



Founded in 1911, we are a strong and vibrant community, dedicated to helping U of M students achieve their academic goals. We forge lasting friendships by welcoming everyone, caring about each other, and exploring new ideas and places together.

September-October 2023 ≈ No. 307

Join us to celebrate UMWC scholarship recipients

Your best opportunity to meet and celebrate our UMWC scholarship recipients is coming up. Please join us Tuesday, October 10, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Roseville at noon for the Scholarship Recognition Luncheon.



Members enjoyed meeting last year's group of scholarship recipients.

One of the most popular events on our calendar, this year's luncheon will focus exclusively on our impressive scholars. We will introduce them to you during the luncheon program and give them an opportunity to tell you about themselves and their plans for the future. You will hear some heartwarming and inspiring stories that will remind you of the importance of our mission.

The deadline to register is Monday, October 2, but don't wait for the deadline. Make your reservation today by sending in the form found in your directory or on our website. We look forward to seeing you.

Don't forget our Fall Welcome Reception

Just a quick reminder for those of you who registered by the August 28 deadline that the Fall Welcome Reception is Tuesday, September 5, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Midland Hills Country Club in Roseville.

Please join us to meet and welcome new members and connect with old friends. All of the club's 16 interest sections will have an information table at the event, where you can learn about the interest group and sign up if you're interested. Some sections require a small dues payment to join, usually ranging from \$1 to \$5, so you might want to bring a little cash.

We will provide complimentary appetizers with coffee, tea, water, and a cash bar.

Meeting at a Glance

Scholarship Recognition Luncheon

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

12 noon—Luncheon, followed by program honoring scholarship recipients

Location

DoubleTree Hotel
2540 North Cleveland Ave., Roseville
Parking: Available in lot on north side of the hotel

Menu

Pork Marsala: Pork loin slow-roasted in a Marsala mushroom sauce, California medley and herb roasted potatoes

Vegetarian Marsala: Roasted onion, peppers and asparagus in a Marsala mushroom sauce with jasmine rice

The meal includes house salad, specialty rolls and butter, coffee, freshly brewed ice tea and chef's choice cake for dessert.

Cost: \$32

Reservation deadline:

Monday, October 2

Please send in the reservation form you will find in your 2023–2024 directory or on the UMWC website. Make your check payable to UMWC and mail to Mary Abuan.

In addition, all members will receive an email before the meeting explaining how to take advantage of the new opportunity to both register and pay online. Watch for that.

President's Message ~

The more I saw, the more excited I got

Let me start by saying I am delighted to be your new President and look forward to a year filled with opportunities to meet new people, learn new things and experience new places.

I spent my time as President-Elect visiting as many of our interest sections as I could and came away impressed and energized. What a great way to experience our club in action! Among other things, I learned how frogs hibernate for winter, enjoyed the beauty of the undersea world, discussed a mystery book with the actual author and discovered the offerings of several regional parks. Throughout, I saw first-hand the real crux of our organization —women at their best leading, welcoming, encouraging, figuring things out, laughing, sharing and deeply caring about one another. The more I saw, the more excited I got about what UMWC has to offer.



All of this brings me to our Fall Welcome Reception. New this year in September, the event will showcase our many special interest groups and give you the opportunity to sign up for the sections that interest you. In the past this activity was held in October, combined with our scholarship luncheon. Recognizing that our interest sections deserved a day of their own and considering that most sections begin their activities in September, we decided to kick off our 2023–24 year early and not wait until October to start the ball rolling. We did our best to get the word out so I hope to see you on Tuesday, September 5, from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Midland Hills Country Club.

Our club has been in existence for well over 100 years and has many time-honored traditions, the most important of which is providing scholarships to worthy University of Minnesota undergraduates. Our September-October newsletter includes the names of our current scholarship recipients – an impressive group of 85 this year. Above, I referred to our October scholarship luncheon. It is our most popular event of year, where we have the opportunity to meet many of our current scholars in person and hear about their plans. I always find it interesting to hear about the different areas of study the students are pursuing. Mark your calendar for October 10.

The varied backgrounds and experiences of our members, is a never-ending source of information and inspiration. I love getting to know someone while sitting

next to them over coffee or walking along with them on a hike. My own background includes a variety of jobs from soda jerk to lawyer, with teaching, education administration, business consulting, banking and business ownership along the way. While each position required acquiring new skills (e.g. precision scooping), they all involved learning about and being with people. That is what attracted me to this club.



