



Canadian Federation of University Women – Ottawa



Capital Carillon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ELIZABETH WILFERT

"Butterflies are like women – we may look pretty and delicate, but baby, we can fly through a hurricane."

– Betty Marion White Ludden (Jan. 17, 1922 – Dec. 31, 2021)

We are indeed proving we can weather any storm tossed at us. COVID might have thrown us for a loop, but our membership numbers are getting back on track. As of December 2021, we have a total of 417 members, with 355 renewing, 47 new, and 15 returning after a hiatus... compared to December 2020 with a total of 389, of which 353 renewed, 32 were new, and four returned after a break. A big thanks to Karen Shigeishi-Waite, VP Membership, and the Membership Team for all their hard work and effort!

We had three terrific New Members Welcome Meetings in November, where we introduced them

to many of our Board and Advisors and discussed a number of options available to them in the way of interest groups and Board Volunteer Teams. We also demonstrated how to get the most out of our website and where to find our social media pages. We will be hosting another Welcome Meeting at the end of January or beginning of February and inviting those who have just joined more recently. If you missed this opportunity when it was your turn and are interested in participating this next time, please drop me a line. We would love to have you join us.

I want to thank all of you who participated in our first Scholarship

Trust Fund Giving Tuesday, on November 30th. We received \$5,730 in donations, which will go to both scholarships and bursaries. The best part, however, was that this amount was matched by one of our very kind

(see **President** on next page)

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Rideau Falls in late December. Photo courtesy of Pat Duffey.

President – continued

Ottawa Club members. She wishes to remain anonymous, but we cannot thank her enough for her generosity.

You may not know, but Dianne Dodd, one of our club's members, authored a book entitled *Our 100 Years, The Canadian Federation of University Women* to commemorate this milestone in the Federation's history. It is an excellent account of CFUW and its members throughout the past 100 years and presents a broad perspective of the issues and events that shaped the past century of the Women's Movement and CFUW's involvement and changes over these years. The book is available through Second Story Press in Toronto and can be purchased online at <https://second-storypress.ca/adult/our100years>.

Finally, I would like to thank Jane McGann for her service to our club as its archivist for the past year and a half.

The job of the Archivist is to collect materials that have historical significance for our Ottawa Club and take them to The Department of Archives and Special Collections (ARCS) at the University of Ottawa. U of O Archivist Marie Noël has processed and made available The University Women's Club of Ottawa / Canadian Federation of University Women (Ottawa) fonds (10-119) for those members interested in our club's history. You would be able to access the full description of the archival fonds in the online database: <https://biblio.uottawa.ca/atom/index.php/university-womens-club-of-ottawa-fonds>.

I wish you all the best in this new year. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Wetlands in Ottawa Environmental Action Group

At the November meeting of the Environment Action Interest Group, Dr Nick Stow, Senior Planner of Natural Systems and Rural Affairs for the City of Ottawa,



provided members with information on the importance and status of wetlands within the city of Ottawa.

Many of us are familiar with wetlands as places where we enjoy nature's beauties and benefit from outdoor recreation as we walk, bike, canoe, or ski in these areas. In addition to offering us a wonderful place to enjoy the outdoors, the wetlands are also important in maintaining the biodiversity of plants, insects, birds, and other species. Dr. Stow talked about beaver, which had virtually disappeared from this area due to logging, agriculture, and forest fires. The return of wetlands over the years has allowed beavers renewed viability in Ottawa. While their presence is not issue free, current approaches are to manage the beaver population, only removing them where and when they cause substantial problems or damage.

Some of us might also be aware that wetlands help prevent or alleviate flood damage. The wetlands are a natural sink for water from snow melt and heavy rainfall.

Dr. Stow also mentioned the role of wetlands in carbon storage. This may be an "at-balance" issue,

as a significant amount of new carbon is unlikely to be stored in swamps or fens, but at least the existing level of storage is maintained. However, in peat bogs such as at

Mer Bleue, not only is significant carbon already stored, but peat continues being laid down at the rate of a millimetre per year.

