Looking Back

CWC Interview Excerpts from the 1970’s
by Alice Stone

Looking Ahead

Meet the CWC Board Upcoming Events Activity Guide

The Perfect Fall Apple Tart Recipe
The mission of the Caltech Women’s Club shall be to promote friendship and the sharing of mutual interests and to provide service and cultural enrichment to the wider Caltech community.

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A special thank you to the Caltech Archives for helping to preserve the history of the Caltech Women’s Club and for providing permission to reprint excerpts from Alice Stone’s interviews.
Editor’s Letter

The start of the school year is always a swirl of nostalgia and anticipation. I love reflecting back on early school days that were full of new pencils and notebooks. Even though I’m not in school anymore, I still love the season of diving back into productivity after a welcome respite. Whether it’s meeting new friends, tackling a new research project, or the anticipation of what is to come, fall is the time when we remember what it is to leave the adventurous moments of summer for more structured days and projects.

And while this fall season is coming our way with the apprehension of how we are going to continue to navigate the changes in the ways that we gather, it is still a wonderful time to settle back into some of our rhythms. Many of us are meeting with friends and life is slowly finding its way back to one we remember. In the spirit of fall beckoning us to remember and simultaneously move into the changing season, the theme of Looking Back to Look Ahead seemed to fit where we find ourselves.

I hope you enjoy the collection of looking back and looking ahead in these pages. We are thrilled to have a chance to look back at some of the history of the CWC in excerpts from Alice Stone’s interviews from the 1970’s. And it is always a joy to hear what CWC members have been up to. Be sure to also check out the upcoming events and our activity groups.

We’d love for you to join!

Brooke

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Recombobulation. What does it mean? In our last CWC Bulletin a CWC member and licensed pilot was photographed standing under the famous Recombobulation Area at Milwaukee Airport after attending an aviation conference in Oshkosh. I was unfamiliar with the word so I looked it up. It means “removing confusion,” “putting back in order,” “to think clearly again.” I fully expected to be in recombobulation mode at this point in the year but, not so fast, the COVID pandemic and discombobulation still determine much of our lives.

The highlight of this year for me has been being fully vaccinated with Moderna vaccine. Because I work in an outpatient SUD (substance use disorder) treatment setting, I was classified as a 1A “essential worker” and received my doses in January. I went to a large walk thru vaccination center at Lincoln Park across the street from the USC Health Sciences campus where I was inoculated by students from the USC School of Pharmacy.

At the time of my second dose, I had a sudden flashback to another mass vaccination program. I recalled being in the early grades of grammar school in the 1960s and standing in line to receive a “sugar cube” along with my classmates.

My memories are vague but I do remember my parents accompanying me and preparing me for the process by providing comfort and reassurance. I could feel their happiness and excitement. I don’t ever recall them saying the word “polio.” It was only much later that I realized I had received the oral polio vaccine developed by Albert Sabin. I received my polio vaccine and my COVID vaccine within a few miles of each other; I grew up in the general area of Lincoln Park.

The theme of our Fall Bulletin is “Looking Back to Look Ahead.” For me “looking back” is remembering when I received my “sugar cube” vaccine and “looking ahead” is the COVID vaccine. Both represent hope and breakthrough advances in medical science. Our Fall Bulletin contains much content expressing our theme.

Be sure to read excerpts of the interviews from the 1970s conducted by our member Alice Stone. She spoke with women from the earliest days of the CWC. We were established in 1916 as the Faculty Women’s Club of Throop College. The meetings were informal social occasions in members’ homes. The name California Institute of Technology wasn’t adopted until 1920.

I am “looking ahead” to seeing everyone at our CWC events. Mindful of pandemic restrictions and public health orders, we will continue to present virtual content and resume limited in person gatherings. The health and safety of our members is our priority.

Looking forward to a wonderful year,
The CWC Board and committees have been hard at work planning a Fall Gathering and upcoming programs. We have been planning outside events in order to allow distancing.

Unfortunately, at this point, Caltech is restricting gatherings over 25 people until after October 15th, so we are going to have to postpone our currently scheduled events.

We are staying up-to-date with the latest requirements at the Institute, and we will proceed with our plans when it is deemed safe.

Watch your email for upcoming programs and events. We will let you know as soon as we do!
Welcome to the CWC!

The CWC is open to all in the Caltech campus, JPL, and affiliated organizations to promote friendship and empower women. We are a group of people who have a connection with Caltech in common. We are of different ages, races, and nationalities and have different backgrounds and lifestyles. Most of us are women, a few of us are men. Some of us have been in Pasadena for years, and others have just arrived.

The Caltech Women’s Club has been active for over 100 years and provides a venue for the diverse Caltech community to meet in social, shared-interest groups, and community services. This handbook will give you an overview of the way that the club functions and some of what we offer. Be sure to check out the Activities Guide if you would like to know about more ways to get connected. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to our current president, Gloria Mullendore at cwclub@caltech.edu.

Monthly Board Meetings
Board meetings are usually held the first or second Wednesday of the month (no meetings in January, July or August) from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. They are usually held in Hameetman Conference Room and serve as planning sessions to share progress, coordinate programming, and work together. For now, they are being held on Zoom. All members are welcome to attend. If you’d like to attend a meeting, please email Gloria Mullendore at cwclub@caltech.edu to get the meeting information. Board meetings for the year 2021-2022 are held at 12:00 pm on the following dates:

9/8, 10/6, 11/3, 12/1, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4, and 6/1. *Note: there is no meeting in January.

