

Newsletter

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Volume 38, No 2
August 2024



Greetings from President Joanne Homik

As I write this I am enjoying time at our cottage in Manitoba. It has been a lovely summer with lots of family visits and time spent on the dock. This is truly my happy place! But it is time to start thinking about our upcoming year at the University of Alberta Women's Club. **This is the perfect time to renew your membership. See page 2 of this newsletter for the link to register online.**

In May we had our AGM and voted in the new board members. I want to thank Marilyn Wiens for the excellent work she did as President as she moved to the position of Past President. I also want to welcome Kimmie Chough to the board in the role of Vice President. This role is a three year commitment as the VP transitions to President and then Past President. We are still looking for someone to take over the Treasurer role from Lorraine Deydey.

In June we had a lovely celebration tea to honour longstanding members. We held it at the Crestwood Community Hall with tea and treats provided and served by the Board. See [page 6](#) for some wonderful pictures from that event.

In August, the board moved that **we stop producing a formatted directory** and instead make the Membership List available to members as a pdf document once a year in the fall.

The position of Directory Editor will be suspended.

The big kick off for the new year will be the Wine and Cheese Celebration on September 18th at the University Club. Here you will get a chance to learn about all the interest groups in the UAWC and sign up if you are interested. **A reminder that unless you are a member of the University Club, you can no longer park in the parking lot by the club. You need to use the Windsor Car Park instead.**



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UAWC Executive 2024-2025

President: [Joanne](#) Homik

Vice-President: [Kimmie](#) Chough

Past-President: [Marilyn](#) Wiens

Secretary: [Lynn Wolff](#)

Treasurer: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: [Nancy](#) Digdon

Membership: [Diane](#) Wishart

Programs: [Sheela](#) Hota-Mitchell

Publicity: [Cathie](#) Crooks

Website Editor: [Christine](#) Brown

Directory Editor: position suspended. See president's report on page 1.

We need a treasurer! Can you help us?

The treasurer maintains accurate financial records for the club. She pays bills, makes deposits, reconciles monthly bank statements, manages E-transfers, prepares financial reports and a yearly budget, and reinvests GICs as directed by the Executive.

Contact [Joanne](#) at president.fwc@gmail.com if you are interested in becoming treasurer or finding out more about this position.

Wine and Cheese Event

Wednesday Sept.18, 2024—(4-6 pm) at the University Club



Save the Date

Memberships and Renewals for 2024-2025

Thank you to those who renewed their membership at the AGM or have done so using the online form. We do encourage you to use the online form as it avoids long lines at the Wine & Cheese event on September 18 and reduces our workload too. Click [here](#) to register or go to the UAWC website <https://uab.ca/fwc> to access the online form.

Registration fees for 2024-25 will be \$60 with no early bird reduction. This year we've updated the online form to send you an email confirmation of your registration including all the details you entered. This makes it easy to check that you have registered and to double check your details, which will appear in the Directory exactly as entered online. If you have any difficulty with the online registration form contact one of the Board members (phone numbers are in your 2023-2024 directory) and we can complete it for you.

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Publicity Report by Cathie Crooks, Publicity Director

After the energy and excitement of rolling out our new logo, it feels a bit quiet on the publicity front. Things are percolating nicely, though, and the next event I'll be promoting is our wine and cheese event on September 18 from 4 to 6 pm — our primary way to encourage new people to join our wonderful club.

In terms of growing our club, the best method is a personal invitation. I encourage everyone to invite at least one or two friends to join UAWC this fall. I have been pitching our club to numerous friends and colleagues and there is interest, especially amongst women who are moving into retirement. With the boomer generation retiring, there are people looking for creative and stimulating things to do. So please keep spreading information about the club and don't forget to close each conversation with a call to action. "Will you come out to the fall wine and cheese to find out more? You'll enjoy good conversation and fellowship and snacks in a relaxed atmosphere at the University Club. The event is free. The Club is open to women who have attended or worked at the University of Alberta, as well as to spouses or partners of current or past University of Alberta employees. Attending the event does not mean you are required to join, but it's the best way to learn about the interest groups and get information about our activities"

By the way, our Facebook group now has 30 members. It's a lively and fun place to find out what is happening with various interest groups in a timely way. If you haven't joined yet, contact me: as a private group, you need to be invited by an administrator.

