I am delighted to announce the proposed slate of officers for the CWC 2015-16 Executive Council: President, Brooke Anderson; Vice-President, Katie Clark; Secretary, Connie Shair; Treasurer, Liz Fischer. The Bulletin Editor is not yet determined. Ballots will be sent next month to approve the nominees and the revised CWC Constitution and By-Laws. Please join me in thanking the executive officers and committee chairmen for their dedicated service through the 2014-15 academic year.

Bring newcomers to this year’s final Open House on Thursday, April 9th from 8:30-10 am at the Red Door Café. Encourage prospective members to stop by, ask questions and meet current CWC members to learn about club activities and life in and around Caltech. Stop by this casual event and enjoy refreshments and conversation. Children and partners are welcome. Contact Katie Clark ktclark@caltech.edu for more information.

It is time to sharpen your cooking skills for the Iron Chef event on April 17th. Please join us for a friendly evening of cooking, competing and great food on April 17, 2015, at the home of Tom Mannion, Senior Director, Student Activities and Programs. Contact Brooke Anderson (brooke.anderson@colorado.edu) for more information.

CWC Garden Adventures Spring event is a tour of the Wrigley Tournament of Roses house and rose garden on Thursday, April 30th at 2 pm. The estate was built in 1906 by G. Lawrence Stimson and was bought by Ada and William Wrigley, the chewing gum magnate from Chicago. Contact Kathleen Slater, katsgarden@jps.net or (626) 577-0067 for reservations.

Save the date for the first of the CENTENNIAL TOUR SERIES, the Lanterman House tour on Thursday, May 14th at 10:30 am at 4420 Encinas Drive, La Canada Flintridge. As the CWC prepares to celebrate its Centennial, we offer a chance to visit local landmarks also turning 100 in 2015. Dive into some local history with a visit to the Lanterman House. Join fellow club members on a guided tour of this historic house with arts and crafts elements including original interiors and furnishings and view the special exhibition, Lanterman House: 100 Years. We’ll have lunch at a La Canada restaurant after the tour. Cost for the tour is $5 (payable at the door). Please RSVP to ktclark@caltech.edu by Monday May 11th. RSVP is vital to be sure we have enough docents for our group.

Mark your calendar for the final CWC event of the academic year, the annual Spring Scattering, in the Caltech President’s garden, on Friday, May 29th. The announcement and RSVP will appear in the May Bulletin.

Judy Collins

President’s Message
For updated calendar information, see www.cwclub.caltech.edu.

**CWC Board Meeting**
Wednesday April 1, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, Millikan Board Room.
All are welcome.

**CATS Study and Business Meeting**
Tuesday April 7, Athenaeum Mezzanine.
Study Session: 10:30 am to noon.
Business Meeting: noon to 1:00 pm
Contact: Romy Wyllie (626-794-7773).

**Toy Library & Household Equipment Loan Pool / Furniture Pool**
Open every Thursday (except holidays) from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, 234 S. Catalina Ave., rear house.
Contact: furnpool@caltech.edu, Hui-chen Chen (Irene) (huiiriko@gmail.com) and Wafa Abidi (waab2006@hotmail.com).

**Activities and Interest Groups**

**Morning Book Discussion Group**
Meet for breakfast at the Athenaeum (membership of the Athenaeum is required to order breakfast), 8:00 am Contact Micheline Vogt (626-794-7823) by the Tuesday prior to the meeting date to make a reservation.

**CATS Tour Service**
Thursday April 23, 10:30 am, Athenaeum (front entrance).
Reservations for monthly or group tours: James Muro, Caltech Campus Programs (626-395-4654) or website: cats.caltech.edu.

**Children’s Playgroup**
To be added to the Playgroup mailing list, email playgroup@caltech.edu.

**Wednesdays in the Park Playgroup**
Wednesdays, 10:00 am to noon, Tournament Park.
Contact: Karla Horst (kghorst@gmail.com).