Current threats to wetlands include agriculture, aggregate mining, and urban development. These are managed under provincial wetland-protection laws. About 50% of Ottawa's wetlands are deemed provincially significant; a Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO) or an Environmental Assessment would be required for them to be developed. Others are protected under Ottawa's natural-heritage policies, which pursue a no-negative impact on features or function. The City of Ottawa also attempts to identify areas where wetlands can be enhanced or restored.

Dr. Stow let us know that we can participate in the stewardship of wetlands by joining organizations such as the conservation authorities, the Greenspace alliance of Ottawa (greenspace-alliance.ca), and Ducks Unlimited. He reminded us that we can also work through our municipal councillors to support Ottawa ecological systems.

Beth Doubt

A Message from the Holiday Party Committee

While we missed many of the pleasures of not being able to gather in person at our annual Holiday Party, with a lot of imagination we were able to keep spirits bright on Zoom.

Barbara Newbegin has now posted the PowerPoint presentations, the Garden Club video, and the Zoom recording on the website: under the Member-only tab, in the section for Club presentations — sign in, click [here](#) and scroll down.

Catherine, our competent and festive MC, led us through a great evening of music, songs, stories, group presentations, power points, an auction, and door prize draws.

Comments afterwards showed how our spirits had been kept bright. A few examples:

“I really loved the Holiday Party. Thanks so much to the group who planned and presented it to us.”

“The ‘outside’ singing groups to the ‘massed’ MadriGals, stories shared, door prize draws and group presentations all together made a very special holiday atmosphere.”

“Last Monday’s party was fabulous — the stories well told and each different. The music chosen might have broken the budget without Zoom, and that rocking *Auld Lang Syne* with Rod Stewart ... !”

“Please extend my congratulations to the whole Party team for planning and executing a lovely celebration!”

Thank you and kudos to

- The Holiday Party committee - Patricia Duffey, Catherine Smith, Barb Newbegin, Mary Broderick, Elaine McKnight, and Alice Bolt;
- The MadriGals, directed by Elizabeth Dickson;
- The donors of the two auction items - Mary Broderick and Alice Bolt - and the winners - Elaine Grimsey and Sheila Macdonald;
- The individuals and groups who donated the lovely door prizes;
- The storytellers — Alison Hobbs, Kathy Whittaker, Sandy Macpherson, Kati Lyon Villiger, Rosemary Carter, and Leith DeTracey;
- The interest groups who contributed presentations — the Garden Club, Diplomatic Hospitality, the Wine & Spirits group, and the Environment group;
- The interest groups who

showcased their recent activities on PowerPoint;

- And to each of you and your friends who attended.

We’re hoping that we can return to the in-person Holiday Party at the RA Centre next December, but if not, we do know how to organize and achieve a wonderful Zoom event.

The committee members wish everyone a happy, safe and healthy 2022!

Alice Bolt and Pat Duffey

In Memoriam - Alice Kautz



Alice passed away at Ottawa Civic Hospital on 30 November 2021 at the age of 91. Born near Edmonton, Alberta, Alice was a professor of home economics at the University of Saskatchewan and a proud homemaker in Ottawa. Alice was active in the club some years ago. She was a keen hiker and used to belong to a Monday hiking group.

The **Capital Carillon** is published monthly from October to May, except for January.

Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

Please send all material for the next issue to Moira Phillips, newsletter@cfuw-ottawa.org.

Next issue: March 2022; deadline for submissions: February 15

Previous issues are archived on the Club website at www.cfuw-ottawa.org.