Linda Boss with her granddaughter and daughter

At UMWC, we learn from our members. While we look forward to and take comfort in our tried-and-true traditions, it is a growing place open to new ideas, better ways of doing things. Each person has creative ideas waiting to erupt if given the right people and circumstances to unlock them. I have noticed that sometimes just asking “why” we do something opens up a whole conversation leading to new ideas. I am looking forward to learning from and being with you as President. Thank you for this opportunity.

Linda Boss, President

Newsletter deadline is October 16

The deadline for the November-December 2023 newsletter is Monday, October 16. Please submit articles, information and photos to Nancy Kluver, newsletter editor, at Kluver.nancy@gmail.com.

AFU MN Council: Our second year sitting at the table

The second annual Age Friendly University (AFU) Day on June 26 was a fantastic, well-executed success. With Diana Pierce's inspirational keynote speech, "What's Next: Creating Your Personal Portfolio of Life," a panel discussion: "Finding Purpose & Passion," three breakout sessions and 15 educational display booths (including ours!), we were kept alert and energized. I counted 17 UMWC members in the crowd of about 220 retirees and lifelong learners. Thank you! That was a great show of support and a chance to mingle and expose others to the benefits of UMWC! Twenty four people signed up to receive more information about UMWC.



Members (from left) Carole Senty, Georgia Heisserer and Shelley Horstman welcomed AFU Day participants to our UMWC booth. Shelley is our new AFU representative.

Well, my year as our UMWC representative is over — and it's time to pass the honor on to another lucky volunteer. Please welcome Shelley Horstman!

Take a careful look for security's sake

Over the summer, some UMWC members received an email that appeared to come from the club president. The message urged the recipient to purchase vouchers for veterans. Of course, the message was not from our president but was a phishing email designed to lure the receiver into responding and risking his or her online security.

We want to take this opportunity to remind you to carefully review all emails you receive, especially if they are from someone you do not know or if they contain a message that seems strange to be coming from a sender you do know.

If you receive an email from any UMWC officer that seems strange or "not quite right," don't respond. Instead, check out the message by calling or texting the sender. Or email the club at umwc@umn.edu to alert us to the situation.

Shelley joined UMWC just last fall and jumped right in to get involved. A U of M graduate, still working but thinking ahead to retirement, and already interested in lifelong learning, she helped host our table at the AFU Day. Please welcome her as she brings the all-important awareness of UMWC's purpose and activities to the AFU MN Council,



Diana Pierce

and, in turn, brings back to us the opportunities AFU has to offer our members and our greater communities. I wish her joy and success.

Thank you all for your interest and support of UMWC's involvement with the AFU MN Council. It's been an honor.

Susan Hopp

UMWC 2022–2023 AFU MN Council Representative.

Families appreciate memorial donations

One of the ways UMWC acknowledges the loss of a member or spouse is through a donation to our scholarship fund. It is really heartwarming to have received many thank you letters from family members over the years, says Corresponding Secretary Barb Burleigh.

A few recent responses include:

"Education was very important to her and she told many wonderful stories about your programs."

— Daughter of Lorraine Rybak Mesken

"We appreciate the donation in memory of Joy. She would be very pleased."

— Craig Chaput, husband of Joy Chaput

"Your kindness is so appreciated. Harold was happy that I belonged to this great group of women."

— Nancy Haugen

"We appreciate the memorial gift in honor of our mother. She valued the opportunity to connect with other remarkable women."

— Daughter of Jane Ostergaard

A memorial or honoring gift to the scholarship fund is indeed a thoughtful gesture for a loved one on any occasion.

UMWC 2023–2024 Scholarship Recipients

The following students are the UMWC Scholarship recipients for the academic year 2023–2024.