Please remember that I have a couple of posts written about the club that are perfect for LinkedIn or Facebook. If you are on either platform and willing to post something about UAWC, please contact me. That is another fine way to raise our profile.

With enthusiasm

Cathie Crooks

Email: publicity.fwc@gmail.com



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University of Alberta
Women's Club

2024

AGM

Dinner

Talk



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2024
AGM
Door
Prize
Winners



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Celebration Tea June 11, 2024



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Programs Director Report

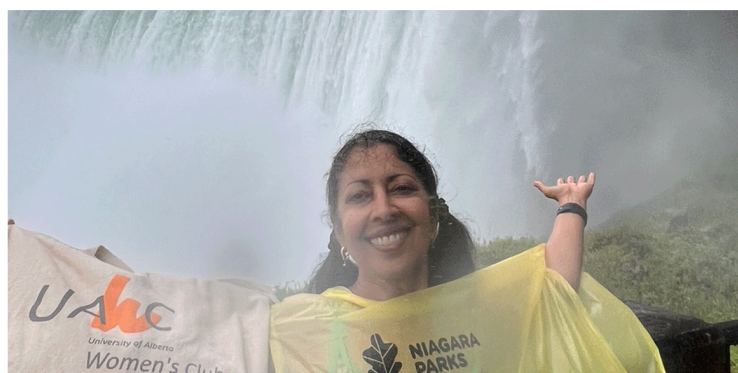
Sheela Hota-Mitchell

Our Spring 2024 programs were a huge success, as you can see from the fabulous photos in the preceding pages! The Programs Committee has been busy brainstorming and contacting people to set up informative and exciting events for our members this upcoming year. Please see the **proposed agenda** on page 8 and mark your calendars so you don't miss a single activity! Details will be communicated with you via email and our private Facebook page as we get closer to each event.

Do you have ideas and want to help us bring in other programs for our members? Let me know!

Oh, and don't forget that you can purchase our **UAWC swag** (insulated water bottle for \$25 and heavy duty cotton bag for \$10), which display our new logo. You can order them any time by contacting our publicity director (publicity.fwc@gmail.com) or me (program.committee.fwc@gmail.com). We will hook you up with the gear!

Check out where I've taken the UAWC swag bag— wine-tasting in Niagara; behind Niagara Falls; Arva Flour Mills (the oldest operating water-powered flour mill in North America); the beaches of PEI; rainy Halifax harbour; downtown Toronto; Banff, Muttart Conservatory; San Jose and Monterey, Calif. Where will ~your~ swag take you?





University of Alberta

Women's Club

PROPOSED PROGRAMS, 2024-2025

Date	Event
Sep 18, 2024	Wine & cheese membership evening @ UC
Oct 5 or 6	"Fall Fossils by Foot" with Chris Schneider on UofA campus
Late Oct	*Edmonton Litfest event (to be chosen)
Nov 26	Mactaggart Collection tour with Isabel Chueh, and optional coffee outing (1-3 pm) TENTATIVE DATE
Nov 29	Mactaggart Collection tour with Isabel Chueh, and optional dinner outing (4:30-6 pm) TENTATIVE DATE
Jan 14, 2025	"Helping Hands" at UofA Campus Food Bank (6-7 pm)
Feb 3	Collecting Culinaria tour at Bruce Peel (1-4 pm)
Mar 2	Bunco (social parlour game) at UAlberta (2-4 pm)
Mar 25	*Spring "Lunch and Learn" @UC (11:00-1:30; speaker TBA)
Apr	*Outing to RAM or art gallery
May 6	*AGM dinner & talk on women's heart health @ UC (5:30-9 pm; Dr. Padma Kaul)
Jun	Celebration Tea (2-4 pm)

*Programs requiring individual ticket purchases

CONTACT: program.committee.fwc@gmail.com

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Welcome by Vice-President Kimmie Chough INTEREST GROUPS 2024-2025

Greetings! I wish to bring your attention to our interest groups – various mini communities within our UAWC community. These groups contribute so much to us and make our club unique. The obvious reason to join is to take part in activities that you are passionate about. As well, the groups offer opportunities to meet other UAWC members, And they are great people — words that come to mind are vibrant, active, beautiful, interesting, young and not-so-young.