Women With Hammers

Joining this lively group will give you the opportunity to learn

- How to fix, replace, and install items in our home or build creations with the right tools;
- What to ask a potential contractor and how to successfully work with one;
- Where to get materials or tools at reduced prices;
- Through hands-on workshops (when safe) and Zoom from experts;



Permission granted from Ottawa Tool Library to use photos from their website. <https://ottawatoollibrary.com>

The Women with Hammers members range from those with no experience to DIYers. Everyone learns something new at each presentation. Workshops and tours will occur when it is safe; meanwhile, knowledgeable speakers, the majority of them women contractors and businesswomen, have been presenting via Zoom.

On Wednesday, January 12th,

Karen Vejprava, Manager of Habitat for Humanity’s Trainyards ReStore, showed the group pictures of the store and discussed:

- finding lighting, tiles, wood, tools, paint, cabinet handles, flooring, countertops, furniture, and everything else you might need to fix or renovate your home;
- finding new and used materials plus tools (hammers to table saws) at a reduced price; and
- working with Habitat for Humanity to learn and develop building skills alongside other volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity ReStores are home- and building-supply stores that accept and resell good-quality new and used building materials, which generates funds used to support Habitat for Humanity home-building projects.



Permission granted from owner to use pictures from her web site www.wandawoman.ca

Next Presentation: Contractors: How to Choose and Work Successfully with One.

Join us at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, for this very in-demand topic!

For more information, contact co-convenors Eugenie Prevost and Christine Rollo at womanwithhammers@CFUW-Ottawa.org

Eugenie Prevost/Christine Rollo

Indian Horse (on Netflix) – A Movie Club Review

The plight of Saul Indian Horse comes alive and the relentless nature of the system in which he is caught up — from the residential school system, to the physical and emotional abuse suffered there, to the tauntings and racial slurs and violence he endures when he tries to make it in hockey — is a terrible indictment of the treatment of indigenous people in the society of the day. Even though as a hockey player he is obviously superior to his taunters and abusers in the mainstream community, he cannot make it in their world – because they won’t let him.



Kringen Henein

Environment Action Update

In December, Laurel Carlton, an environmental activist and mother of a baby whose future is at risk from the climate crisis,



met our group to discuss why individual actions matter, giving suggestions for taking action at a “systems” level and encouraging us to rethink our habits as consumers and investors. Taking action empowers us, she said, making us feel less paralyzed.

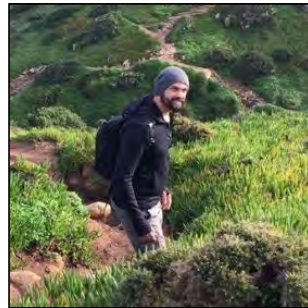
Since meeting our group, Laurel has decided to join CFUW-Ottawa and help with our environmental education and activism! We warmly welcome her to this interest group, in particular, and to the Club in general.

At our well attended public meeting in January, two guest speakers, Ashley Cheslock and Meike Woehlert, of the City of Ottawa’s



Environmental Services updated us on Ottawa’s Master Plan for waste management, explaining the current garbage disposal and recycling process. They encouraged everyone to visit the Engage Ottawa website, an opportunity for us to influence decision makers.

At our next meeting, **1:30 pm on February 21st, 2022**, Arin de Hoog, Senior Communications Officer for Wetlands International and a former press officer for Greenpeace, will join



us from Amsterdam to describe the COP26 talks and the role of environmental NGOs in today’s changing world. If you want to know how to “communicate with strategic intent” (as he puts it) please join this public meeting and bring a friend! Email: environment@cfuw-ottawa.org.