One-year Named Scholarships

Catherine E. Holtzclaw UMWC Scholarship

Joseph Jackson, *Finance*

In Memory of the Nurses Who Perished During the Covid Epidemic Scholarship

Nastaho Abdullah, *Nursing*

Jonathan F. Cohen Science and Engineering Scholarship

Aallunya Teso, *Health Sciences*

The Schuster Scholarship

Olivia Stangler, *Neuroscience*

LaSell Mechanical Engineering Scholarship

Maddie Cramer, *Biomedical Engineering*; Kitana Sibri, *Mechanical Engineering*

Inspiring a Future Leader Scholarship

Sarah Horner, *English*

Lake Superior Shores Scholarship

Libby Nemitz, *Global Studies*

Lake Nokomis Scholarship

Sundus Hussein, *Computer Science*

In Memory of Hendrik Oskam on his 100th Birthday Scholarship

Margot Maxwell, *Biomedical Engineering*

Martha and Dale Hoover Scholarship

Fatima Garza Ramon, *Biochemistry, Public Health*

The Nygaard Family Scholarship

Hala Al Yaseri, *Nursing*

Mary Elizabeth Glaeser Scholarship

Jessica Rehmann, *Global Studies*; Mellon Nordhougen, *Psychology*; Cristina Rosa Furness Rubio, *ESL, teaching*

In Memory of Helen Carlson Scholarship

Corrie Steckelberg, *ART*

The Dorothy and Fred Waltz UMWC Scholarship

Gentri Hansen, *Environmental Science*

In Honor of Andrew B. Webber Accounting Scholarship

Yahjun (Ivy) Yu, *Accounting*

Peter and Margaret Reed Scholarship

Trinity Souriya, *Elementary Education*

Endowed Scholarships

Doris Doeden

Hailey Heimkes, *Biomedical Engineering*

Frances Shepherd

Josephine Rosa, *Computer Science*

Medical Auxiliary Fund

Taylor Schultz, *Biology*

Medical Auxiliary Fund

Kylie M Larson, *Health Well Being*

Stephanie R. Boddy Fund

Gina-Isabella Zedan, *Entrepreneurial Management*; Katelyn Ann Bodnar, *Business, Finance*; Joshua Goldsmith, *Accounting*; Cindy Chau, *Marketing, Finance*; Aleah Debra Anderson, *International Business and Marketing*; Andrea Asantewa Tiekou, *Business Marketing*; Calyssa Eskeli, *Human Resources*; Ava Remus, *Law*; Maria Alejandra Zapata, *International Business*

UMWC 7530

Alisia Hull, *Health Sciences*; Emaan Hamdan, *Aerospace Engineering*; Krystsina Neumiarzhyskaya, *Dental Hygiene*; Julia Wegener, *Health Sciences*; Lexie Amiah Gray, *Nursing*; Jessica S Pilon, *English*; Margaret Zeppelin, *Animal Science*; Meghan Collins, *Human Resources*; Carmen Naomi Vazquez Galicia, *Biology*; Ashley Kay Daniels, *Health Sciences*; Billie Renaux, *Psychology*; Paityn Hl Ness, *Psychology*; Samia Mohamed, *Nursing*; Huynh Yen Nhu Vo, *Graphic Design*; Yazmin Rangel Tellez, *Wildlife Conservation*; Johanna Teegarden, *Biomedical Engineering*; Soliana M Ghidewon, *Public Health*; Trinity Nguyen, *Animal Science*; Afi Dumenya, *Health Sciences*; Obada-Altayeb Osama Freitekh, *Business*; Addison Bemboom, *Psychology*; Rosemarie Graf, *Entrepreneurial Management*

Ruth Vickroy Jones

Sandra Williams, *Nursing*; Maria Nicole Pierce, *Public Health*; Lavina Sameh Helmy Iskander, *Human Psychology*; Hannah M Karau, *Creative Writing and Publishing*; Devin Asato Schmeck, *Public Health*; Eliz Castillo-Flores, *Latina and Chicana Feminism Studies*; Mariam Mohamed, *Biology*; Mathea Stannard Bruns, *Fashion Design*; Mariam Abuisnaineh, *Apparel Design*; Kateryna Yurchuk, *Computer Science*; Molly M Conway, *Spanish, Nursing*; Sibiah Nyamoita Mirieri, *Speech, language hearing science*; Victoria Shannon Wilscam, *Psychology*; Lynn Nguyen, *Health*; Isabella Wells, *Spanish and Music*; Ahna Joy Christian, *Speech and Language, Psychology*; Leslie Luces Saavedra, *Youth Studies, Chiano Latina Studies*; Sadie Staloch, *Developmental Psychology*; Rachael Omoke, *Nursing*; Dominique Savannah Sosa, *Elementary Education*; Kelsey Alfaro, *Elementary Education*; Teala Matthews, *Strategic Communication, Sociology*; Thomas Thao, *Graphic Design*; Callie Radenbaugh, *Biology*; Kristina Yeboah, *Bachelor of Individual Study*; Ella Marie Stockwell, *Public Health*; Sarah M Abdon, *Holistic Health*; Clara Elizabeth Junemann, *Fashion Studies*; Rose Adeline Grover, *Anthropology*; Estelle Auleciems, *Nursing*; Julia Yakovleva, *Finance, Information Systems*

