

The Woman's Club of Washington University



Meet

Give

Live



While the Woman's Club of Washington University is not able to host in-person events due to COVID-19 restrictions, our members have not been deterred!

The Annual Elizabeth Danforth Butterfly Garden event was held via Zoom on September 22nd. Co-Chairs Lee Anne Quatrano and Elena Maksaeva created a wonderful visual tour of the garden, showing off the hard work of the volunteers who planted and weeded and worked with University staff on several projects. You can read more about this event on page 5 of this newsletter and visit the Woman's Club website to see the presentation.

The New Member Group, headed by Iris Malone and Emily Harrison, along with Sarah Fowler-Dixon and a wonderful team from University Advancement, made the 9th virtual Annual Campus Tour a reality. We learned more than we thought possible about the East End Project. There was a nice question and answer session with comments from Dr. Judith McKelvey and Dean Quatrano. Many thanks to the University Advancement team for creating and hosting this informational presentation. You'll find more information and a link to view the presentation on page 5.

Executive Committee

Judith H. Joerding
President

Susan Pierce
Director, Educational
Programming

Nancy Thompson
Director, Membership

Sarah Fowler-Dixon
Director, Communications

Barbara Feiner
Director, Service
to the University

Linda Smith
Finance Chair

Connie Stout
Recording Secretary

Lisa Schmidt
Treasurer

Karen Johnson Fields
Immediate Past President

Nancy Dunaway
Administrative
Coordinator
(314) 935-7085



The Woman's Club of
Washington University

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you, your family, and friends are well and safe. To say this year is an anomaly is a huge understatement. However, with the change in some opportunities, there is a chance to try something unique and explore new horizons. Please continue to read the updates through our e-blasts sent out by Nancy Dunaway for the most up-to-date information, as we attempt to keep in contact with all our members, including phone calls and mailings.



In this fall season, our thoughts turn to giving thanks and gratitude. Dr. Tim Bono, Assistant Dean for Assessment and Analytics at Washington University, tells us in his book, "Happiness 101", there are 4 tips to become happier now: 1) find something to be grateful for, 2) make progress towards a goal, 3) do something to take care of yourself, and 4) reach out to connect with others.

To all of you, we thank you for your renewed membership. Our Board continues to meet via Zoom to create new ways for us to continue to stay connected and offer opportunities for friendship, learning, and service. A special thank you to our many creative members who have volunteered their time and expertise to bring interesting alternative events to all of us.

Here are only a few things for which we are grateful:

- G** Grateful for our great members and groups
- R** Risa Zwerling Wrighton Scholars and scholarships
- A** Affirming attitudes through friendships
- T** Thanks for your thoughtfulness and taking care of others
- I** Inclusive Interest Groups who discover new ways to meet
- T** Time to reflect and to call and email members
- U** Universal understanding and University support
- D** Dedication to learning and service
- E** Energy with our Executive Board, Elizabeth Gray Danforth Butterfly Garden, and events

I recently received this wish from a friend who said her Irish grandmother quoted this often:

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright
 I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.
 I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive
 I wish you enough challenges so that the smallest joys in life appear bigger.

Member Spotlight

Karen Johnson Fields

by Suzanne Doyle

When Karen Johnson Fields opened her front door to me for this interview, she smiled broadly then gasped, realizing she had forgotten her pandemic mask (offering a glimpse—rare these days—of her bright, vibrant face). She apologized sheepishly, then again for her gait, only slightly hesitant, as she convalesces from recent knee replacement surgery. Clearly she had been working strenuously in physical therapy as she led a tour of her four-level townhome. She steadily climbed past paintings, prints, and other mementos from the months she taught in China in 1993 and from her travels around the globe—South Asia, Southeast Asia, South America, and Europe, including Spain, where she walked El Camino de Santiago for five days, a hike that became a moving pilgrimage.



She also showed me large burlap Icelandic wool banners, hanging in the stairwell, boldly designed pieces she cross-stitched while she and her young family lived in Denmark for six months. Passing a sewing nook, she was reminded of her wedding dress and going-away outfit she created herself. A table on a landing held a sports history book that her eldest daughter, Sarah, wrote. Family photos displayed throughout spurred stories from her grandparents' emigration from Sweden to the addition of her four grandchildren. In her kitchen, Karen noted a small ceramic tray she saw being assembled in a small Cambodian shop. The entire home is a portrait of Karen Johnson Fields and what she values: reading—books are everywhere—and lifelong learning, the arts, and family (blood kin and chosen).