**Conversational English**
Mondays, 3:15 pm, Red Door Café.
Contact: Beth Harris (626-356-9907, bethplum@hotmail.com)

**Caltech Women’s Investment Group**
Wednesday, April 22, 7:00 pm, Tolman Bacher House. Please contact Barbara Weber (818-790-2159, gobarbweb@sbcglobal.net) and Laurie Yeomans (818-790-4984, leyeomans@hotmail.com).

**Caltech Playreaders**
Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 8:00 p.m. Athenaeum Hall of Associates
*After the Revolution*, by Amy Herzog
Directed and Introduced by Ashley Stroupe.

Young Emma Joseph has formed a social justice foundation named after her deceased grandfather, liberal icon Joe Joseph, who defied post-World War II McCarthy Era blacklists by refusing to name people as Communist conspirators. After Emma's flaming valediction of her grandfather at her law school graduation, the family is shaken to learn about a soon-to-be-published book that reveals Joe in fact passed secrets to the Soviet Union during the War itself. Emma is devastated when she learns that her relatives have for years covered up this political transgression. Building on events within her own family, Herzog writes with compassion and humor about Emma's journey to understand the difficulty of tallying the right and wrong in any life.

No reservations needed for the reading (admission is $3 for CWC members, and $4 for all others). But if you plan to dine at The Athenaeum beforehand (reservations requested at 626/395-8200), you are most welcome to join the Playreaders Table which is seated promptly at 6:00 p.m. to make the 8:00 p.m. curtain time. The table need not be full before ordering. If you would like to read a part, contact casting coordinators Diana St. James (saintj@caltech.edu) or Ashley Stroupe (ashley_stroupe@yahoo.com). To be added to the Playreaders mailing list, contact Shona Stirbl (brogdenstirbl@yahoo.com).

**BOOK LOVERS’ SOIREE**
Monday April 13, *The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey, 7:30 to 9:00 pm, Athenaeum Mezzanine or the Rathskeller. Contact: Barbara Weber (818-790-2159, gobarbweb@sbcglobal.net) and Laurie Yeomans (818-790-4984, leyeomans@hotmail.com).

**Hiking Group**
Thursday April 23, Deukmejian Wilderness Park, Le Mesnager Loop Trail, 1.4 miles long with a 420 ft. elevation change. Moderately easy with little shade or water. Views toward LA and the Verdugos, the San Fernando Valley and Mt. Lukens. Take the 210 freeway west to La Crescenta, exit onto Pennsylvania Avenue and turn right, then left onto Foothill Boulevard, and right onto New York until the dead end at Markridge Road. Turn left on Markridge and go 200 yards to the park entrance on the right. We’ll meet in the car park near the barn. The address is 3429 Markridge Road, Glendale. For those who would like a ride, email Barbara Ellis, babs.ellis@gmail.com, 626 319 8285. Guests welcome ($3 charge). Bring a hat, water and snack.

**TOY LIBRARY & HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT LOAN POOL / FURNITURE POOL**
Open every Thursday (except holidays) from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, 234 S. Catalina Ave., rear house.
Contact: furnpool@caltech.edu, Hui-chen Chen (Irene) (huiiriko@gmail.com) and Wafa Abidi (waab2006@hotmail.com).

**BABYSITTING CO-OP**
Email babysittingcoop@caltech.edu or come to the Wednesdays in the Park Playgroup. Contact: Arden Thomas (arden.e.thomas@gmail.com).
The Caltech Women’s Club invites you to attend an
Iron Chef Cooking Competition
Please join us for a night of competition, good company, and culinary delights.

The evening will include a cooking competition in the spirit of the Iron Chefs. Teams will be assigned, secret ingredients will be revealed, and the culinary creations will be judged on taste, presentation, and creativity.

For those who want to participate, we will provide the chef’s jackets, ingredients, and all needed tools.