Alison Hobbs

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

February 7, 7:00 p.m. by Zoom – General Meeting: Archaeology on NCC Lands

March 7, 7:00 p.m. by Zoom – Scholarship Trust Fund (STF) Awards evening

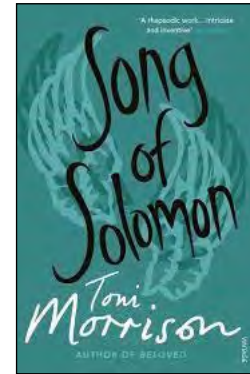
April 4, 7:00 p.m. by Zoom – General Meeting: Ottawa Public Health TBD

May 2, 7:00 p.m. (by Zoom?) – General Meeting: Eleanor McMahon, President and CEO of Trans Canada Trail

June 6, 7:00 p.m. (by Zoom?) – AGM



Have You Read....? Book Review from Literature Group II



Toni Morrison’s *Song of Solomon* was published in 1977 and since then has won many awards, including the Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction. Morrison’s third novel, it follows the life of Milkman Dead (one of many unconventionally named characters in the story), who uncovers the truth about his family when he travels to Virginia. Using aspects of magical realism, Morrison’s novel examines the “flights” as well as the inability to fly and the consequences of flight, for various characters across four generations, beginning with Solomon, Milkman’s great-grandfather, who escaped slavery by flying to Africa.

Morrison’s writing style is very rich and lyrical, making for a satisfying, if sometimes challenging, read.

Sandi Stanko

Welcome Newcomer Christine O'Connell!

Although Christine has lived in Ottawa for several years, she is new to CFUW-Ottawa, having joined last August on the recommendation of her friend Carol Pearson. Christine says she was



attracted to the variety of outdoor activities as well as the social and cultural offerings.

Christine grew up in New York City but went to McGill University in Montreal and ended up remaining in Montreal for the next many years, most of them spent as a teacher at one of the girls' schools in the city.

In pursuit of socializing in the fresh air, Christine belongs to Gatineau Trails and Urban Walks. In pursuit of culture, she belongs to the Art Gallery club and the Movie club. Her deepest interest, however, is working with tools and reshaping

metal. In fact, she knits with fine silver wire! To that end, Christine is a keen member of Women with Hammers.

What else keeps Christine busy? She loves to read both fiction and nonfiction (and cookbooks and seed catalogues), enjoys watching suspense-crime and foreign-language films, do crosswords and occasionally Soduko. Oh, and she's learning to build and manage her own website! Christine loves Mexico and is practicing her Spanish every day in anticipation of being able to safely travel once again.

Christine is a busy woman.



Delicious Dinner by Creative Cooks

A small group of International Cuisine 1 members met in December to celebrate the holidays with a traditional Christmas dinner from France. We dined on Lemon Butter Scallops, Beef Wellington, Haricots Vert with Hazelnuts, Roasted Rainbow Carrots, and Bûche de Noël. It was an evening of wonderful food, company, and conversation. Having met only on Zoom and a picnic in a park since March 2020, we found our

dinner together particularly special. Sadly, we have postponed another in-person gathering for the time being.

Pat Duffey



News from the Scholarship Trust Fund Committee

Thank you to our wonderful donors! Donations have far exceeded our highest expectations. We particularly thank our own holiday angel who offered to match all donations received on Giving Tuesday, November 30th. Members responded, and the scholarship fund received \$5,730! A cheque matching this amount increased the total to \$11,460. Thank you to all who made this day an amazing success!

Additional donations were received with registrations, from the Hocus Phocus Digital Photography Group, and from members throughout the fall. Lynne Bond would be delighted to learn we have received \$2,715 in her memory. The memorial bursary will be awarded in March to a student registered with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities demonstrating financial need. In total, from June 1, 2021, to January 5, 2022, we received \$21,345.

Please join us March 7 for the awards ceremony where we will be introduced to many of the recipients. We had hoped we could meet in person, but the meeting will be on Zoom, beginning at 7 p.m. The Trustees of our scholarship fund join me in thanking members for your wonderful support over the past year.