Officers
The CWC Officers are elected by the members for a one-year term. A slate of officers is proposed by a nominating committee. The officer roles are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Bulletin
The CWC Bulletin is published four times per year (Fall, Winter, Mid-Winter and Spring). Each issue features details about upcoming events, RSVP forms, photos and other articles of interest. The Bulletin includes advertisements that are sponsored by and may be of interest to our members. If you would like to place an ad in the bulletin please contact cwclub@caltech.edu. To post information about an event or activity, please also email cwclub@caltech.edu.

Fall Gathering Luncheon And Activities Fair
These are usually held in October to welcome new and returning members and to showcase the club activities. Although we have been working on planning an in-person Fall Gathering on October 14th, we are going to have to delay the event in light of the current rules at Caltech. We are watching the situation closely, so please watch your emails for updates about when we can have an in-person event.

Holiday Luncheon
The annual Holiday Luncheon is the perfect occasion to meet up with friends, enjoy a special luncheon menu, and see the festive Athenaeum decorations. We are working hard to try to plan an in-person event this year. Naturally our plans are dependent on the rules and regulations as we move forward, so watch your email and the Bulletin for updates.

Spring Scattering
The Spring Scattering is an informal evening party to celebrate the end of the academic and CWC year. We are hopeful that we will be able to have the Spring Scattering this year. Stay tuned for updates as we get closer.
Membership
Membership in the CWC is open to anyone who is affiliated with Caltech campus, JPL, and its affiliated organizations. The CWC has a diverse membership of over 200 people, with many international members, and a broad range of ages – from students to members who have been in the club for several decades.

Dues
The membership year extends from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. Please join us or renew your membership online at https://cwclub.caltech.edu/membership or by downloading the form from our website: cwclub.caltech.edu. Membership dues include the Bulletin via email.

Faculty/Staff/Retired $35
Postdoctoral Fellow $10
Graduate Student Free

Add $30 if you’d like to receive a printed Bulletin

Member Support
We are delighted to have a member support donation category to provide needed support for our members. In the past, we offered Meals for Members sign ups to drop off dinners for parents of newborns or others coping with a difficult time. Now, to avoid in person contact, we’re collecting donations from members that are in turn used to purchase DoorDash or similar gift certificates. If you know a member who’d benefit from this service please email cwclub@caltech.edu.

Donations
Donations for member support or post-doc memberships can be made online at https://cwclub.caltech.edu/membership or mailed by check to Caltech Women’s Club, MC 104B-6, 1200 E. California Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91125. Donations paid directly to the CWC are not tax-deductible.

CWC Casita Exchange
234 S. Catalina Avenue (rear house)
CWC Casita Exchange is temporarily closed due to COVID-19. We are looking forward to the time when we can regularly access the building and once again arrange the loan of clothing, toys and household goods useful for young families.

Pasadena Area Guide
For many years, Natalie Cohen has kept the CWC Pasadena Area Guide up to date with information for new community members. With the advent of online reviews, however, we have decided to post the latest Area Guide on our website under Publications and update it only when necessary. If you need to update it, please feel free to let us know.

Caltech History and Architectural Tour Service (CHATS)
Contact: Beryl Meiron at bmeiron@gmail.com
CHATS is a group of CWC members who give historical and architectural tours of the Caltech campus. In addition to gathering information on the campus buildings, we take occasional field trips to places of architectural interest. All you need is an interest in the campus and some flexible time. We have a complete script of our tour material and give personal training to new members. Anyone can join. Please contact us for general information about CHATS or information on becoming a docent.

Post-doc Membership Subsidy
We have set aside funds to cover the $10 membership fee if this cost is a hardship for any postdoc or their family member. Please reach out and access this subsidy for the 2021-2022 year by emailing cwclub@caltech.edu.
Caltech Women’s Club Membership Form

Welcome to the Caltech Women’s Club.
Your annual membership supports CWC events, activities, and community services.
Members can choose to receive the Bulletin via email or purchase a printed Bulletin.
You also have access to a member roster online, or you can choose to receive a printed roster.
Questions? Contact cwclub@caltech.edu

Member Name:
____________________ ______________________
First              Last

Address:
____________________ ______________________
Street              City, State, Zip

Contact Info:
____________________ ______________________
Email              Phone

For events, how would you like your partner’s name to appear?
____________________ ______________________
First              Last

Member Status:
☐ New Member
☐ Renewing Member
☐ approximate month & year you first joined the CWC

Member Affiliation:
☐ Self
☐ Partner (if applicable)
☐ Caltech
☐ JPL
☐ Torchbearer or Associates Donor
☐ CIT Affiliate (Y, Caltech Credit Union, etc.)
☐ Carnegie Observatories
☐ Huntington Library

Member Dues:
☐ Graduate Student Free
☐ Postdoctoral Scholar $10*
☐ All others members $35
* If this cost is a hardship, please email us.

Paper Bulletin Fee:
If you would like a mailed, paper bulletin, please check below:
☐ Paper Bulletin $ 30

Roster:
All members will have access to an online roster and a mailed, paper roster. If you’d like to opt out of the paper roster, please check here:
☐ No Paper Roster

Amount Enclosed:
Check payable to Caltech Women’s Club
Dues: $____  Bulletin: $____ Non Tax-Deductible Donations: $____ Total Amount Enclosed: $____

You can sign up for 2021-2022 membership and pay your dues online or by mail.