For those who want to observe the fun, appetizers will be passed during the evening, and you will have the pleasure of a front row seat to this competition.

Please be sure to indicate on the form below if you would like to be a participating chef, an observer, or if you are willing to be either.

There is a limit of 24 chef participants, but there is no limit on observers.

Friday April 17, 2015
7:00 pm until the cooking is done
Tom Mannion’s House
400 South Hill Street
Pasadena, CA

$12.00 for faculty/staff/spouses and guests
$9.00 for students/postdocs and guests

Please RSVP by April 10, 2015

For information please contact Brooke Anderson (brooke.anderson@colorado.edu).

Iron Chef Competition

Member Name:_________________________________________________

Guest Names:_________________________________________________

No. of faculty/staff/spouses and guests _______ x $12.00 = $_______
No. of students/postdocs and guests _______ x $9.00 = $_______

Total Amount Enclosed: $___________

# Cooking Participants_____ # Observers _____ # Willing to be either ______

RSVPs are due by Friday April 10, 2015

Please send this form with a check payable to the Caltech Women’s Club to Natalie Cohen, 1725 Homet Road, Pasadena, CA 91106
CALTECH presents

EARNEST C. WATSON LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday, April 1, 2015 / 8 p.m.

A MOLECULAR ARMS RACE: THE IMMUNE SYSTEM VERSUS HIV

Pamela J. Bjorkman
Max Delbrück Professor of Biology and Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Friday, April 10, 2015 / 7 p.m.

Mark Nizer 4D
$20; Youth $10 (general admission)

Special 1-Hour School Program / 10 a.m.
For more information about how your school can participate, contact Mary Herrera at (626) 395-6059.

Saturday, April 18, 2015 / 2 p.m.

Fire Ants 3D: The Invincible Army

Erik Verlage
Materials Science

$10 (unreserved seating)
Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Saturday, April 25, 2015 / 8 p.m.

$35, 30, 25; Youth $10

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Headlined by Latin Grammy-winning cellist Antonio Lysy

Ask about your Caltech discount.

All events will be held in Beckman Auditorium.

Call for tickets: (626) 395-4652 www.events.caltech.edu
**Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt Potluck on April 1st**

Bring your baskets and join us on Wednesday April 1st for the Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt Potluck at Tournament Park from 10 am to noon. We will have fun looking for hidden eggs and take a break to be crafty with an Easter-themed craft. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, you may contact me at kghorst@gmail.com.

Karla Horst

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**Join us!**

Open House - Thursday April 9 from 8:30 - 10 am at the Red Door Cafe. No RSVP needed.

Prospective members are encouraged to stop by, ask questions and meet current Caltech Women’s Club members to learn about club activities and life in and around Caltech.

Feel free to stop by this casual event and enjoy refreshments and conversation. Children and partners are welcome!

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**Save the Date**

**Centennial Tour Series - Lanterman House Tour**

Thursday May 14th at 10:30 am
4420 Encinas Drive, La Canada Flintridge

As the CWC prepares to celebrate its Centennial, we offer a chance to visit a local landmark also turning 100 in 2015. Dive into some local history with a visit to the Lanterman House. Join fellow club members on a guided tour of this historic house with arts and crafts elements including original interiors and furnishings. We can also view the special exhibition, “Lanterman House: 100 Years”, in celebration of their Centennial. Details to be provided later on a lunch at a restaurant in La Canada after the tour. Cost for tour is $5 per person (payable at the door).