SECTION NEWS

One year of all things poetry

The Poetry interest section will celebrate its one-year anniversary in September. This group, under the guidance of Elizabeth Weber and Lynn Slifer, has met the first Thursday morning of every month. We are informal and welcoming. We have members who are just beginning to learn about poetry and others who have in-depth experience with reading and writing poetry.

At each meeting, the group takes turns selecting several poems, and they are read and discussed. Members often share biographical information about the poets themselves and the culture and environment in which they wrote. We have read poetry by a wide variety of writers, including Lucille Clifton, Marilyn Nelson, Louise Erdrich, Robert Hayden and David Whyte.



Lynn Slifer at last year's Poetry Lovers booth

Look for our table at the September gathering, and connect with either Elizabeth or Lynn if you are interested in learning more about the group.

Nature group off to see sandhill cranes

The Nature section is offering a wonderful educational opportunity Tuesday, October 24, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Stan Tekiela, author and naturalist, will be taking members on a guided tour of Crex Meadows Wildlife Area in Wisconsin to experience the fall migration of the sandhill cranes. Many of you have attended his previous talks and know what a knowledgeable and excellent presenter he is!

Because the group is renting a van, the participation is limited to *no more* than 15 people. The cost will be \$50 per person, which will cover the cost of transportation and the guide's fee. The group is requesting a check be made out and sent to Diane Schweizer, 1961 Prior Ave. N. Roseville, Minnesota 55113 for \$50 to be received no later than October 2. Due to limited space the participants will be accepted in the order of money received.

Van pickup will be at the Roseville Ramsey County Library, 2180 North Hamline Ave., Roseville, Minnesota,

at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24. Plans will be made for all to contribute to food and beverages. The group should be back by 8 p.m.



The Nature section in May went to the Gardens of Rice Creek and enjoyed a beautiful day, with many of the group purchasing additions to their own gardens. The tour was followed by an outdoor pizza picnic and meeting.

Many thanks to our donors

We are grateful to the following members who contributed to our scholarship program but were not included in the list published in the May-June newsletter. They are Lynne Benz, June Damrow, Sheau Ping Hu, Kathryn (Katie) Johnson, Veronica Johnson, Linda Lorenz, Kathleen Pratt, Margaret Reed, Margaret Rowser, Nancy Schuster and Millie Woodbury.

Memorial gifts

Keith Champlin by Pat Luhmann, Dorothy Waltz, Diane Young and UMWC
Lorraine Hertz by Elizabeth Foley and UMWC
Louise Reving by Linda Lorenz
Lorraine Mesken by UMWC
Greg Dupre by Patricia Kirchner
Susan Ritten by Marian Champlin
Dr. Susan Gerberich by Constance Oriani
Michael Baumgarten by Patricia Kirchner
Richard Johnson by UMWC

Honoring gifts

Lindsay and Holly Buhl by Nancy Hanson
Fran Holmsten by UMWC Around the Campus

Board of Directors Meeting is September 5

The first board meeting of the 2023–2024 season is Tuesday, September 5, at 2 p.m. at Midland Hills Country Club, 2001 Fulham Street, Roseville, in the Seth Raynor Room. All members are welcome to attend.

CLUB NEWS

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2. Mail to Nancy Myers, 1578 Burton St.,
Falcon Heights, MN 55108

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

In this issue of Online Extra

Once again, we've turned Online Extra over to one of our impressive scholarship recipients to tell you in her own words what's happened to her since receiving her UMWC scholarship. Lubna Mohamed Abdirahman says that life after graduation has been a joy. She is focused on using technology to solve healthcare inequities and has turned humanitarian work and a quest for environmental justice into passions.