ONLINE
Skip this form and use our EASY online sign up to register and pay your dues at www.cwclub.caltech.edu

BY MAIL
Please complete and mail this form and your check to
Caltech Women’s Club
MC 104B-6
1200 E. California Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91125

Member Donations
This year we will continue to accept donations for both general operations and for member support.
We now have both a direct option & a tax-deductible option.

DONATE DIRECTLY TO THE CWC
Donations made directly to the Caltech Women’s Club are NOT tax deductible but will be sent directly to the club.

☐ General Donation $____
☐ Member Support $____

Tax-Deductible DONATION THROUGH CALTECH
You can make a tax-deductible donation to the CWC through Caltech’s donation website. Go to cwclub.caltech.edu/donations or email us for information and a link.
After having hibernated through much of 2020, something had to give (!) and I decided to go for 30 minute swims every weekday morning at our local YMCA. This forces me to peel out of bed by 7 AM (!), a morning hour that I had not seen for over a year. Swimming saved my body and my mind—at least for now.

Talking to some fellow swimmers that recently reached that ‘magic age of around 50’ (like my sons!), I hear sad stories about all those body pains and how OLD they feel. Listening and feeling just a little smug about having made it to 70 plus (after those crazy 50’s), I tell them that I feel more content then ever, having taken my body pains to a dull roar, but also fully realizing how dangerous it is to voice anything like this because it all can change in just seconds...

By voicing my thoughts I figured that any little encouragement related to growing old with some grace can only help anytime.

It’s amazing how much inner peace it brings just sitting in our backyard, watching our mini Zoo. Well ok, we are so very lucky being able to watch deer and their babies, bears and their babies, and every small critter under the Arcadia sun that grace us with their visit. I never thought that staring for hours at our Zoo could be so calming. When the bears get too hot they go for a swim at the neighbors. No one near us seems to mind. Just don’t surprise them.

I always used to “have to do something” –not anymore! We are certainly not wealthy but we have ENOUGH, and that in itself is reason to be so grateful and content. Having had to work hard to truly earn this, makes me feel very good about it.

There are a few specific things that have made my life better since Covid hit.

I don’t multitask any more because I missed so much of the good stuff that way. Now I am busy filling many holes that I found in my education, reading/listening to books—more then 300 during the past years.

I always assumed that it would be impossible to catch up after spending so many years just worrying about household chores and children, then later about my 12 hrs of daily hospital work, but after reading/listening to books that taught me something new, I feel just a little bit smarter about many things that I missed, during the 60’s 70’s and 80’s. You avid readers out there know well how many books lead you to, “Oh lets read more about that as well”...casting an ever widening net.

Keeping the daily “News” to a bare minimum has also helped me. If I cannot fix any of it, I do not delve into details of blood and gore—what’s the point...I used to get very depressed about many things that I could not influence in any way and this paralysis made me totally useless, absolutely of no help to anyone.

Now I don’t over schedule and plan for just one or two little accomplishments per day.

Take care of your surroundings, your neighbors and try to help your community.

Enjoy every peaceful day being alive, and don’t forget to drink a lot of water, plus take regular deep breath...and an occasional nap.

PS- If working from home, you do not have to have ALL 3 meals with your significant other - we just share dinners - and go out or bring home food at least twice a week and that program has contributed much to my contentment.

Cheers from Regina
I spotted this while visiting my dad in England, after not seeing him for two years.

Stoneworkers with a sense of humor were restoring the 14th-century shrine of St. Amphibalus in St. Alban’s Cathedral, Hertfordshire, during the pandemic and decided to add a face mask to the carving.

-Katie Clark
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Classes Begin SEPTEMBER!

Social Media

Remember to follow the CWC on Facebook for updates and to chat with other members.
We have a public page at https://www.facebook.com/CWCCaltech/

We also have a private group Search for CWC Women’s Club. Request to join.

We love to publish the stories and creations of our CWC members.
If you have a story, poem, art piece, or anything else you’d like to share, please reach out to us at cwclub@caltech.edu.
Join the Pasadena Conservatory of Music’s Adult Studies community!

Individual Instruction
Group Lessons & Ensembles
Music History Courses*

*History courses are available to distance learners via Zoom as well as in-person students who wish to attend classes on campus.

pasadenaconservatory.org
Join the Pasadena Conservatory of Music’s Adult Studies community!

*Hi history courses are available to distance learners via Zoom as well as in-person students who wish to attend classes on campus.

Individual Instruction

Group Lessons & Ensembles

Music History Courses*

“Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.”

—Henry James

Illona Neff and Mischa on the chase boat at Lake Arrowhead Yacht Club Regatta, So fun to see all the lovely sailboats in the background.

New CWC member and CHATS docent-in-training Carol Chin has been busy capturing modern architecture and art moments on her blog. A recent field trip included taking a photo of the iconic Theme Building at LAX.

Judy Collins enjoying the outdoors in Mammoth, hiking the meadow trails below Mammoth Rock, and picnicking at Lake George with Mammoth friends.
When Roxana Anson was president of the Caltech Women’s Club in 1977-1978, she noticed that though the Club was founded in 1916, there were no records dating before 1931. She asked me to establish some form of historical record for that period. We decided to limit ourselves to informal interviews of women who served as president from 1916 to 1931. Tapes or notes would be transcribed, and excerpts published in the monthly Club Bulletin. To ensure continuity of possession of at least one copy of the Project, the Caltech Archives agreed to become the primary repository, with a duplicate to remain in the Club files.