Please RSVP to ktclark@caltech.edu no later than Monday May 11th. RSVP is vital to make sure we have enough docents for our group.
**Old Dorm & Throop Club (1910-1962)**

In 1910, a 20-room A-frame, $26,000 Boarding Hall was designed by Myron Hunt & Elmer Gray at 289 North Los Robles for the original Throop Polytechnic Institute. In 1915, under the supervision of architects Sylvanus Marston and Garrett Van Pelt, the building was cut into seven sections and moved to Throop’s new campus. It was placed on a fresh foundation east of Throop Hall near the current student center location. In 1924, Trustee Robert Roe Blacker made a donation of $5,000 for the construction of a student union to be a daytime center for students who were not accommodated in the dormitory. The Greene Brothers designed a wooden bungalow just east of the south end of the dorm. It consisted of a simple 40 x 50 foot room with a hardwood floor. To help with furnishing the bungalow and to make it more comfortable, the students sold bricks for the fireplace chimneybreast. The bricks were identified with names or initials of individuals and clubs.

Originally, the students named this new club “The Dugout” after a campus shed where two students ran a sandwich shop. In 1934, Mrs. Millikan raised funds and, in consultation with Myron Hunt, organized the remodeling of Henry Greene’s bungalow. The Dugout then became known as the Throop Club, a place for off-campus students to eat lunch and hold gatherings.

**Winnett Student Center (1962-Present)**

In 1962 the Winnett Student Center was constructed with funds provided by P. G. Winnett, a Pasadena resident, owner of the Bullocks Department Store and a member of Caltech’s Board of Trustees. It took the place of Caltech’s original dormitory known as “The Old Dorm” or “Greasy” which was a small dining area at the south end of the dormitory, and the Throop Club. The new center provided space for a bookstore, central lounge, meetings rooms and headquarters for student clubs. Keeping an earlier promise to the students that the Throop Club fireplace bricks would always remain on campus, the bricks became a feature of partial exterior and interior walls of the new building.

By the late 1990s the bookstore needed more space in order to adequately serve a modern scientific institution. The bookstore was expanded to fill the entire first floor and included the Red Door Café and the Information Technology Service computer shop. The central lounge or Club Room was moved to the second floor and an elevator was added. As part of the enlargement scheme AC Martin Partners, who had designed the Beckman Institute, created a new exterior but retained the original roof and roofline. In keeping with the guidelines of the 1989 Master Plan, Kaufmann’s architecture was used as a prototype. After careful studies of his buildings, which were influenced by the architecture of Andalusia, selected elements were incorporated into the new design of Winnett, including window moldings, arcades, and capitals. The capitals were copies of the original cast stone capitals of the South Houses, which were designed by John Hood, a 1921 Caltech alumnus. The figures on the capitals are whimsical characters depicting the hobbies and interests of the faculty and students at Caltech. Some of the faces are familiar and resemble famous Caltech scientists.
The students followed suit with this whimsy and shortly after the remodel was complete, the Caltech community was greeted with “new” outdoor seating courtesy of an unknown donor.

The wall of bricks from the original Throop Club fireplace remained undisturbed, and customers entering the renovated bookstore can step over the fireplace’s brass “T”. Caltech’s beaver guards the bookstore’s main doorway. Albert Stewart, a world-renowned sculptor known for his animal subjects, executed this bas-relief for the 1962 Winnett Center.

Thanks to the generosity of Fred and Joyce Hameetman and their Foundation, which was established in 2006, a new renovation for the building is being planned. According to a Caltech Media Relations article dated June 4, 2012, the $6.2 million gift celebrated several milestones in the Hameetman family and the history of the building. The announcement was made on the 50th anniversary of Winnett’s opening on June 8, 1962 and the day Fred Hameetman graduated from the Institute; the date coincided with the Hameetman’s 50th wedding anniversary in 2013, and what would have been Fred’s late mother’s 100th birthday.

The wall of bricks from the original Throop Club fireplace remained undisturbed, and customers entering the renovated bookstore can step over the fireplace’s brass “T”. Caltech’s beaver guards the bookstore’s main doorway. Albert Stewart, a world-renowned sculptor known for his animal subjects, executed this bas-relief for the 1962 Winnett Center.