Although she has broadened her landscape by thousands of miles, Karen has lived primarily in the Midwest. She grew up in Iowa, the youngest of three siblings, then attended Augustana College, a Lutheran school in Rock Island, Illinois, where she met her husband, Wayne Fields. After five years in Chicago, where Karen taught English, and where Wayne earned his graduate degrees at the University of Chicago, they moved to St. Louis. Here Wayne joined the Washington University faculty in the English department, as teacher then chair; then as Dean of the University College, director of the American Culture Studies program, and co-founder of the Danforth Center on Religion and Politics. Partners at home and in work, the two divorced after 37 years.

Karen developed her own career, first as a Special School District teacher for homebound and hospitalized students. She earned a M.Ed. at UMSL and became a reading specialist. After her official retirement from the District, she taught at a St. Louis Hills parish school. Her own children, have made rich lives of their own: Sarah is a professor in Colorado, married to an epidemiologist. Elizabeth—“a poet,” Karen noted, lives in St. Louis. She works in special education and, with her husband, is raising their son, Jacob, and, first, their daughter, Sarah, who died at age four from cancer following a heart transplant, and now to their adopted five year-old African-American daughter, Mathilda. Karen's son, Aaron, works in architectural design; he, his wife, and their two children live in Minneapolis.

The story is not complete, of course, without mentioning Karen's relationship with the Washington University Woman's Club. About seventeen years ago, she was invited to join the Club by long-time member, Annaliesha Hanebrink. She has loved the Club: “Such talent in this group, [women who are so] stimulating and exciting.” She enjoyed serving as President from 2016 to 2018 and continues to contribute as Interest Group Coordinator; she also plays and learns in the *Out and About* and *Galleries and Sights* groups. She considers the Woman's Club family as she does her church, where she once served as congregation President; the congregation supported her children as they grew up without extended family in town. She is also the class representative for classmates at Augustana.

If Karen wore herself out during this conversation, trekking up and down stairs and decades of her life, it wasn't apparent. She seemed buoyant, determined to strengthen her body as she invests her spirit and intellect. Our country is at a critical juncture, she declared, and wants to offer what she can to promoting community, within her already large family and beyond, for years to come.

Upcoming Virtual Events 2020

VIRTUAL FALL SYMPOSIUM LUNCHEON LECTURE

Via Zoom

Wednesday, October 28, 2020 1 p.m.

"Reckoning with the Past: the Story of Archer Alexander"

Presented by Laurie F. Maffly-Kipp

Archer Alexander Distinguished Professor at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics

Interim Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Washington University in St. Louis

What is the connection between the Emancipation Memorial in Washington, D.C., and Washington University? The statue, erected in 1876, funded by money donated by former slaves, designed and commissioned by whites, features Abraham Lincoln towering over a kneeling and shirtless African American man with broken shackles around his wrists. The sculpture of the freed slave is based on the visage of St. Louis resident Archer Alexander. It was Wash U's founder, William Greenleaf Eliot, who made sure that Alexander would be represented in the Memorial. Hear more about the life of Archer Alexander by noted historian Laurie F. Maffly-Kipp, holder of the only chaired academic position in the U.S. named after a fugitive slave other than Frederick Douglas. Laurie will walk us through how Alexander came under the care of Eliot and how the Emancipation Memorial came to represent Alexander.

To receive a Zoom link for this lecture, you MUST RSVP. RSVP's will be accepted until 12 p.m., one hour before the start of the meeting. Please email Elena Maksaeva at: elena.wcwu@icloud.com.

You will receive a link for the lecture prior to the meeting. Prepare a lunch to enjoy and join your WCWU friends for a fabulous presentation by one of WashU's own!

VIRTUAL PAST PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 29, 2020 - 11 a.m.

This is an annual event only for past presidents of the Woman's Club of Washington University.

This year the event will be held via Zoom.