The Project assumed a pattern and identity stemming directly from the Women’s Club, which was formed as a purely social organization and still sees itself as such. In this context, it seemed inappropriate to ask for personal details that were not volunteered and to pursue apparent inaccuracies.

Caveats should be noted. First, not all the living 1916-1931 presidents are included. Hazel Bates (Mrs. Stuart J. Bates, Chemistry), was unable to complete her interview because of illness, though it is hoped she will be able to at some later date. Second, we interviewed a gracious lady we mistakenly believed to have been the first Women’s Club president, Mrs. Walter Adams. Unfortunately, the first Mrs. Adams died shortly after she served as president, and we were unaware of Mr. Adams’ second marriage until after the interview appeared in the Bulletin. Third, the Project has been completed without the benefit of several pairs of eyes checking for errors. Therefore, there are probably many, and are all mine.

We hope the Project will be viewed as being both complementary and complimentary: complementary in that it concentrates on the Institute’s social—as opposed to scientific life—through memories of faculty wives; and complimentary in that through the Project we spent some time with—and thus paid homage to—those women who established traditions of helpfulness and friendliness that make our lives more pleasant.

Alice Stone
We met in Culbertson, and the meetings were held in the auditorium itself. The refreshments had to be served downstairs and there was a very narrow stairway. Whoever had charge of refreshments the first meeting of the year tried to grab off something easy, like French pastries, so we had trays and trays of French pastries ready. One year, after the meetings had moved to the Athenaeum, Mrs. Einstein was here. She looked at the pastry tray that was passed to her and said, “Oh, I think I’d just like a sandwich.” So, I raced to the kitchen to see if I could manage to make some sandwiches. It was rather like a command, you know, coming from Mrs. Einstein.

In those days of the 1920s it was considered essential to wear gloves, hat, and veil to the teas. And in October, no matter how hot it might be, we had to appear in our new heavy fall dark clothes! Maggie Laing, Mrs. Graham Laing, was the only one strong-minded enough to refuse to wear hat, gloves, or much less a veil, and wore her hair cropped short long before we dared to do such things.

Mrs. Millikan threw herself into assisting Gilmor Brown in developing the Pasadena Community Playhouse, getting Caltech students to take part and to assist in raising funds to move the old Playhouse from the old theatre on North Fair Oaks, with its rickety folding chairs, to the beautiful new Playhouse on South El Molino, which became the official playhouse of the State of California and a training center for many of the old movie stars. In those days Pasadena had only about 50,000 [population]. We all flocked to the Playhouse and enjoyed coffee in the patio during the intermission while we visited with many of our Caltech friends.
Our parties in the evening were always gay but without liquor. For a number of years, we had special ones like the circus at Culbertson Hall with all the professors in costume; and, of course, our regular Christmas parties each year with dinner, games, stunts, musical chairs, and dancing followed by Christmas carols and a late pancake supper with the professors tossing the pancakes. Even the Millikans entered into the spirit. We should badly miss that traditional party were it to be discontinued. I’d hate to see it go. And I can still remember breaking a few chairs while we were doing musical chairs till finally the Athenaeeum said, “No more musical chairs!” I happened to be chairman of their parties for a number of years and ran all those.

One chilly evening in March, one of the graduate students invited me to drive down to the Pike in his open touring car. Being an Easterner, I forgot just how cold you can get on a chilly March evening in an open touring car. I wore my blue cape which was inadequate to say the least. By the time we reached the Long Beach Pike—called the Fun Zone—I was frozen. My date walked me up and down the full length of the Pike, never even asking me to go in for a cup of hot chocolate—and I being too polite to ask for it. We drove all the way back to Pasadena in near freezing weather. When I remember that my Bob received only $900 a year as a Caltech research fellow, and others received only $600, I don’t wonder that our evenings’ entertainment was inexpensive!

One Women’s Club party that I will never forget was held in the auditorium of Culbertson Hall. It was a circus party complete with circus posters. Arthur Fleming refused to let us put up posters on the walls, even with Scotch tape; so we managed to tie them up on strings between the columns. He also insisted that we have our lemonade outside the building for fear we would spill some on the floor! In spite of these difficulties, we had a hilarious party—all the staid faculty in circus costume. I remember many clowns, and [electrical engineering professor] Royal Sorensen as the ring master, complete with tails, whip in hand, and huge, sparkling diamond in his shirt.

Mrs. Laing was quite advanced and startling in her ideas. When she was elected president, there was some trepidation as to what kinds of programs she would have; but as I remember it, when she was elected, she became quite conservative. Maybe that’s one way to handle advanced people—elect them to office.

Helen Smythe

If you’d like to read the complete interviews, you can go to:
https://oralhistories.library.caltech.edu/view/subjects/caltech=5Fwomens=5Fclub.html

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These CWC interviews were deposited with the Caltech Archives. Thank you to the Archives for their permission to reprint these excerpts.
In a research community where everything is about moving forward with the latest ideas, one place on the Caltech campus is dedicated to preserving the stories and artifacts of the Institute. More than 20 feet underground in a well-protected sub-basement, the Caltech Archives serves as the keeper of documents, papers, letters, books, videos, and many other fascinating collections. These collections celebrate and catalogue years of groundbreaking research and the lives of those who undertook that research.