*Pat Duffey, Chair
Scholarship Trust Fund*

Gatineau Trails Christmas Hike and Party

In December of 2018 we started a tradition of members of Gatineau Trails skiing to Huron Cabin in Gatineau Park and singing Christmas Carols, accompanied by Marion Agnew and Susan Carlton on their ukuleles. It was great fun for us and for any other skiers who happened to come to Huron! We missed the opportunity to repeat our experience in December 2020, since the pandemic lockdown kept us out of Gatineau Park.



members hiked there safely. It was a beautiful sunny winter day, and Marilyn Goodwin had made sure there were Christmas decorations, goodies, reindeer games, and prizes! Best of all, our musicians, Marion



To revive the tradition, last December we organized a Christmas get together at Brown Lake Shelter near Wakefield. There was not enough snow to ski to any cabins, and the snowshoe trail to Brown was icy and treacherous, but approximately 25

and Susan, again led us in Christmas carols, one memorable one being the 12 days of Christmas. It was a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit. A huge thank you to Marion, Sue, Marilyn, and her team of elves.

Joan Tyler



Gardening Tip for February

True gardeners know that there is no such thing as taking a month off gardening! What better time of year than February to down tools and become an armchair gardener. Here are a few suggestions to help you get in that mode:

- Remember all those ideas you had at the end of the last season? Now is the time to put ideas into action and start planning your dream garden;
- Pop into your local library, in person or virtually, to check out the selection of gardening books. In the depths of February, you'll be guaranteed to find some interesting titles on the shelves;
- Plug into one of the many great podcasts for some gardening inspiration;
- Pore over your favourite garden catalogues and get your orders submitted in time for spring gardening.

And...if you must get out of your armchair why not:

- Sort through those envelopes and paper bags of seeds stashed on shelves and in cupboards;
- Pick up those gardening tools and give them a good clean;
- Hang a few bird feeders in your yard so you can relax back in your armchair and enjoy the scenery.

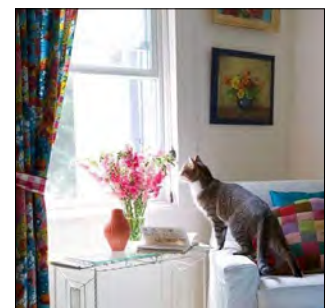


Photo courtesy of Shelley Chambers

Happy armchair gardening!

*Shelley Chambers and
Karin Keyes Endemann*

Afghanistan is Heading for a Humanitarian Catastrophe

Drought, economic collapse, and hunger are pushing Afghanistan to the brink of nationwide famine. According to the World Food Programme, 22.8 million people are acutely food insecure, and 95% of the population is struggling to feed themselves. Women and children are at the greatest risk.

There is an extreme need for humanitarian assistance to prevent starvation. Major international aid organizations have issued urgent appeals for help. If you can donate, the following organizations are working desperately to prevent a catastrophe. All provide charitable receipts for tax purposes to Canadians.



Source: <https://www.wfp.org/stories/afghanistan-climate-crisis-drought-wfp-hunger-cop26-ipc-un>

- **World Food Programme**
<https://www.wfp.org/emergencies/afghanistan-emergency>
- **Canadian Red Cross**
<https://donate.redcross.ca/page/91499/donate/1>

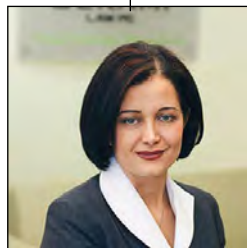
- **UNICEF Canada for Afghanistan**
https://secure.unicef.ca/page/88400/donate/1?ea.tracking_id=00DIEM05XXE

Fran Harding

CFUW-OTTAWA MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND UWHAW MEETINGS

You don't have to be a member of UWHAW to attend our meetings. With Zoom we can welcome many more people than when we meet in person. The next meeting will be on Thursday February 6, at 1 p.m., and it promises to be very interesting.

Arghavan Germani is an Immigration and Refugee lawyer who is providing free consultations and advice to people who have been affected by the crisis in Afghanistan. Ms. Germani is doing this work with a number of other Immigration lawyers across the country under the auspices of the Canadian Bar Association.