If you are a past president of the Woman's Club of Washington University, please join your fellow past presidents for a casual lunch time meeting. Prepare a lunch to enjoy while you catch up with others who share your passion and commitment to the Woman's Club.

Questions and to RSVP: Contact Pat Sarantites: (314) 862-6615 or sarantites@gmail.com.

To receive a link to this Zoom event, please RSVP by October 28, 2020

RECENT EVENTS

ELIZABETH DANFORTH BUTTERFLY GARDEN TOUR AND PRESENTATION ABOUT THE FOREST PARK OWLS

This event was held via Zoom on Tuesday, September 22, 2020

The spectacular Elizabeth Danforth Butterfly garden was the subject of our annual tour, held via Zoom. A slide show and lovely video tour of the garden preceded a presentation on the owls in Forest Park by Mark H.X. Glenshaw, a WU graduate and Certified Missouri Master Naturalist. Over 60 people attended the presentation, including many WCWU members and their families and friends of the club locally and further afield! For those of you who were not able to attend or would like to see the video again, please go to the Woman's Club website at <https://www.womansclub.wustl.edu>. Click on Service Activities at the top of the screen and then click on the Elizabeth Danforth Butterfly Garden (the beautiful butterfly will guide you!)



Many thanks to the Little Dig Volunteers. Led by Elena Maksaeva and Lee Anne Quatrano, Co-Chairs, Marty Einig, Debbie Kemp, Suzanne Langlois, Tedi Macias, Sarah Stauffe and Carolyn Woodsmall. We offer special recognition to our WU partners, Chris Anderson, Cody Azotea and Mary Ann Dill. All of these remarkable people planted and weeded or offered advice and assistance and helped with the owl platform installation. We are grateful for the 16 benches from the Sam Fox School! Please watch the video to see the results of their hard work!



9th ANNUAL CAMPUS WALKING TOUR FEATURING THE EAST END

This event was held via Zoom on Wednesday, October 7, 2020

More than 25 WCWU members and friends of the club, including **Dean Quatrano** and **Dr. Judith McKelvey**, enjoyed a historic tour of the East End project via Zoom on October 7th. Hosted by the Woman's Club New Member Committee and emceed by **Elizabeth Embree**, Director of Capital Project; Major Gifts, the tour was a fabulous history lesson of the East End of campus presented by **Jane Kojima**, Director of Communications, Facilities Planning and Management. The presentation began with an introduction by Woman's Club member **Emily Harrison**, who gave a history and summary of the club and then Jane gave the history of the East End from beginning to the present. Also instrumental in promoting and creating the presentation were WCWU's New Member Committee members **Iris Malone** and **Sarah Fowler-Dixon** and also **Lizz Gunn**, Associate Director of Capital Projects and **Cassie Long**, Associate Director of Capital Projects. Our many thanks to everyone who helped make the very first virtual tour a success!



Were you not able to attend the tour? Would you like to see it again or show it to friends and family? Please type this link into your browser and watch the video as much as you'd like! Thank you, again, to Cassie Long, Associate Director of Capital Projects, Major Gifts for her expertise in creating the video and providing this link:

<https://youtu.be/Wa1wtOq8yEA>. If you would like the link emailed to you, please email Emily Harrison at emily.harrison@wustl.edu.

IN MEMORANDUM

Tribute to Dr. William H. Danforth, Chancellor Emeritus of Washington University



Nationally and internationally, Dr. Danforth was known for his leadership at Washington University for 65 years through challenging times and fostered its international reputation for scholarship, research, higher education, social work, and medicine.

Every one of us has a special memory of "Bill". For our Woman's Club in particular, he was a strong advocate who always attended as many events as his busy schedule permitted with his gentle smile, outstretched hand, and greetings for all. Always by his side, his wife, Ibbey, was so beloved by our members that the Elizabeth Gray Danforth Butterfly Garden was named in her honor in 1996.

Besides his leadership and civic engagement, known affectionately to the students as "Chan Dan", he consistently and tirelessly worked to forge alliances and positive relationships with students and their families. Always a welcoming presence on campus, students took pride in having their pictures taken with him. For more information about his incredible life and times, please visit the website: www.rememberingbilldanforth.wustl.edu.