Tasked to serve as the institutional memory, the Caltech Archives was established in 1968. Since that time they have carefully curated a world-class collection of materials that highlight science and technology research. The Archives has a reading room where researchers can request and study the collections.

The Archives also features special exhibits. The latest exhibit is Becoming Caltech, Building a Research Community, 1910-1930. It is currently closed due to COVID, but hopefully it will open again to visitors soon.

Even though many of the collections are not accessible to the public, the Archives has done a fantastic job of sharing the materials with the world in a way that helps to keep them preserved. The staff of the Archives has been working hard to digitize collections and make them more accessible. They also regularly assist researchers by replying to their requests via email.

Online tours and materials are available to peruse. The collections range from material from Einstein’s time at Caltech to the 1991 Caltech Centennial Float in the Rose Bowl Parade to a special exhibit on Donald Glaser and even a collection dedicated to Nobel Physicists at Caltech. There is a robust collection of oral interviews, many of which have been uploaded and are available to read online. Learn the fascinating stories of people who made Caltech what it is today as they speak their stories themselves. There is also a fantastic image collection that captures the history of the Institute in black and white and sometimes color.

The CWC is particularly grateful to the Archives because that is where we store everything from oral interviews, records, copies of the Bulletin, and pictures. It is nice to know that our history is being preserved in a safe and accessible location on campus.

Barbara Weber is the CWC Archives representative, and she works to keep our records organized. CWC member, Mariella Soprano, is a member of the Archives staff. If you ever have anything that would be good to store in the Archives, feel free to let her know.

Digital Collections
https://archives.caltech.edu/collections/digital-collections.html

Online Exhibits
https://archives.caltech.edu/collections/online-exhibits.html
I was president in 1928–1929. And among those preceding me, I remember Mrs. Bates, Clapp, Hinrichs, MacMinn, Bell, Lacey, Burt, and Smythe. These were the days when every new faculty wife was paid a formal welcoming call. In my best afternoon dress, hat and white kid gloves and armed with a card case of my husband’s and my calling cards, I would sally forth to greet the newcomers.

There was no place we went that had anything comparable to the Athenaeum. In type and luxurious atmosphere, the faculty clubs in general were very dreary. They’d take you out to some club in town. We felt very proud of the Athenaeum when we came back.

Regarding an invitation to lunch with Margaret Sanger after she had spoken to the Women’s Club:

If I had not happened to be president of the Caltech Women’s Club, I would not have had any personal contact with [Margaret Sanger]. Imra Buwalda, Dorothy Raymond of the hotel family, and a couple of others [went] to lunch with her. She and her husband had rented a house in San Rafael [area of Pasadena]; and we went over there and had lunch with her and sat around and chatted about birth control. Apparently when she married Slee it was the first time in her life she had money; and he supported her ideas. She was so charming and so sweet. She looked like anything but a crusader.

Her reception was wonderful. The Women’s Club was thrilled to have her. This was a little later than her first flurry into the birth control movement. I cannot think of any unpleasant incidents [that] I know [of]. This dinner was over in town [and] was attended mostly by doctors. The doctor I had at the time was there. It was a charming interlude, really. She was making a general tour of different areas. I think she came out here to spend the winter months.

Well, I think just by process of numbers—when it was a small faculty, a small number of people in the department where you knew everybody—you’d just meet at chemistry picnics and things like that. And you knew the family and when they were having a baby; you knew all these little intimate details. I know I know the names of them; but actually, the faculty now is so changed in chemistry—so many new faces. We’ve known Fred Anson for years. The [William N.] Lacey’s we were very close to for years, but they both died. So, I feel we’re kind of the Grandpa and Grandma.

Regarding programs at the Women’s Club:

“I do not remember having very many men speakers at the Women’s Club. We mostly dug up somebody. Ruth Lacey had a sister who sang—far from professional. “Mostly we gathered and talked about who was going to have the next meeting. It was an era when everybody was pregnant. We were a young faculty then.”
Another important duty of the Women’s Club at that time was the welcoming dinner for all new staff members, which included postdoctoral appointees and graduate students and their wives. The dinner at which I presided, held in Dabney Lounge, was the final Women’s Club dinner. The administration decided that handling such a large group was becoming too large an undertaking for the Club and was more properly an administration-faculty responsibility. Thereafter the dinner was replaced by the present afternoon functions.

One of the social events of that earlier era was monthly faculty dances held in the basement of Culbertson Hall. You would be surprised by the beautiful dancers of the old school type. I would like to have one more waltz with dear old Jimmy Bell.

FREE ONLINE ENGLISH AND CITIZENSHIP CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Classes begin September 20

To register, visit our website sgvlc.org

We offer morning, afternoon or evening classes for beginning, intermediate, or advanced students. We also offer advanced conversation classes and a citizenship class. One-on-one tutoring is available.

San Gabriel Valley residents will be given priority during the registration process.

Our classes are currently all online using Zoom. — We can help you learn to use Zoom.
Every February 2, the groundhog comes out of hibernation to see if winter is over. If he sees his shadow, he will go back in his hole for another six weeks.