<https://geramilaw.com/team/arghavan-gerami.html>

Ms. Germani will help us understand the resettlement programs being offered to refugees by the government of Canada and the various legal aspects that can affect refugee applicants – A Short Course in Navigating the Canadian Refugee

System. Perhaps she will tell us about her successful lobbying efforts to get the Afghan judges trapped in Greece to Canada a few weeks ago.

If you would like to hear Ms. Germani, or any of

our other speakers, please contact universitywomenhelpingafghanwomen@cfuw-ottawa.org

WE NEED YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

Have you ever been involved in sponsoring a refugee? Can you tell us about it?

University Women Helping Afghan Women is investigating sponsorship of an Afghan family and would welcome the opportunity to hear about your experiences.

In early February UWHAW will be holding a Zoom meeting on the subject. If you can spare an hour or so to join us and share your knowledge, we would be very grateful. To let us know you would like to participate, please contact universitywomenhelpingafghanwomen@cfuw-ottawa.org

DHG Holiday Celebration

After a one-year hiatus, the Diplomatic Hospitality Group (DHG) held its Christmas Holiday Luncheon at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club on December 3rd. With 65 guests in attendance, this was the largest indoor gathering in a very long time – and sadly, one of the last events of 2021 before Omicron flared up.

While a fun and festive occasion, DHG arranged for time to reflect on those less fortunate. Our guest of honour, Arian Ahmadi, spouse of the Ambassador of Afghanistan, gave a moving and heartbreaking presentation on the situation in Afghanistan and shared news about the Afghan Canada Support Network (ACSN). Allaha Balouch, founder of ACSN, spoke of the needs facing the newly arrived refugees and the initiatives underway to assist and welcome them to Ottawa.

DHG had asked attendees to contribute to a toiletries drive for the Afghan refugees and was in awe of their generosity. We received literally carloads of much-needed donations. It was heartwarming and overwhelming and surely reflected the spirit of the season.

Given the restrictions, DHG was unable to have its traditional singing and seasonal games, but we engaged the festive mood with a lively raffle table, with 30 prizes ranging from “Canada” hats and accessories to books and



candy and holiday-decor items. The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, a long-time DHG supporter, generously provided two gorgeous wine baskets and leather-bound planners.

The grand prize was an original painting by DHG’s treasurer, the talented Sheila Gervais. In a fun coincidence, the painting was won

by DHG’s vice president, a thoroughly delighted Karen Martin.

In closing and extending greetings of the season, DHG president Lisa Haley announced that everyone would be taking home the newly published DHG cookbook, containing recipes submitted by Canadian and Diplomatic members.

Lisa Haley

Photos by Sam Garcia



Interesting History of Ottawa's Green Space and Landscape Design in the Capital

Ottawa owes much to the National Capital Commission (NCC) for its reputation as a beautiful city, with its focus on the development of parks and green space. Our January speaker, Tina Liu, Landscape Architect with the NCC, outlined the history of the NCC since its beginnings, with interesting photos of the green spaces dating back to the previous century. Relatively recent acquisitions of green space include the establishment in 1958 of the National Greenbelt, which comprises 37,500 acres around Ottawa, and the purchase of 57,000 of the 75,000 acres planned for Gatineau Park.

Our speaker also noted that the NCC has an important role to play in protecting cultural resources and managing them as part of Canada's legacy. Commemorative and Monumental parks and grounds are significant cultural heritages, and the NCC takes pride in managing the landscape of these federal lands.

The tulip beds seen throughout Ottawa's parks in the spring have historical roots in the relationship between Canada and Holland. As a gift to Canada for harbouring members of its Royal family during the war and the kindness shown to them, Holland sent 100,000 tulip bulbs to Ottawa and continues to gift Canada 20,000 tulip bulbs annually. NCC landscape architects have been designing the gardens seen at the Tulip Festival since 1952. Tina noted another bit of history – it was Malak Karsh, brother of photographer Yousef, who first suggested that Ottawa hold a Tulip Festival, and the first one took place the following year, in 1953.