The word legacy is often an overused word. However, in this case, the word fits the man, his mission, and his life well-lived. He was an extraordinary man who personified and lived the tenets of generosity, humanity, and kindness to everyone. He will always be defined as a wonderful role model who inspired the best in all of us. The legacy left by his passing is immeasurable.

COURTESY NOTES

Coxe, Mary "Polly" age 84, passed away peacefully May 9, 2020 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Memorial gifts may be made to Animal House, Cat Rescue and Adoption Center, 2151 59th Street St. Louis, MO 63110 (Polly loved and adored cats) or The Saint Louis Art Museum's Tribute Fund.

Aach, Janet R. May 14, 2020. Beloved wife of 65 years to Richard D. Aach, MD. Contributions in Janet's memory may be made to the charity of your choice.

Dante Coco, (grandson of WCWU member Evie Shucart). Donations can be made to Christine's Fund, St. Louis Children's Hospital, 1001 Highland Drive West, St. Louis, MO 63110.

Maria C. Michaelides September 29, 1929 – May 20, 2020. Maria suffered from the debilitating effects of PXE (pseudoxanthoma elasticum), a rare illness which eventually deprived her of her eyesight.

Shirley Mae Soule, May 7, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Herbert Henry Soule. Memorial contributions preferred to Central Reform Congregation, 5020 Waterman Blvd, 63108.



SAVE THE DATE

RISA ZWERLING WRIGHTON SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT LUNCHTIME PRESENTATION

This event will be held via Zoom on Friday, January 29, 2021, 11 a.m.

More information about this event will be sent as details are formalized. Watch your email!

Questions: Contact Co-Chairs **Paulina Conner:** (541) 241-0288; jpaulinad@gmail.com, or

Betsy Lawlor: (314) 406-3795; elizlawlor@gmail.com

Contributions

Contributions to the **Risa Zwerling Wrighton Scholarship Endowment Fund** were made by the following individuals this year. Thank you for your generosity!

Debbie Aumer
Marcia Bernstein
Carole Bever
Paulina Conner
Annaliesa Hanebrink
Mary Johnson
Adele Kaplan

Gini Lappas
Jackie Lipsitz
Audrey S. Mathews
Phyllis Markus
Judith Hood McKelvey
Bella Packman
Patty Padawer

Amanda Schoonmaker
Sylvia Kalachek Silver
Emily Smith
Linda Smith
Billie Teneau
Phyllis Tirmenstein

Contributions to the **Elizabeth Danforth Butterfly Garden Fund** were made by:

Marcia Bernstein
Gayle Fritz
Jan Kardos

Sara C. Loyet
Ingrid Lützelzer
Nancy Thompson

Isabel Van Essen
Ellen A. Wallace
Risa Zwerling Wrighton

Membership Recognition

These Members renewed their membership at the Sponsoring Level or higher. Thank you to the following individuals for their special support of the Woman's Club:

Andrea Atkinson
Assimo Azariadis
Paulina Conner
Barbara Feiner
Karen Johnson Fields
Margaret Israel
Judy Joerding
Catherine Krucylak

Betsy Lawlor
Charmaine Leonard
Jennifer Luner
Lee Anne Quatrano
Linda Smith
Celia Sutera
Anabeth Weil

Did You Know?

- Susan Gobbo was recently honored by the St. Louis Women of Achievement for her work within the Multicultural Enrichment area. Past Woman's Club recipients of this honor have been Margaret Israel, Risa Zwerling Wrighton and Adrienne Davis.
- Pat Owens had total knee replacement at BJC on September 18, 2020. Her husband is president of the BJC Emeritus Physician's Group (which meets on ZOOM) until December 2020.
- Both the *Writing and Arts and Crafts* groups have continued to meet – outdoors -- with social distancing (as required by WUSTL.)
- The Evening Literature group meets virtually each month, and vibrant discussion erupted last month about the book *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett. (See p. 47 in your Handbook if you are interested in joining their discussion about *Educated* by Tara Westover in October.)
- The Afternoon Literature group hopes to begin meeting in January. How the sessions will be conducted depends upon the COVID-19 situation that month.
- The Canasta and Bridge groups manage to meet either through Zoom or online twice a month. The drawback for them is having no peanuts or M&M's!
- Jennifer Luner recently rode in *Bike MS* to raise funds for the National MS Society. The goal, of course, is to create a world free of Multiple Sclerosis. She is currently working for the St. Louis County Election Board through the November election.
- Karen Johnson Fields' daughter Sarah, who spoke at our last year's Fall Symposium Luncheon (at *yet*), was named 2020 Teacher of the Year in the College of Arts and Science at the U. of Colorado (Denver.) She has her JD from WU.
- The International Women's group has met a few times on Zoom and had a delightful get-together on June 23rd for a *Walk in the Park* at Forest Park. While the participants didn't really walk, they enjoyed standing in a large circle and visiting while keeping their distance.