Fortunately, we in the Caltech Playreaders are not so superstitious. When we came out of our collective holes this winter, we didn’t look for our shadow. We ran out, signed up, and got vaccinated. For us, winter was over!

Now be it known that while we were holed up in our dens, we were not silent. In the season past, we mounted performances of two new plays, a video rerun of a previous play, and evenings of monologues and Shakespearian Sonnets. These performances were presented using the features of Caltech’s YouTube Premier Channel. Hibernation – and social distancing – were scrupulously maintained.

But with the “winter of 2020” behind us, we have made new plans for the upcoming season. We will be returning to in-person readings in the Caltech Athenaeum, where we have performed for most of the past 71 years.

Our playbill will feature such venerable authors as Oscar Wilde, David Garrick, and Tom Stoppard.

Sadly, we are aware that a new winter could yet descend at any time and send us scurrying back to our dens. To avert this threat, we - actor and audience - will have to abide by Caltech policy: “that the Institute will limit access to all indoor campus spaces to individuals with proof of full vaccination.”

But no more winter for us! Unlike Bill Murray in the 1993 movie Groundhog Day, we are moving forward into our new season, the seventy-first in our grand history. It is fitting and appropriate in these off-kilter times that in our first play nothing is quite as it should be.
The Lying Valet
by David Garrick
&
The Male Coquette
by David Garrick
Tuesday, November 9, 2021
at 7:30 p.m.
Directed by Cara King

These two short comedies by the great 18th-century playwright David Garrick feature witty ladies and gentlemen and their even wittier servants in pursuit of love, money, and a good laugh. In The Lying Valet, manservant Sharp schemes to keep his master’s fiancée ignorant of their poverty until the knot is firmly tied. In The Male Coquette, aristocratic Melissa disguises herself as a man to discover which of her handsome suitors is lying to her. Schemes, duels, disguises, romance, and mirth ensue, showing why the “Garrick fever” which seized London in 1741 is just as infectious nowadays.

37 Postcards
by Michael McKeever
January 11, 2022
at 7:30 pm
Directed by Todd Brun

37 Postcards is presented by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.

Avery returns home after eight years abroad to introduce his fiancée, Gillian, to his erratic family: his parents, Evelyn and Stanford, his Aunt Ester, and his 97-year-old grandmother Nana. He finds that they have gone even further off the rails than when he left: a daft, though lovable, band of eccentrics who seem only distantly connected to reality, living in a house that itself is tilting ever more askew. The homecoming, at first comical, turns into something else altogether, a genuine reckoning for all with both the joys and the painful realities of life. This family’s denial of reality evokes the line from Man of La Mancha: “perhaps maddest of all is seeing life as it is and not as it should be.”
The Pioneering Life of Mary Wortley Montagu: Scientist and Feminist
by Jo Willett

This biography of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1689-1762) was published this year. Nothing specific was said about the pandemic, but the obvious message is that it is time to more broadly understand her role in the adoption of inoculation as a medical technology. Lady Mary, eldest daughter of Evelyn Pierrepont, 1st Duke of Kingston was the person who introduced inoculation for smallpox from Turkey to the Western world. As wife to the English Ambassador to the Sublime Porte she, unlike previous travelers, all male, had an unique opportunity to see it done in the harems of Turkish women. Herself a smallpox survivor and living in a period characterized by successive increasingly virulent smallpox epidemics, she saw the potential of inoculation. What she accomplished reverberates to this day and is more relevant than ever. Yet all we hear, especially in the US, is Edward Jenner, Edward Jenner, Edward Jenner. All Edward Jenner did was substitute cowpox for smallpox, since immunity to one poxvirus confers immunity to others. A great breakthrough but nowhere near as important as hers. The scientific contributions of women have been undervalued far too long.

This is a well-written, well-researched biography designed for the general reader rather than a scholarly audience, but that is the need. I have read and own Lady Mary's Turkish Embassy letters and several biographies. They all tend to emphasize her conflict with Pope, her literary life, and self-imposed exile in Italy in later life. This one, on the other hand, does a good job of describing her life in terms that contemporaries who might not be familiar with the details of aristocratic life of the 18th century can relate to. For example, the author talks about clinical trials when discussing Lady Mary's inoculation of her daughter Mary in London, and data gathering during the early stages of testing this new treatment out.

The author casts an interesting light on LMWM's bust-up with Alexander Pope. You see how easy it was, pre-#MeToo, for a man to destroy a woman's reputation. The result of this is that today, Lady Mary is just a footnote in Pope Studies. Yet her accomplishment was far, far more transformational than anything Pope ever wrote. What I thought most interesting was the discussion of several years she spent in Italy with Count Ugolino Palazzi-she was clearly the victim of a conman. I have read her letters on this subject, but it wasn't really obvious until put into context. Some things never change….

Lady Mary was a famous feminist and wrote extensively on the disadvantages suffered by the women of her day. In Turkey, she had an extraordinary opportunity to compare cultures and she was pretty scathing about Europe. Despite her social position, advantages, and toughness of character, she was taken advantage of a number of times by men: the mess over her Sister Mar's mental health, the conflict with Pope, Count Palazzi. She knew what she was talking about when she railed against the inequities of marriage, and the limitations of women's lives. I could wish this bio had more detail on life in Turkey, but overall I can recommend it highly. It should be essential pandemic reading.

7:30 PM Tuesday November 9, 2021
Combine flour, sugar, and salt in a large bowl; add 2 tablespoons of the butter.