Here, we provide information from all active interest groups. As well, there are many other interest groups that went on hiatus due to pandemic restrictions. At one time, we had 29 interest groups. Many of them have yet to find new conveners who will re-energize the group to make a glorious comeback.

How can we revive the groups or make existing ones even more interesting and active? It's no secret; sign up, show up and volunteer when you can. Yes, volunteer. Even though volunteers often say they want to "give back,"

many soon find they are receiving rich rewards, either directly or indirectly. In particular, the Cookbook group and Play reading group are looking for a convener or co-conveners. There are many others as well, which may have been waiting for your passion and interest, including Spanish conversation club, Skiing club, Theatre matinees club, Tennis club, Quilting, Newcomers, International movies, FWC2.0, Epicurious lunching, Gourmet dining, Bridge, Mall walkers, Art gallery tour group. **Please contact me to ask questions, offer your help, start a new group, or just chat about what might be possible.**

I will do my best to work with all conveners and our executive to improve our overall experiences. Please come to the Wine and Cheese Registration Event in September. This is your chance to kick off a great year for UAWC. See you then!

Board and Other Games

Convener: Kimmie Chough

We meet once at month at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of the month at a member's home. You can attend every month or skip a month.

Members bring the games they like to play and explain the rules. We, then, choose a game that interests the majority. We can divide into groups and play different games if we have the number of players required for each game. No experience is necessary. Possibilities are endless.

Hope you will join us!



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Evening Book Club

Convener: Karen Bain

Evening Book Club involves many women who have participated in this interest group for a number of years and continue to enjoy new literature as well as keeping up with current events and literary trends through selection of both fiction and non-fiction choices. We will use a “hybrid” meeting model again this year, by gathering in person on September 19, October 17, April 17, May 15 and June 18. We will meet on Zoom on November 14, December 12, January 16, February 20, and March 20. This provides more variety, and reduces going out on cold, dark nights. We are also balancing the dates a bit to equalize the time to read between meetings.

Our first meeting, September 19, will be a discussion of the book *Half-Light: Westbound on a Hot Planet* by Amy Kaler. This book was published by University of Alberta Press, and UAWC member Cathie Crooks has arranged for the author to join our meeting that evening.

We also selected *The Book of Rain* by Thomas Wharton this year. We are hopeful he will be available to join our meeting when we discuss his book. Often, we include University of Alberta Writer-in-Residence in one of our meetings as well.

Other meetings will include discussions of a book by Alice Munro, *Permanent Astonishment*, *Philomena: A Mother, Her Son, and a Fifty-Year Search*, as well as the books, *The*

North Star, *An Embarrassment of Mangoes*, and *The Code Breakers* which were selected at our June meeting. A schedule will be available at the Wine and Cheese event or by contacting Karen Bain at kebain@telus.net or 780-436-6339.

We would be delighted to welcome new members. This interest group was organized by women who worked full time or had difficulty meeting during the day. Book discussions are richer when participants have a range of life experiences and opinions. Consider joining us this year!



Walkers with Waggers

Convener: Marilyn Gaa

Meets Mondays at 10 am in Terwilliger Park year round

We are a small friendly group who enjoy taking our dogs for a brisk one-hour hike in this lovely river valley park. The dogs have fun together exploring the trails off leash and we get exercise and share interesting conversations along the way. We meet every Monday, unless it is a major holiday, and enjoy the changing landscape in four seasons. We welcome you to join us, even if you don't have a dog. On your first visit, contact Marilyn Gaa at 780-432-7660 or marilyngaa@telusplanet.net so that we can watch for you.



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Reading Circle

Convener: Orla Ryan

The reading Circle is a relaxed, informal type of book club. We meet once a year in either September or October. Over a cup of tea/coffee and some snacks, we briefly review the previous year's books, which ones were enjoyed and which ones were less popular. We then go on to decide from the suggestions submitted for the upcoming year, which books the majority would like to put on the short list. The convener then works with the short list and purchases the books to be circulated during the year.