Tina provided some interesting statistics regarding NCC's role as the Official Gardener of the Nation's Capital. There are a total of 120 planting beds, about 14,000 m² of flower beds, 250 portable concrete planters, 600,000 tulip bulbs

planted every fall, and 250,000 annuals planted every year with perennial beds in every park. She noted they are using an increasing number of vegetables (kale, sage, etc.) in the floral displays and provided a number of photos showing this approach.

Her presentation elicited several questions such as timeline for Nepean Point reconstruction (two years), meaning of mobilizing stakeholders (some sites owned by others such as Parks Canada, so need their support), opinion on parking garage construction on Experimental Farm (choice of Farm not ideal so need to set standards to protect the environment there), how to manage squirrels around tulip beds (add chicken manure, bloodmeal, and bonemeal), and the percentage of native plants used (high percentage of perennials are native, tulips are not, of course).

Elaine McKnight

Snowshoeing in the City

The Gatineau Trails Group is offering snowshoeing on Tuesday mornings this winter, exploring trails around the Greenbelt. The first outing was a hike at Shirley's Bay on January 4th, followed by a hike on the Corkstown trail system starting at NCC P3. Snow conditions are not always the best for

snowshoeing, so each week bring both crampons and snowshoes. Poles are also a good idea. We can decide on the gear at the trail! If you are interested or have questions, contact Pat Duffey at pmduffey22@gmail.com. Please join us!

Pat Duffey



Ottawa Through a Lens

It's cold, but what a beautiful city we live in. Enjoy these glorious photos, taken by a couple of CFUW's talented photographers. The photos of

Byward Market and the grounds of Government House were taken by Alison Hobbs. The two photos of one of the Minto Bridges were taken by

Sandra Gregson.

If your camera has captured some great views of our wonderful city, please submit them!



Travellers' Corner Karin – Where Have You Been?

Karin Keyes Endemann was able to escape to France in November. She and her friends spent four days in Paris and seven

glorious days on a river boat up the Seine. She visited charming Rouen and stunning Honfleur, among other delightful places.



Chocolate Chip Pecan Blondie Recipe

Shelley Chambers baked these Blondies for our Gat Trails picnic last fall. Since it's impossible to eat only one square, I thought it an act of kindness not to include the calorie count with the recipe.

Editor

Servings: Makes 16 squares

Ingredients

- 1 stick (½ cup) unsalted butter, melted
- ½ cup packed dark brown sugar
- ⅓ cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour, spooned into measuring cup and leveled-off
- ½ tsp salt
- ¾ cup semisweet chocolate chips
- ½ cup chopped pecans (optional)

<https://www.onceuponachef.com/recipes/chocolate-chip-pecan-blondies.html>

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F degrees. Line an 8-inch square baking pan with an 8x11-inch piece of parchment paper, leaving a 2-inch overhang on two sides. You'll have to create seams in the corners and along the edges of the pan to get it to stay put (you can always add a few dots of butter underneath if necessary).
2. In a large bowl of an electric mixer, beat the melted butter with the brown sugar and granulated sugar until well combined, about 2 minutes. Beat in the egg and vanilla. On low speed, mix in the flour and salt until just blended. Stir in the chocolate chips and nuts. Transfer the batter to the prepared pan and spread evenly with a rubber spatula.
3. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until the top is set and lightly golden. Set the pan on a wire rack to cool. Using the parchment overhang, lift the blondie "cake" from the pan and transfer it to a cutting board; cut into 16 squares. Store the blondies in an airtight container at room temperature or freeze for longer storage.
4. Freezer-Friendly Instructions: The blondies can be frozen for up to 3 months. After they are completely cooled, double-wrap them securely with aluminum foil or plastic freezer wrap. Thaw overnight on the countertop before serving.