Blend in a mixer until dough resembles coarse cornmeal. Add remaining butter; mix until biggest pieces look like large peas.

Stir in a little water. Add just enough water until dough just holds together.

Mix with your hands until you can roll dough into a ball. Flatten into a 4-inch-thick disk; refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Remove and let soften so it’s malleable but still cold. On a lightly floured surface, roll into a 14-inch circle about 1/8 inch thick.

Put dough in a lightly greased 9-inch round tart pan, or simply on a parchment-lined baking sheet if you wish make it galette-style.

Heat oven to 400°F. (If you have a pizza stone, place it in the center of the rack.)

Overlay apple slices on dough in a ring 2 inches from edge if going galette-style, or up to the sides if using the tart pan. Continue inward until you reach the center.

Fold any dough hanging over pan back onto itself and crimp edges at 1-inch intervals.

Brush melted butter over apples and onto dough edge. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon sugar over dough edge and the other 2 tablespoons over apples.

Bake in center of oven until apples are soft, with browned edges, and crust has caramelized to a dark golden brown (about 45 minutes).

Make sure to rotate tart every 15 minutes.

Prepare glaze: Put reserved peels and cores in a large saucepan, along with sugar. Pour in just enough water to cover; simmer for 25 minutes. Strain syrup through cheesecloth.

Take tart out of the oven, and slide off parchment onto cooling rack. Let cool at least 15 minutes.

Brush the tart with the glaze.

Enjoy!
The 2021-2022 Activities Guide is a mix of virtual and in-person opportunities to spend time with the CWC community. We are making attempts to gradually ease back into some activities in accordance with the current rules at Caltech, and just like we have all become accustomed to, things are in flux. Some activities like the Ath Lunches are still on hiatus, but there are many ways you can connect. So please join us at an activity when you are ready. We would love to see you there!

You can always check the website www.cwclub.caltech.edu for the most up-to-date information. If you have an idea for a new activity group, contact the CWC Activities Chair, Dema Faham at cwclub@caltech.edu.

**Playgroup**

This group of parents with young children get together for playdates and field trips. The playgroup provides mutual support for the ups and downs of parenting.

For more information contact Jessica Schneiders: schneiders.jessica@web.de

**Caltech Women’s Investment Club**

Meets monthly on second Wednesdays at 7 PM. Members learn about investing through research and discussion, and the club maintains its own investment portfolio. Meetings are currently virtual through Zoom. For further information please contact Shelley Erwin at charlotte.erwin@gmail.com.

**Book Lover’s Soiree**

Second Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. Gather for a casual, informal discussion of the selected book. We previously met at the Rath al Fresco during the summer months or the Rathskeller during the academic year, but right now we are meeting virtually.

Feel free to join us on a regular basis or just drop in occasionally for a particular book discussion. For more information contact Sonya Wierman: SonyaWierman@gmail.com

Oct 11 - *Somebody’s Daughter* by Ashley C Ford
Nov 8 - *Sansei and Sensibility* by Karen Tei Yamashita
Dec 13 - *Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi
Jan 10 - *Rodham* by Curtis Sittenfeld

**Morning Book Discussion Group**

Historically this group has met on the second Monday of each month at 8:00 am for breakfast at the Athenaeum and lively conversation about books. This group is currently on hiatus and in need of a leader.

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**Playreaders**

Athenaeum Hall of Associates, 7:30 pm.
71st Season, 2021-2022 Season runs October - May.

The Playreaders meets six times a year for semi-staged script-in-hand readings of comedy and drama. Performances run about two hours. Stay after the performance for refreshments and discussion with the cast. No reservations are needed for the reading, but are requested for those joining the playreaders’ table in the Athenaeum Main Dining Room beforehand (reservations 626-395-8200).

Admission is $3 for CWC Members, $4 for guests. For more information contact playreaders@gmail.com.

**Dates Booked in the Athenaeum Hall of Associates**

- **Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 7:30 pm**
  “The Lying Valet” / “The Male Coquette” by David Garrick
  Directed by Cara Kinggreta

- **Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 7:30 pm**
  “37 Postcards” by Michael McKeever
  Directed by Todd Brun

**Playscripts**

- **Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 7:30 pm**
  “The Ladies of the Camellias” by Lillian Groag
  Directed by Joanne Doyle

**Dramatists*’**

- **Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 7:30 pm**
  “A Woman of No Importance” by Oscar Wilde
  Directed by Barbie Insua

- **Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 7:30 pm**
  “Enchanted April” by Matthew Barber
  Directed by Lynne McGrath

**Concord (Samuel French)**

- **Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 7:30 pm**
  “The Real Inspector Hound” by Tom Stoppard
  Directed by Ashley Stroupe

**Virtual Wine & Cheese**

Last Thursday of most months from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm.
Upcoming: Thursday, October 28th.
To get the Zoom login details, contact Vilia Zmuidzinas: viliazm@gmail.com.

**Hiking**

The hiking group is currently on hiatus and in need of a leader. If you love the outdoors and would like to organize or lead hikes in the area, please contact Activity Chair, Dema Faham, for more information.

**Scenic Walking Group**

The walking group will meet Thursday, November 4th at 9:00 AM in the parking lot of the Arroyo Seco trail in Pasadena. Address 415 S Arroyo Blvd, Pasadena 91105

We will walk about 1.5 hours and there is no elevation gain.