You will find the story as an added feature to the online version of our newsletter.

Welcome new members

New members bring welcome change and growth to the UMWC. Reach out to welcome and to get to know our new members! We have 12 women who have joined since the last newsletter: Kim Carlson, Klara Huesers, Cindy Schwie, Randi Marie Lundell, Diane Shepperd, Sandy Cahill Johnson, Laura Moret, Pam Showalter Johnson, Deborah Kaspar, Melissa Musliner, Artika Tyner and Diane Collier. Also, Deborah Alper has a new phone number.

For a current list of new members and their contact information and/or a list of directory changes, please contact Nancy Myers at nmyers13@hotmail.com.

A friendly reminder

If your contribution to the scholarship fund is sent to us directly from your bank or brokerage account, please verify that it is being mailed to the correct address listed in the 2023–2024 directory. Mail sent to the previous address will be returned to the institution as unable to forward.

Here are your UMWC leaders for 2023-2024

With an eye toward the future and ensuring UMWC's long-term success, the following members have been elected or appointed to take on leadership responsibilities for the club in 2023–2024. The chairs of our special interest sections are listed in the 2023–2024 directory.

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

Linda Boss

It was Linda Boss' interest in walking that first drew her to UMWC. Several walking friends who were members introduced her to the club, and she joined the Hikers special interest section. That was just the beginning.



As President-Elect, Linda's focus was to learn more about what made UMWC special. As part of that, she made it a goal to attend at least one meeting of every interest section during the year. It was the best way to learn what kept UMWC vital, according to Linda. "I got to experience women at their best — leading, welcoming, problem solving, getting the job done, laughing, learning, challenging themselves, sharing and deeply caring about one another," she said. The club offers women many opportunities to keep involved.

Linda's career path took various turns from soda jerk to lawyer, including teaching, school administration, business consulting and business ownership. She even had a stint as a partner selling crop insurance. In retirement, she continues to enjoy and support arts of all types, is an avid reader, walks several miles most days and travels to new destinations whenever possible. Trips to Spain and Peru are on her wish list. Linda has a large extended family, most of whom live in other states, and takes whatever opportunities she can to spend time with them.

President-Elect

Nancy Schuster

Nancy Schuster is a one-year member who will serve as President-Elect and assist a new chair of the Women's Health Section, which she led last year.

She retired from her professional work in the field of educating gifted



children. Her first career was as a registered nurse.

Volunteer work has filled her time for the last 20 years. She was a Red Cross volunteer for 10 years, helping out at local and national disasters. Serving meals at the local Community Table and working at a free health clinic also kept her busy. She found a passion as an active member of the Chippewa Moraine Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA) for more than 25 years, where she worked on trail maintenance, led hikes and planned and implemented many presentations. She was the Chippewa Chapter Treasurer from 2010–2020, and served for six years as a member of the State Board of Directors of IATA. In addition, she has hiked and biked the entire trail. Travel, reading and knitting also fill her time. A highlight for her was walking the 500-mile Spanish Camino de Santiago with her husband.

Event Co-Coordinator

Carol Cantrell

Carol Cantrell joined UMWC in the fall of 2011. She looks forward to planning events again, after previously serving as Co-Vice President for Programs, and has agreed to serve a second two-year term. She also serves as co-chair of the Programs Committee. Carol chaired Restaurant Ramblers and Movie Rendezvous and is currently chair of Mystery Lovers. She is one of the original members of the Out to Tea group.



In support of UMWC's scholarship program, Carol has sponsored a named scholarship for many years.

She also serves as a board member of Out on a Limb Dance Company, is a member of two other book clubs and was on the board of Applewood Pointe of Roseville for seven years.

Event Co-Coordinator

Linda Lorenz

Linda Lorenz joined UMWC in January 2019 after being invited to a Conversation luncheon by her fellow Spanish learners and UMWC members Kathy Ball, Diane Schweizer and Donna LaPorte (who now lives in Portland, Oregon). In March of 2021 Diane



asked Linda to be a co-chair of the Nature section, which Linda continues to enjoy. She also co-chairs the Programs Committee in her spare time.

