:

Lin Fines/Maria Timmons

TREASURER: Maria Timmons

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Advocacy:** TBD
- Communications:** Sandra Hughes
- Interest Groups:** Roma Makkreel
- Membership:** Dian Kuzyk
- Program:** Linda Tripp
- Scholarship:** Janet Kempster/Lynda Stamer
- Social:** Bev Golden



Thank you so much for recognizing my 90th birthday at our March meeting.

My relationships with CFUW members have really enriched my life. I look forward to more of the same. You are a great group of women!

Joan H.



Brantford Annual General Meeting and Banquet 2023

Location: Brantford Golf and Country Club

Date: May 24, 2023, from 4:15-9 p.m.

Ticket cost: \$65

Cash bar

Musical Entertainment: Dave Jensen

Buffet meal: The chef will address food allergies such as gluten and offer a vegetarian plate. Let the social committee know so we can alert the BGCC kitchen. (Some allergies may be beyond their scope)

Parking: We hope to have the golf cart available again this year to circulate through the parking lots for easier transport to the clubhouse. Ticket sales started at the March General meeting and will end on May 10. Payment can be via e-transfer to Maria T. or cheque (payable to CFUW Brantford) or cash given to Bev G.

Thank You!



Linda T. for stepping in to provide an interesting Program on World Vision Canada for our April General Meeting when the Zoom audio did not work for our speaker in Ottawa!



Many thanks to the Interest Group contacts and other club members who provide news and pictures for the newsletter. If you have updates about members concerning important family or personal events such as births, deaths, marriages, special celebrations to share with the members, send them to Sandra H.

If you have Interest Group updates and photos please send them to Sandra for the newsletter, Marsha S. for the webpage and Mary P. for the Facebook page. The due date for articles and photos for the June Newsletter is Friday June 2nd.



Dynamic Women Can Make a Difference