The facility will be revitalized and repurposed to become the Hameetman Center with spaces for all members of the Caltech community to interact on campus. Professor Steven Frautschi and his wife Mie have also promised funding for a dedicated rehearsal room for the Caltech band, orchestra, and choral groups. The entire building interior will be refreshed with a new interior stair and elevator core linking all three floors, improved access to the basement, the addition of the music rehearsal room and dance studio, an enlarged outdoor patio, and infusing the building with up-to-date technology. The retail bookstore will be re-sized to meet the needs of today’s students – most now buy their books online – and the collaborative lounge space on the ground floor will be integrated with an expanded

Red Door Café. The design will include informational and interactive display areas highlighting achievements of both JPL and Caltech. Most important of all, the named bricks will continue to be an important part of the building.

The building renovation is being designed by Gonzalez Goodale Architects from Pasadena, who designed the Fire Station at Del Mar and Holliston. Another Pasadena-based firm, Pankow Builders, will be the contractor for the project. The renovated Hameetman Center will grow by approximately 4,000 square feet and is currently estimated for completion in 2017.
February Hike to Fish Canyon in Azusa-Duarte

Thursday February 19th was a perfect winter day for a hike. The trail began by going right through the center of the active Vulcan Materials mine, though there was no danger from the rocks being hurled down the hillside. Long conveyor belts carried the exceptionally high quality granite over our heads and across the San Gabriel river.

There's an insatiable demand for this in construction and highway work, and Vulcan has recently begun mining the prominent Van Tassel ridge between Fish Canyon and Duarte. Despite strong opposition from neighboring cities, permission was granted. To ameliorate the environmental and visual damage, they're whittling away the ugly “Mayan steps” on the northern hillside and revegetating them, and they built the trail and car park to allow 7 day a week access to the canyon.

Because Vulcan's operations blocked access to Fish Canyon for a long time, it's a pristine gem, with fresh water and very little graffiti or trash. Hopefully it will stay that way. Many wildflowers were already in bloom, and we saw swallowtail butterflies feeding on the blue dicky flowers. The seasonal waterfall at the end of the trail was in flow, and very pretty. All in all, an interesting hike.

On Thursday April 23, we'll meet at Deukmejian Wilderness Park on the south-facing slope of Mt. Lukens and hike the Le Mesnager Loop Trail, 1.4 miles long with a 420 ft. elevation change. It’s a moderately easy hike through chaparral growing back after the 2009 Station Fire, but there is little shade, so bring a hat and water. There are good views south toward LA and the Verdugos, and northwest to the San Fernando Valley. The trail is named after French immigrant George Le Mesnager who planted a vineyard here in 1913. He sent the grapes to Los Angeles for winemaking until Prohibition in 1920. After it ended in 1933, he built a large, French-style stone barn for vinting his own wine.

The land was acquired by the City of Glendale in 1968 and the barn, which used to be in a romantic state of decay, has been restored. A vineyard and picnic area are next to it.

To get there, take the 210 freeway west to La Crescenta, exit onto Pennsylvania Avenue and turn right, then left onto Foothill Boulevard, and right onto New York until the dead end at Markridge Road. Turn left on Markridge Road and go 200 yards to the park entrance on the right. Follow the entry road up to the parking area. The address is 3429 Markridge Road, Glendale. If you would like to rideshare, please let me know: Barbara Ellis, babs.ellis@gmail.com, 626 319 8285.

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THE CWC NEEDS YOU!

Would you like to get involved in the Caltech Women’s Club? Organizing activities or programs is a great way to meet people, and broaden your experience. If you are curious, why don’t you join us for a Board meeting? All CWC members are welcome to attend Board meetings. The next Board meeting is Wednesday April 1 (see page 2 for details).

Maybe you will get inspired and join an activity group, help with a program, or maybe you will even volunteer to be a candidate for a Board member position (see page 15)! All help is welcome!