During the academic year, Linda tutors children at Central Park Elementary in Roseville, along with other members of Roseville Lutheran Church. During the tax season for 2023 she helped prepare tax returns through AARP.

In her spare time Linda likes to garden, snowshoe and travel with her husband, Terry. She continues to learn Spanish and appreciates all the online learning resources available now that were not available when she took her first Spanish course at the University of Minnesota in the late 1980s.

Vice President for Scholarship Fundraising

Diane Young

Diane Young retired in 2019 after a 25-year fundraising career at the University of Minnesota and immediately joined UMWC. “While employed at the U, I was aware of the UMWC but not sure exactly what it was all about, so I joined to find out,” Diane said. “Getting involved was easy and fun—I recommend it highly. The UMWC philanthropic mission to support students at the U through scholarships is inspiring. Meeting other like-minded women is a joy.”



Diane also is committed to increasing UMWC visibility at the U and recruiting other UMN women, identified broadly, to join UMWC. She often invites former UMN colleagues and alums as guests, encouraging them to join. “The luncheons and speakers are so engaging,” she said.

In addition to serving as VP for Scholarship Fundraising, Diane chairs the Scholarship Fundraising Committee and oversees the One-Year Named Scholarship initiative.

She lives in the University Grove with her husband, Professor Emeritus Nevin Young. They have one daughter, Patricia.

Recording Secretary

Marilyn DeLong

Recently retired, Marilyn DeLong looks forward to her responsibilities as Recording Secretary. She is Professor Emeritus of Apparel Design and Studies in the College of Design at the University of Minnesota and continues to work with finishing graduate students and



staying connected professionally as they move into their careers. In addition, she was program chair of Twin Cities in Home and Community and is a panelist on the Minnesota State Arts Board. She also co-teaches an adult class on contemporary theology at her church.

Marilyn and her husband enjoy traveling and recently spent time in South Korea to visit former graduate students, now faculty, and in London to see her co-editor of 14 years for an international journal, who is faculty at the University of the Arts, London. Because she enjoys working with colors, Marilyn hopes to get back to painting.

At the University, Marilyn served in leadership positions within the Colleges of Human Ecology and Design as Associate Dean for Research and Outreach Engagement, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, and Director of Graduate Education.

Co-Treasurer

Sue Madison

Sue Madison has been a club member for five years and lives in Roseville. She is married with two daughters, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Her hobbies include reading, attending concerts and plays with her husband, Al, playing pickleball, hiking, biking and spending time outdoors. After college, Sue began her working career as a music teacher but soon became interested in computing, retiring after 30 years as a software engineer. Her heart remains in music, however, where she is often employed as a pianist and organist.



Sue has found the many groups at UMWC to be good choices for further learning and meeting new friends. She is especially impressed with the scholarship programs that aid our leaders of the future in reaching their goals.

In 2023–2024, Sue will serve as co-chair of the Finance Committee as well as Co-Treasurer, focusing on the scholarship fund.

Co-Treasurer

Joni Mitchell

Joni Mitchell joined the club after she retired in 2015. She became a Hikers member and was immediately recruited to be the treasurer for the group, which she continues to do. She also is a member of Restaurant Ramblers but wasn't able to attend many gatherings this past year.



She served as auditor for the club for two years and on the Scholarship Committee for two years. Joni is looking

forward to the second year of her term as Co-Treasurer, focusing on operations. In addition, she will serve as co-chair for the Finance Committee.

Joni keeps busy by attending Curves, hiking, reading, playing 500 and as member of UMRA. She also takes trips to Charlotte, North Carolina, to see her grandchildren, plans lunches with high school mates and is the keeper of the data base for her class.

Records and Dues Officer Nancy Myers

Nancy Myers joined UMWC in 2010 and has been Records and Dues Officer since 2016. "I got the job after sitting next to Pat Luhmann at a section lunch and telling Pat that I'd been an actuary in my professional life," Nancy said. "Little did I know the consequences of that innocent



statement." Nancy enjoys working with numbers and has been the treasurer or financial secretary for all the organizations she's joined. She has enjoyed being part of the Hikers and Nature and Vagabonds sections at UMWC. This year she's tried some new ones: Women's Health Issues and Around the Campus. "I'm impressed with the efforts of the section leaders," she said. "They do a great job!"