The schedule for the winter will be announced later. Contact Eva Schilk at schilk8@gmail.com for more information.

**Urban Explorers**

Join us as we explore sights of interest in and around Pasadena. Past excursions have included the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Tournament of Roses House and Pasadena Museum of History. Details coming soon on outdoor visits to local sights.

Have a suggestion for an excursion? Please contact Katie Clark, ktclark@caltech.edu.
Gloria Mullendore  
President

How long have you been a member?
I have been a CWC member since 2008.

What is your favorite place to travel?
I’ve had the opportunity to travel to many wonderful places all over the world. However, during these extraordinary COVID times I found myself longing most for visiting Blue Heaven on Earth a.k.a. Dodger Stadium.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?
I would choose to spend a day with no “to do list” & to totally pamper myself by doing one thing at a time (no multitasking) or maybe nothing at all.

What hobby/hobbies do you enjoy doing?
I like swimming laps, playing piano & walking in my neighborhood with the San Gabriel mountains as my backdrop.

If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?
It would be hard to choose a specific year. I would like to see my parents, grandparents & all my family & loved ones who have passed.

What is something that makes you smile?
My Old English Sheepdog, Ryder, makes me smile everyday.

What is your favorite song?
Baby, Baby, Can’t You Hear My Heart Beat? by Herman’s Hermits. When I was a teeny bopper (tween) I was in love with the frontman Herman a.k.a. Peter Noone.

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Donna Burdick  
Vice President

How long have you been a member?
Member since 1998

What is your favorite place to travel?
Italy

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?
Fly to NYC for fashion week and attend as many fashion shows as possible in one day.

What hobby/hobbies do you enjoy doing?
gardening, flower arranging, and anything to do with fashion.

If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?
1920’s because of my love for Art Deco, Jazz, cinema, dance, and of course fashion!

What is something that makes you smile?
My dog, Dakota

What is your favorite song?
Everglow by Coldplay
Meet the CWC Board

Maria Johnson Kriechbaum
Treasurer

How long have you been a member?
I have been a member since approximately 2013.

What is your favorite place to travel?
My favorite place to travel is Europe or New York City. I love the feel of the old buildings and cities in Europe and the energy of NYC.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?
If I could choose to do anything for a day, I think that I would go with my mom to see art and architecture in Florence, Rome, Barcelona, Madrid, Paris, Berlin, and London.

What hobby/hobbies do you enjoy doing?
Ceramics, reading, singing and listening to music, hanging out with my family

If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?
I think that I would travel to 1932. By chance, I’ve lately been reading books that take place around WWII. It would be interesting to see what Europe and its people were like before the horror of the Holocaust and war.

What is something that makes you smile?
The Onion is a joke news site that has off-the-wall content. A long time ago, they had a little mini article with the title “Nation’s Dogs Dangerously Underpetted, Say Dogs.” That makes me laugh a little every time I think about it.

What is your favorite song?
This is a hard one because there are so many ways to love a song and so many genres and moods to choose from, but I’ll give it a go. One of my favorite songs is Jubilee by Mary Chapin Carpenter. It talks about the fears, struggles, and feelings of isolation that we all face in life, but has the message that we are not alone, that there are people in this world who love us, and that we matter.

Beryl Meiron
Secretary

How long have you been a member?
I first joined the CWC in 1987, but due to a job that required copious domestic and international travel, I was unable to participate until 2014 or so. Since then, I’ve been active, and love the camaraderie and support from the other members.

What is your favorite place to travel?
I love exploring Italy and visiting dear friends there. I’ve traveled extensively worldwide, but I love Italy.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be? A leisurely breakfast by the beach with my beloved and friends, a long walk along the shore, and a spectacular, candlelit dinner with those beloved folks. Of course, a classical concert to top it all off would be glorious.

What hobby/hobbies do you enjoy doing?
Reading, cooking, walking and traveling.

If you could go back in time, what year would you travel to?
I’m not tempted to return to the past, I’d much rather peek ahead to the future and see what is to come.

What is something that makes you smile?
My five-year-old grandson makes me grin from ear to ear. Oh, there are those days when he’s a real handful, but overall, he makes me smile.

What is your favorite song?
Ella Fitzgerald’s version of My Funny Valentine (my birthday is Valentine’s Day)

So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.

-F. Scott Fitzgerald from The Great Gatsby
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Autumnal Word Search

- latte
- pumpkin
- carving
- brisk
- gratitude
- equinox
- harvest
- autumnal
- crunchy
- susurrous
- hibernate
- acorn
- petrichor
- sweater
- hayride
- maze
- hibernaculum
- autumnity
- candy
- deciduous
- blustery
- scarlet
- feuillemort
HOPE
By Emily Dickenson

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all,

And sweetest in the gale is heard;
And sore must be the storm
That could abash the little bird
That kept so many warm.

I’ve heard it in the chilliest land,
And on the strangest sea;
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.
Directory

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Gloria Mullendore
President

Donna Burdick
Vice President

Beryl Mieron
Secretary

Maria Johnson Kriechbaum
Treasurer

Katie Clark
Membership

Brooke Anderson
Communications Chair

Dema Faham
Activities Chair

Mariella Soprano
Program Chair

Eman Badr
Services Chair

Barbara Weber
Social Events Chair

Liz Jackman
Athenaeum Rep

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please reach out to the committee chair or Gloria Mullendore.