Dog Walking and Pet Sitting
Regular walks or pet care when you need it • Jan and Diana (CWC member) are experienced pet care specialists and animal lovers serving clients in the Pasadena, Altadena, San Marino, La Canada, Sierra Madre area • Fully insured (626)264-0499
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www.pasadenadogwalker.com

“Healthy and Delicious Mother’s Day”
Wholesome Italian cooking class for adults
Heart shaped ravioli with vegan Alfredo sauce
Light pink cucumber soup
Romantic salad
Mini chocolate cheese cake
Gluten free bagel-bread

Where:
14 E. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91006

When:
Monday May 11, 2015, 6-9 pm

$55 per person
(including food & materials)

Our Parenting Place collaborates with Sauté Culinary Academy

More info:
contact Silda
(626) 558-2945

sign up at
www.ourparentingplace.com
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Founded in 1972
This is the 11th in a series of profiles on your Caltech Women’s Club Board members. This time, get to know Regina Birkhofer-Gross.

What’s your position on the Caltech Women’s Club Board and what do you like most about it?
I am the Hospitality Chair and a member of the Nomination Committee. I also photograph many events and help out impromptu, wherever needed, if I am in town. I like people of all ages, engaging with them and trying to build bridges between various CWC members. For the coming year I asked my friend Diana Granat to co-chair the Hospitality Committee because we are often out of town. We welcome new members to join this committee because it is a good way to meet everyone, especially when helping at the registration table.

When and why did you join the CWC?
I joined the CWC about 10 years ago after having worked in Clinical Histopathology for more than 30 years. What impressed me most, after talking to several members, is that there were so many bright women with their own very busy lives who definitely never saw themselves as a member of any women’s club but are very happy with CWC. The practical support that is available to young mothers, including those that are working towards their own Nobel Prize, is often invaluable.

Which CWC activity or event holds your dearest memories?
All of the Spring Scatterings at the Caltech President’s house are lots of fun for the whole family. This event provides a great way to just relax and mingle. The grounds are exceptional, the kids are busy, the food is good, the wine is cold and it costs far less than a family dinner out. Also near the top of my list is the annual holiday lunch at the beautifully decorated Athenaeum. Everyone is in such a festive mood and full of goodwill. Author talks and private tours for our group at the Huntington Gardens and the Norton Simon Museum were wonderful. We have so much talent to draw from, right within our CWC community.

What do you like to do when you’re not busy with the CWC?
I enjoy traveling with my husband, internationally as well as on road trips to our cabin in Colorado and to our relatives in Arizona. Having been born in Berlin puts European travel on the top of my list because we have many relatives and friends over there. I swim at least 2-3 times a week, no matter where we are, and this has become a lifesaver after I could barely move 15 years ago. We also love to bicycle some weekends from Manhattan Beach to Redondo Beach. We often meet my sons and grandsons in the Ventura area for lunches or dinners. I prefer One On One instead of big family gatherings. Another highlight is the summer evenings at the outdoor Athenaeum – also THE best and easiest way to entertain.

Do you have children and pets?
I have 8 men in my life– all are taller then me: There is my husband Richard and his adult son Anteas, my 2 adult sons Marc and Eric and my 4 grandsons, Bryce, Ethan, Blake and Zane. After many hardships I still don’t know how I deserve to be so lucky up to this point of my life.

If you could make a wish for the CWC, what would it be?
We need to reach more of the Caltech/JPL/Huntington Library/Carnegie Observatories communities, to make them aware of CWC. If large events are too intimidating (or you may have hearing problems), you can always form small groups at random, like Birthday Clubs, from within the vast number of really interesting CWC members. We all can feel isolated at times - especially being married to all those super smart scientists - but overall: Huzzah for men!
“THE SHARING OF MUTUAL INTERESTS”
ICONOGRAPHY WITH YVONNE HAJDU-CRONIN

by Jennifer M. P. Hess

The following is a feature interview with former CWC Bulletin Editor, Yvonne Hajdu-Cronin. Yvonne and I connected for a cup o’ java last fall. We started talking about her paintings and how she came to study iconography. I found her story fascinating, and her work mesmerizing. Last month Regina Birkhofer and I met at Yvonne’s home in South Pasadena to take pictures of these spectacular paintings.