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Auditor

Bonnie Russ

A member since 2020, Bonnie Russ first joined the Hikers, thoroughly enjoying the hikes and attending an overnight trip to Lake Mille Lacs. She also is a member of Nonfiction and Art.



Bonnie loves to travel, with several trips planned in 2023, and also enjoys attending concerts and plays, including the Orpheum Broadway season, with friends. Most summers will find her in the Boundary Water Canoe Area with family members. She is a Vikings season ticket holder and also a Twins, Lynx and Gophers fan. She provides childcare for her young grandson, who lives nearby with his parents, Bonnie's daughter and son-in-law. A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Bonnie enjoys meeting other UMWC members and is impressed with the club's scholarship program and speaker luncheons.

Newsletter Editor

Nancy Kløver

Nancy Kløver was introduced to UMWC after retiring

in 2015, when a friend invited her to a walk with the Hikers interest section, a group she chaired for several years. She became newsletter editor in 2019 and served on the Nominating Committee in 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Outside of UMWC, she likes to exercise, cook, read and play the piano. She's very interested in politics and loves spending time with her grandchildren.



Directory Editor Dorothy Waltz

Dorothy Waltz joined the U of M Faculty Wives Club (now UMWC) soon after moving to Minnesota in 1965, and took part in various activities before she resumed her full-time career as an interior designer in 1970. She rejoined UMWC about 20 years ago, but before and after that she and her husband, Fred, presented many travel programs for the Vagabonds section. Currently, she belongs to the Vagabonds and Women's Health Issues sections.



The computer skills Dorothy acquired in her 20-plus years as a statewide leader and lobbyist for the environment in the 80s and ever since, combined with the graphics and design skills from her BFA degree in design and master's degree in art education, have been very useful in her years as a volunteer for UMWC. She currently edits and publishes the UMWC annual directory with her husband Fred's extensive technical assistance. To insure future capability to produce the directory, Nancy Kløver has been added as an assistant to the editor.

Website Manager

Mary Nosek

A new member in late 2022, Mary Nosek is just beginning to explore the club's interest groups but already has helped with some planning for Women's Health and is looking forward to hikes with the Hikers. In fact, hiking is one of Mary's interests outside of the club, along with kayaking and paddle boarding, which she is just beginning to master. She loves to read, especially historical fiction and juicy murder mysteries.



Mary is impressed with UMWC's many activities and learning opportunities, and she finds our members interesting, open and welcoming. She also serves as chair of the Technical Services Committee.

Corresponding Secretary Barb Burleigh

Barb Burleigh has been a UMWC member for about 20 years and has chaired the Vagabonds section for many years. "Travel is one of my passions in a normal year, so the 'armchair travel' photo shows have been fun to organize with Fred and Dorothy Waltz," Barb said. "The friendship of other Vagabond members is a real joy in my life."



She also belongs to the Nature group and enjoys helping to proofread the directory each year.

Barb's other interests include Gopher sports, especially women's basketball and volleyball, two book clubs, Osher Lifelong Learning classes through the University for 20 years and swimming at the St. Paul YWCA.

Historian Sandy Gale

Sandy Gale has been a member of the club for nine years and has joined the Around the Campus, Movies, Mystery Lovers, Nature and Out to Tea interest sections. She and her husband love to travel, and she keeps fit with water aerobics.



STANDING COMMITTEE AND INITIATIVE CHAIRS

Conversations Barbara Cohen

Barbara Cohen joined UMWC, then the Faculty Women's Club, around Christmas 1982. She and her husband had just moved to Minnesota and at that time, the U held a holiday reception at Eastcliff to welcome new faculty and spouses. Sidelle Moss, the FWC President, was at the party to sign up spouses, so Barbara joined. While she was working, she joined interest sections that met in the evenings, such as Music and Culinary Arts. After she retired in 2006, she became more active in the club.



Barbara has served on the Conversation Committee, Program Committee (including as co-chair), and as President during the club's exciting centennial year of 2010–2011. She has been chair of the Music and Culinary Arts sections, and also participated in the Nature, Out to Tea and Restaurant Ramblers sections.

Aside from the UMWC, Barbara is a member of the American Association of University Women and the National Organization for Women. "I enjoy reading (well, who doesn't!), music (mostly classical), and spending time with my amazing grandkids," Barbara said.