The books are then distributed to the group, the cost being shared among the members. At the end of each month, the books are passed on so that by the following September everyone has had a chance to read all the books. We read a wide variety of genres including fiction, biography, history and the odd mystery. This is a lovely way to have a different book delivered to your door each month and sometimes a chance for a short visit while passing on the book. At the September/October meeting, we draw for the books from the previous year so each member gets a book to keep. This is also wonderful value as for the price of one book you can read 9, 10, or 11 books depending on the number of people in the group.



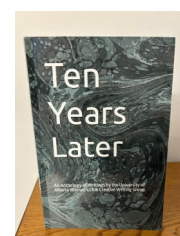
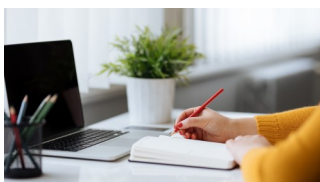
Creative Writing

Convener Marilyn Gaa

Meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm (year round)

Members of the Creative Writing group enjoy submitting stories and poems for supportive discussion and critique. Meeting in members' homes, we begin sharing personal conversation over bag lunches and snacks

At 1 pm we take turns sharing prepared comments on the work that has been received by Email a few days before. Some members are prolific novelists, others simply enjoy the creative expression and follow their instincts with guidance and encouragement. Our group has published two anthologies that have been widely read and well received.



2023 anthology

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Movie Group

Convenor: Donna Gorday

The Movie group attended several movies in theatres this past year. We also watched two online over the Christmas break and then met to discuss them in January. We attempt to sample different genres of films. Some are just for fun whereas others are Oscar contenders/winners or portray a more serious current event topic.

We watched the following movies in 2023-2024: *Big Fat Greek Wedding 3*, *The Holdovers*, *Argyle*, *Maudie*, *Black Narcissus*, *Stitching Palestine*, and *Short Films on Racism in Edmonton*.

The Movie group is off for the summer and resumes in September. The plan is to select a movie or two from the Edmonton International Film Festival (EFF) which runs from September 26 to October 5. If you would like to join email [Donna Gorday](mailto:Donna.Gorday@ualberta.ca) or sign up at the Wine and Cheese event.



Drawing Together

Convenor: Margot Wanke

Since March, our Drawing Together group has continued to meet every fourth Tuesday of the month. We gathered to enjoy each other's company while concentrating on drawing whatever each one of us chose to depict. Even if more than one person chose the same object, each person's drawing of it reflected their unique interpretation. We learned from each other when we compared the various styles. Since the March 2024 newsletter, we have met on Tuesday at 1:30 pm on the following days: March 26, April 23, May 21, and June 25, either in a member's home or at the University of Alberta Club. We are always happy when we get new members.



Bella by Marilyn Wiens

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Cross Country Ski Group

Convenor: Marilyn Wiens

I am the new convenor of this group. This winter we will ski from December to March as permitted by the ski conditions.

We have great options for skiing right in the city with Mayfair, Victoria, Riverside and Goldbar presenting terrific options. Farther afield, we can talk about going to Devon and Strathcona Wilderness Centre. I am open to suggestions. I am planning a weekly weekday ski as well as occasional weekend ones. As always, it is snow and weather dependent. If it is too icy, cold or miserably windy, we don't go. But usually, the week will present some good options. I love setting up a meeting time and place because then we can mark it in our calendars and reduce the likelihood of inadvertently getting double-booked.

I am hoping to see some old and new friends when the snow arrives.



Lunching Out Group

Convenor: Joan Hube

The Lunching Out Group has taken advantage of the wonderful multicultural character of Edmonton. We have been meeting every third Wednesday of the month at a variety of restaurants

Our year began cautiously with lunch in the patio of the University Club during the summer. Then we have gone to the Highlands Golf Course, with its lovely view of the greens; Varsity Grill, so popular with the young crowd; the University Club for its Christmas Lunch; Yokozuma Japanese Restaurant; Beijing Beijing during Chinese New Year; Belgravia Hub, a favourite with this group; Sicilian Pasta Kitchen; and finally, to Glenora Park, a senior's residence that is Joan Hube's home. We will finish the year back at the University Club .