How did you first become interested in iconography?

I didn’t see icons covered much in art history, because art history is about change. I had taken a lot of art classes before, but I hadn’t really found my voice. I was curious about icons when I joined the Eastern Orthodox Church.

“Switching to egg tempera […] and using light […] to define form, was like learning to paint all over again.”

Eventually I took a class in December 2009, and it was in this class that everything I had studied previously came together for me. It was very hard at first, because of my western training. Switching to egg tempera from oils & acrylics, and using light instead of shadows to define form, was like learning to paint all over again.

“It also appeals to me because it is very personal, to create something meaningful for a family to put in their home.”

Iconography provided a way for me to express my faith through my artistic talent. I tend to be very perfectionist and detail-oriented, and iconography requires a lot of precise line-work. It also appeals to me because it is very personal, to create something meaningful for a family to put in their home.

Who was your inspiration? Was there a particular teacher or method?

I had a couple of classes from a priest at my church. Then I discovered a weeklong workshop through Hexaemeron. I went on the Internet and went to their website and read about their teacher, Ksenia Pokrovsky. When I saw the quality of her work and read about her story, I knew I wanted to study with her. In September, 2011 I flew right to North Carolina and met Ksenia for the first time.

Ksenia was from Russia. During the 1960’s, while getting her PhD in biophysics at Moscow University, she met her husband, Lev Pokrovsky. Eventually he became a professor at Moscow State University.

“Anyone who made an icon was subjected to investigation by the KGB and prosecuted in the same manner as a pornographer, drug dealer or owner of firearms.”

Ksenia was interested in spirituality and raising a family, and she knew that any of her research work would be credited to the USSR. Ksenia left academia and started doing iconography painting and restoring icons in 1969. Due to the criminal ban on iconography, Ksenia was largely self-taught. Anyone who made an icon was subjected to investigation by the KGB and prosecuted in the same manner as a pornographer, drug dealer or owner of firearms. At one
point the KGB bugged and searched her apartment, but because Ksenia was able to play the role of a ‘bored housewife’ she was left alone.

Ksenia Pokrovsky was ultimately part of an underground network of artists and intellectuals. She had many students in Russia. In the late 1980’s, during perestroika, Ksenia was instrumental in the restructuring restoration of iconography.

What process did Ksenia use to create icons?

Ksenia had an underground network of geologists who would smuggle the clays and minerals for the pigments. She had people in the lab pulverize marble for her, so that she could make the gesso for her artwork (the area ground in between the board and the paint). Ksenia wasn’t allowed in the art stores, because you had to be a member of the Soviet Artists’ Union. So, Ksenia had to make her supplies last a long time.

When did Ksenia come to the United States?

Ksenia Pokrovsky came to the United States with her family in 1992. Her

“Her priest Father Alexander Men […] was stabbed in the street, a crime that was never solved”

priest Father Alexander Men had a good following of Russian intellectuals. When Father Alexander was stabbed in the street, a crime that was never solved, his followers wanted to get away and be safe. Ksenia didn’t expect to paint icons in America, but she was approached to teach iconography. Eventually Ksenia taught classes with her daughter, Anna. Ksenia died on April July 7, 2013.

Where is the best place to learn how to do iconography?

Hexaemeron classes have been taught in Kentucky, North Carolina, Connecticut, California, Pennsylvania, and Sao Paulo, Brazil. This year their locations are California (in May), Connecticut (in June) and South Carolina (in September). Kenia’s daughter Anna and her long-time student Marek Czarnecki continue to teach the classes.