Membership Georgia Heisserer

Georgia Heisserer joined UMWC in 2016 and thinks it's the greatest thing since sliced bread. Seriously! In addition to chairing the Membership Committee, she served as President, President-Elect and Vice President for Programming and has participated in the activities of almost all of the interest groups. In particular, she enjoyed Nature, Around the Campus, Hikers, Vagabonds and Women's Health Issues as well as the Conversation lunches.



She loves being outdoors, especially by the water, and thoroughly enjoys meeting new people, being with friends, exploring new places and learning new things.

Susan Hopp

Susan Hopp joined the club in 2018. Jumping right in, in 2019–20 Susan co-chaired the Art section and was a member of the Scholarship Fundraising Committee. 2020–21 saw her as President-Elect, and 2021–22 as President, following her mother Dorothy's footsteps as President in 1973–74!



In 2022–23, Susan became the club's first Age Friendly University MN Council rep, and this year, she is honored to co-chair the Membership Committee. Currently she is active in the Art section and its Art Show, Around the Campus and Poetry. She likes cut flower gardening, cabin time, adventures, travel, good friends, lifelong learning and laughter, and a good craft cocktail.

Scholarship Awards

Marilyn Olson

Introduced to UMWC by her cousin, Liz Grimmer, Marilyn Olson has been a member for more than 10 years. Her primary interest group is Hikers, which she chaired for several years, but she's also a member of Bridge and occasionally participates in Art, Around the Campus, Mystery Lovers and Women's Health Issues.



Marilyn loves spending time with family and traveling. In particular, she's enjoyed the Eola Hills Winery European trips and hiking in North Scottsdale during the winter. She also bikes, works out and takes classes at Lifetime Eden Prairie and enjoys Gopher volleyball and hockey games, live theatre productions and dinner with friends.

After 12 years, she retired from her work as a certified volunteer Medicare counselor with the Senior Linkage Line, where she helped seniors with their Medicare questions. She especially appreciates the friendships she's formed through UMWC and the educational opportunities offered by the Conversation luncheons and interest groups.

UMWC Online Extra

Life after graduation so far has been a joy

UMWC recently reached out to several former scholarship recipients to ask them what had happened to them and where they were in their careers since receiving the UMWC scholarship. Here is recipient Lubna Mohamed Abdirahman in her own words.

During undergrad, I went from a variety of different majors. From believing that I wanted to become a geneticist to being interested in a degree in sociology, to majoring in computer science, and finally landing on the major that was perfect for me and the one that I graduated with: management information systems (MIS). My major in MIS was a mix between business and technology and allowed me to learn about the fundamentals of each and how they intersect.

While on campus, I was involved in several student organizations like the Undergraduate Student Government (formerly Minnesota Student Association), the National Society of Black Engineers, the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence, and the National Association of Black Accountants. All of these organizations allowed me to find a community on campus and foster deep connections with others who I now consider to be my best friends. I was also able to gain professional and transferrable skills in my life after graduating. Quick thanks to the UMWC because the scholarships I received allowed me to spend less time working and more time being involved in the University of Minnesota community.

Upon graduating, I had a job offer

from Optum for a role in a technology development program, which consists of two, six-month rotations in areas of technology. I began this role in July 2022 in a data analytics role for my first rotation and am currently in my second rotation in product management. My MIS major has been very helpful in my career today as I still use what I have learned in class in my career. In addition, it makes me happy to know that I can help shape the healthcare technology space by focusing on how I can use technology to solve healthcare inequities. I am also currently in the planning phases of starting my own business providing unplugged events services in the Twin Cities. Navigating this has been a journey of constantly learning new things

while also applying knowledge from my classes at the Carlson School.

When I applied for the UMWC scholarships in 2020 and 2021, my aspirations were different. I wanted to do humanitarian work, use technology as a web developer for sexual assault victims and survivors at a nonprofit, and fight for environmental justice. Since then, I have learned to take these things and turn them into passions instead of a career path for the time being.

It has been great being involved in the community, learning valuable skills in my current role and starting my own business. In my free time, I have been exploring new hobbies such as woodworking and taking swimming lessons. This past spring and summer, I also learned how to garden. Life after graduation so far has been a joy, and I am so excited to see what else my future has in store for me.