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The Garden Group

Convenors: Patricia Pederson and Marcia Becov

The Garden Group continues to meet monthly from April until September and often again in December to see the seasonal display at the Muttart Conservatory. We try to get to the various gardens and garden shows in the Edmonton area. Some of the gardens we visit, and often at different times of the spring and summer, are the University of Alberta Botanic Garden and the St. Albert Botanic Garden as well as the Muttart. Other highlights are the Orchid Show and the Edmonton Horticultural Society Garden Tour. Edmonton has much to offer those who enjoy gardens or gardening and we welcome anyone who wants to join our adventures.



Walking Group

Convener: Linda Weiner

Every Thursday morning, a small but enthusiastic group of ladies from our Walking group met at a designated trail head at 10 am. Most trail heads offered us several different paths from which we could start our walk. Our walks generally lasted an hour and a half. Several times we went for coffee at the end of the walks; that was always a special treat. We encourage others to come and join us on our enjoyable walks.

For many years Marcia Bercov has kept a picture record of our walks and has written many delightful descriptions of them. She has always emailed the photographs and summaries to the whole group; both the photographs and the summaries were appreciated by all, but especially by the ladies who could no longer walk with us.



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ZUMBA GOLD

Convener: Sheela Hota-Mitchell;

sheela@writeonscience.com

Are you looking for ways to improve or maintain your:

Cardiovascular fitness?

Balance and coordination?

Joint mobility?

Mental well-being?

Come to the livestream UAWC Zumba Gold classes on Tuesday mornings at 9 am! Class always starts with a little on-screen chat with anyone who arrives early, then we begin our “exercise in disguise”: a thorough warm-up and nice cool-down/stretch/balance work, sandwiching a playlist of songs that includes rhythms like salsa, merengue, Cumbia, Reggaeton, Afro-beat, Bollywood, tango, flamenco, soca, swing...you get the picture! Sometimes, I have a holiday class where you can dress for the occasion and enjoy some themed songs and matching Zoom backgrounds. And some days, Mr. Cat graces us with his presence and antics.

If you are worried that you are not a dancer, or don't like group fitness, I'd like to change your mind! In Zumba Gold, you will always find a variety of moves that you can modify to suit your needs and abilities. You can even sit in a sturdy chair and get a good workout. Since we operate over Zoom, you are free to turn your camera off during class and move to the music without anyone watching (although, I prefer to “see” you on screen to assess how you are faring). While I do appreciate attendees' donations to help off-set my costs and prep time, I am happy to have you come to class if that isn't possible.

I offer Zumba Gold classes year-round, so you can keep doing your happy dance winter, spring, summer and fall! You can join the group anytime during the year (including non-UAWC members, so bring a friend), so what's stopping you? Give yourself the gift of fun and fitness wrapped up in one, and join the Zumba Gold gang!



ZUMBA GOLD
TUESDAYS AT 9-9:45 AM
ZOOM CLASS



-Attendees' donations (to off-set my costs and prep time) are appreciated, but not necessary.

-Link to the class (every Tuesday at 9AM, MST): <https://tinyurl.com/MonZMB>

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Knitting Group

Conveners: Linda Sorenson and Valerie Wasylishen

The UAWC Knitting group meets the 1st Monday of the month from October to June. We meet in members' homes and share the projects we are working on in a "show and tell" fashion. With the advent of many lovely new yarns — wool, cotton, silk, linen, bamboo, and blends— being available through the internet and new local yarn shops, the variety of garments and patterns are very interesting and motivating. After show and tell, coffee/tea and a snack is served, as we discuss knitting trends and fashions.

This past year we concluded the year with a visit to Little Blue, a knit shop at 6718-101 Ave NW, Edmonton. The owner, Kim, led us through a mini felting class in which we made a ladybug. Afterwards we had a lovely lunch at Little Brick, in Riverdale.

New members are welcome and there is always an experienced knitter available to help those who wish to learn or improve knitting techniques. Our next gathering will be October 7 from 1:30-3:30 pm at Linda Sorenson's home (597 Stewart Cres.). Contact Linda (780-920-9359) or Valerie (780-434-3613) if you have questions.