CORRECTIONS TO 2020-2021 HANDBOOK

- Ellen Norris has replaced Maureen Wulf as RZW Game Day co-chair
- Charmaine Leonard has replaced Cathy Krucylak as Edison Theatre co-chair
- The date for the Edison Theatre event on page 30 is incorrect. No date has been set
- Elena Maksaeva has a new email. It is elena.wcwu@icloud.com

Please refer to the enclosed addendum for additional member information and new addresses since the handbook was published.

50 YEARS AND COUNTING

The following members have belonged to the Woman's Club of Washington University for more than 50 years. We've included the year they joined.

Marcia Bernstein	1967	Jan Kardos	1967	Katherine Sandel	1964
Gretchen Felix	1964	Audrey Mathews	1965	Sylvia Kalachek Silver	1968
Alice Gutsche	1946	Juel Niland	1957	Carolyn Stern	1963
Betty Hudgins	1959	Rose Marie Salisbury	1957	Nancy Thompson	1965

THIS AND THAT ...

Many of our members have busied themselves with various activities during the COVID-19 quarantine and subsequent limited social activities. Here are a few of the things your WCWU friends have been doing and learning:

Paulina Conner participated in the The Greater St Louis 1 Million Mask Drive. She personally made almost 1,000 masks. There is no longer the shortage we experienced earlier in the pandemic. She also made some large macramé wall hangings and found it surprisingly meditative to take perfectly good yarn and tie it up into knots!



Janice Berg is volunteering for Vote Forward. She is writing letters to unregistered and low-propensity voters encouraging them to vote in the election.

Assimo Azariadis is enjoying Zoom and meeting with her family and fellow WCWU members and recommends Zoom to everyone!

Sarah Fowler-Dixon has been able to grow friendships with neighbors. She enjoys the feeling of community as she watches the families in the neighborhood ride their bikes and wave “hello” to all the neighbors.



Barbara Feiner enjoys her daily walks with her rescue dogs. It is a great chance to be outdoors every day!

Jennifer Luner is working with the St. Louis County Board of Elections.

Janet Y. Jackson has become a pro at planning her supplies for this time of quarantine and has “mastered” online shopping!

President Judy Joerding has been creating watercolor greeting cards, gardening and playing games on Zoom with her grandchildren. She is also teaching in the WashU Education Dept.

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN

Washington University in St. Louis has many opportunities for learning virtually. Please visit the following websites for more information:

Lifelong Learning Department: <https://osher.wustl.edu/>

Virtual Connections: <https://alumni.wustl.edu/alumni/association/>. These events require registration to receive a Zoom link. At this time, programs are planned through October.

The Brown School has a variety of presentations and webinars on the calendar. For a list of upcoming events, and to register, please email profdev@brownschool.wustl.edu and request a list of upcoming events.



Upcoming Events at a Glance

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| October 28, 2020 | Virtual Fall Symposium Luncheon |
| October 29, 2020 | Virtual Past Presidents Luncheon |
| November 5, 2020 | Virtual Executive Board Meeting |
| November 26, 2020 | Thanksgiving |
| December 3, 2020 | Virtual Executive Board Meeting |
| January 29, 2021 | SAVE THE DATE! Virtual Risa Zwerling Wrighton Scholarship Endowment Luncheon |

In following the in-person meetings set by Washington University in St. Louis, the Woman's Club will not host any in-person meetings until March 2021 at the earliest. This protocol may change and the membership will be informed as to when we can meet again together.

womansclub.wustl.edu