For more information about iconography and Yvonne’s work, please visit Yvonne’s website at croninstudio.com. Information about Ksenia Pokrovsky can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ksenia_Pokrovsky

Mom’s Night Out

Moms night out was fun listening to live music while creating a work of art. It was great getting to hang out with the playgroup moms without having to keep an eye on our little ones while at the park, just having great conversations.

If you’re interested in joining next time, please send an email to kghorst@gmail.com.

Karla Horst

English Conversation Group

The English Conversation Group continues to meet each Monday at the Red Door Café on the Caltech campus. On March 2, we welcomed new members and had a fun session finding out more about each other. We discussed our impressions of California and the United States, found where we like to shop for groceries and favorite places to eat amongst other things.

It was great to share tips about where to get good prices for fruit and veg, locate international foodstuffs as well as find the best burger and kebab.

We now have members from countries across Europe to China and Iran. All are welcome to join our friendly and informal group. We meet each Monday at 3:15pm. For more information contact Beth Harris (bethplum@hotmail.com).

Beth Harris
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It’s Never Too Late to Join the CWC!

Membership  Membership in the Caltech Women’s Club is open to anyone who is affiliated with Caltech, JPL, the Huntington Library, the affiliated observatories, or the Caltech Associates. The CWC has a diverse membership of about 218 women (and a few men), with many international members, and a broad range of ages – from students to members who have been in the Club for more than 20 years.


CWC Bulletin  Contact: Katrin Boden, bodenkatrin@hotmail.com, 626-689-1426. The Bulletin is published each month between October and May (except for January). Items that you think would be of interest to the membership are always welcome. Our last issue of the 2014-2015 year will be published at the beginning of May. Please email any photos, news or adverts to Katrin Boden, bodenkatrin@hotmail.com, 626-689-1426 by April 3, 2015.

To help defray the cost of publishing, the Bulletin carries advertisements that are sponsored by, and may be of interest to, our members. The cost of adverts can be found on our website under “Publications.” If you would like to place an ad in the Bulletin, please contact the Bulletin Business Editor, Barbara Ellis, 626-564-9107, babs.ellis@gmail.com.

Website  Contact: Marcia Brown, marciab@caltech.edu, 626-345-1956. The CWC website is www.cwclub.caltech.edu. Go to the website for information on upcoming events and downloadable reservation forms for CWC events. To post information about an event or activity, contact Marcia.

CWC Pasadena Area Guide  The Pasadena Area Guide is a resource for both newcomers and longtime members. It features recommendations for services, restaurants, shops, and activities, as well as useful information about the local area, and opportunities for volunteers. The guide is on the web at www.cwclub.caltech.edu/publications/area-guide.html. Please email your additions, revisions, or deletions to the Area Guide Editor, Karen Brunschwig, at kabrunschwig@gmail.com. Thank you for helping to make the Guide a valuable resource for the members of our community.

The purpose of the Caltech Women’s Club is to promote friendships and the sharing of mutual interests.

Executive Board 2014-2015

President  Judy Collins
judycollins63@earthlink.net, 626-794-8870

Vice-President  Anna Parsons-Lamb
pars0053@hotmail.com, 626-808-3990

Secretary  Connie Shair
clshair@icloud.com, 626-798-5720

Treasurer  Liz Fischer
gentryfischer@gmail.com, 617-833-8490

Bulletin Editor  Katrin Boden
bodenkatrin@hotmail.com, 626-689-1426

Proposed Slate of Officers 2015-2016

The CWC Board’s nominating committee has assembled a proposed slate of officers for the 2015-16 Executive Board:

President- Brooke Anderson
Vice President- Katie Clark
Treasurer- Liz Fischer
Secretary- Connie Shair
Bulletin Editor- TBA

There are many positions on the board so if you are interested in learning more about helping the CWC run, please contact Sandhya Ravichandran or any current member of the board (see the board roster on the website at http://cwclub.caltech.edu/about/board.php). We’d love to have you join us!