Mystery Book Circle

Convener: Jean Frost

The Mystery Book Circle consists of up to 12 members who wish to explore the intriguing fictional world of mystery and murder. Should more than 12 members be interested, a second circle can be formed.

We meet once in the fall to propose books and authors. We usually start reading in October, passing on our book at the end of each month and receiving the next book. An attempt is made to make the exchange of books as convenient as possible.

The cost of the books is shared and is usually between \$20 and \$30 per person.

I would be interested in passing the role of convener onto another member this year or next year, should someone want to take on the role. You can reach me at jean_frost@yahoo.com or at 780-862-1943.



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Golf

Conveners: Bonnie Austen and Donna Gorday



We golf Wednesday mornings with some dozen players including husbands of members as well. We play nine holes and appeal to those with some golf experience. Let us know if you would like to join in the fun. While we book on a weekly basis, it is understood that we live busy lives and will not participate every week.

What You Can Learn From the Pros to Get Ready for Golf Season:

1. Develop a strong strength training routine; 2. Winter cardio is key; 3. Schedule putting practice; 4. Swing as often as you can; 5. Go for a golf club fitting; 6. Regrip your golf clubs; 7. Brush up on rules; 8. Set a goal for the year.

If you have some golf experience and would like to join this lively group, come and join us.

French Conversation Interest Group

Convener: Sarah Nyland

This small group resumed after the pandemic by meeting a few times in 2023-2024.

In the upcoming year, we plan to meet on Wednesdays at 1:30-3:30 about twice a month between October 2024 and April 2025. The actual dates will be determined when we meet after the UAWC September Wine and Cheese Event.

To facilitate discussion at our meetings, we use primary articles from the monthly magazine, *L'Actualité*. We take turns reading and translating articles as well as chatting in French about any topics of interest. We aim to become more proficient, relaxed and comfortable communicating en français.

New members are most welcome to join us. You can contact me at 780-433-2211 or sarah.nyland@gmail.com



This Newsletter will be posted on our website. You can learn more about Interest Groups [here](#).

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Couples Who Cook

Convener: Peggi Ferguson-Pell

Meets: Usually on Saturdays from 6—8 pm in members' homes.

This autumn, *Couples Who Cook* will be starting its 16th year of offering delicious food in the warm and friendly social settings of our homes. We pick a theme, set a menu, and our diners each make one of the dishes. It's a great way to meet and get to know people - and you truly can't beat the food. Please know we have a very loose definition of **couples** so it can be you and your spouse/partner, or you and a friend, or you and a family member, or you and ?, the point is - we look forward to having your company at our dinners.

And those who read the newsletter know I say this repeatedly - remember – **everyone** is welcome in CWC – there's no pressure – if you can make it to lots of dinners – great – if you can only make it to one (or sometimes none!) during the year – that's also fine because there's always a place waiting for you at the CWC table – please don't be shy - especially if you are new to our U of A family. Please send me an email or give me a call – we would love to hear from you – and we are especially eager to hear all your great suggestions for our 16th year of amazing, fun and enticing CWC dinners!

And just to whet your appetite - this past year we had some wonderful dinners including a *maravilloso* Tapas Party during a bit of a snowstorm in March. Since it's always a great time for a tapas party (and who knows how long this summer will last), here are a few of the recipes we used on the night:

Bacon wrapped dates stuffed with goat cheese and almonds

[Bacon Wrapped Dates Stuffed with Goat Cheese and Almonds - thekitchen](#)

Chorio of Vino Tinto

[Chorizo al Vino Tinto Recipe \(Chorizo in Red Wine\) - Spanish Sabores](#)

Warm Olives

[Warm Olives with Rosemary, Garlic and Lemon Recipe - Marc Murphy \(foodandwine.com\)](#)

Fried Goat Cheese with Honey

[Fried Goat Cheese with Honey - Spanish Sabores](#)

We also found this **very easy** dipping sauce which turned out to be delicious on everything we dipped in it - which was just about everything! Make it in the morning so the flavours have time to blend - this is a keeper for summer dinners for sure - try it on chicken! We left out the chili pepper, but it still had a nice kick with the garlic and cum-in, and we made it smooth; serve at room temperature:

Dipping Sauce

[Easy Mojo Verde Canario \(Canarian Green Sauce\) - The Fiery Vegetarian](#)



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Afternoon Book Club 1

Conveners: Joanne Homik and Karen Doucet

Thank you to Jeanette Fedorak, our exiting Convener. She has shepherded our group these past two years. As per our tradition, we have revolving conveners, each person taking the responsibility for a two-year term.

After a lovely and lively potluck lunch at Bev's, we made our book selections for the coming 2024-2025 year. And the winners are: 1. *The Art Thief* by Michael Finkel; 2. *Hotel du Lac* by Anita Brookner; 3. *This is Happiness* by Niall Williams; 4. *A Calamity of Souls* by David Baldacci; 5. *The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester; 6. *North Woods* by Daniel Mason; 7. *Elephant on Karlov Bridge* by Thomas Trofimuk; 8. *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt; and 9. *End of Men* by Christina Sweeney-Baird. The usual eclectic selection of titles!

We meet once a month in a member's home, between 1:30 pm and 3pm-ish. The host prepares some light snacks and coffee/tea. The book is presented by a designated member and then everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the discussion. With such a wide variety of personal experiences, the group often has very interesting perspectives to share.

Our afternoon book club has grown to full capacity. We regret that we cannot welcome new members at this time; however, we can establish another afternoon group for other members interested in an afternoon book club. And please do contact us if you have questions about books or the logistics of running an afternoon book club. We are happy to assist you. Look for the sign-up for **Afternoon Book Club 2** at the Wine and Cheese event in September.

Afternoon Book Club 2

This is an exciting opportunity to forge friendships based on a shared love of books. Members of the second book club will select the books and determine where, when, and how often they wish to meet. Everyone is welcome. If demand exceeds capacity, we will establish multiple groups. Look for our sign-up at the Wine and Cheese or contact [Nancy Digdon](#), who has volunteered to convene or co-convene this group. We hope you can join us.



Newsletter

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Play Reading Group

Convener: **Vacant**

Report prepared by Christine Forth



The Playreading Group ran for many years until it was sadly forced out by the pandemic and lockdown in 2020. The group was very popular and enormous fun. Although would-be actors were of course welcome, most of us had no theatre or acting experience but just enjoyed taking a stab at reading amusing and entertaining plays in the company of a group of friendly and enthusiastic women. And of course, every meeting ended with delicious snacks, animated discussion and lots of laughs.

I am no longer able to convene this group but would love it if someone new could take it over. I would return as a keen member.

Becoming a convener of this group is simplicity itself. Norma Gutteridge was the long-term convener before me and she compiled a list and several boxes of photocopied plays, which are ready to be distributed to members. Convening the group would be just a matter of getting the group together to choose the plays from the list, and the hostesses for the year, and then sending out reminders each month.

Cookbook Club

Convener: **Vacant**

This group prepares and eats various dishes from a selected cookbook. In the past it met in the evening once every 6 to 8 weeks in members' homes. Contact [Kimmie](#), the Vice-President if you are , interested in establishing this club anew.



In Loving Memory

Elizabeth (Betty) Smith died on June 2, 2024, in Edmonton, Alberta.

Born in Ontario in 1929, Elizabeth met her husband there and, during the early years of their marriage, supported the two of them by working at General Electric, the Royal Ontario Museum, and the University of Toronto while he went to school. Her husband ever afterwards credited her, in so doing, with having built the foundation for their future shared life.

The Smiths moved west in the 1950s, living first in Calgary and then settling in Edmonton, where their daughter was born. In the 1960s, Elizabeth worked for the Allied Arts Council and Clarkson Gordon. Appreciated by friends for her warmth and natural ease, Elizabeth was an active member of various organizations, including the Garneau Community League, Walterdale Theatre, the Junior League, the Faculty Women's Club, and the Women's Committee of the Symphony.

Predeceased by her husband and her three siblings, Elizabeth is survived by her daughter and her daughter's partner, some special friends, and her nephews, nieces, and their families.

In keeping with Elizabeth's wishes, private cremation has taken place.

No fire, nor rust can spend or waste

One dramme of gold, but what was first shall last

(John Donne)

