I’m feeling somewhat nostalgic as I write this. Maybe it’s the end of the holiday season, the beginning of a new year, or the passing of a longtime friend, but much time is spent right now reflecting upon my life and many fortunes received - A warm home, enough food, rewarding employment, good health for an old gal, and close family and friends – all of which are undeserved godsend and potentially fleeting.

One of the gifts I’ve cherished is being a part of our great university. There is no better life than one led within a higher education institution of which you take great pride. Dean Boocker, Bruce Garver and I stood outside of the dean’s office in Arts and Sciences Hall yesterday afternoon surveying the College’s Wall of Honor and we were struck by the amount of history on that wall. The plaques covering that wall are of UNO faculty, alumni and friends, some deceased, who have given so much of themselves to our campus and our students. I feel gratified to have known these individuals and miss such wonderful people such as Jack Newton, Bob Reilly, Charlie Gildersleeve, Bob O’Reilly and Walt Linstromberg, and to have heard so much about others such as Barbara Hayhome, Nell Ward, Ron Burke and Ralph Wardle.

One of our great professors, Orville Menard, has died after falling victim to an aggressive illness. Darlene, his wife of 60 years and a long-standing member of UNOWC, sat as always by his side. They have been such important members of our university community and we have been fortunate for their presence.

Which brings me to the point of this letter…another pleasure is my involvement with the UNO Women’s Club. I count among this group some of my closest friends, and appreciate the companionship of others. Last month, the UNOWC Book Club, led by Ann Newton, discussed a book, Mover of Bones, by novelist and UNO graduate Robert Vivian. While opinions about the book were varied, it was gratifying to listen to the well-thought-out views of our members. Karen Garver was able to share her knowledge about Medieval History and Patti Gregor researched a particular piece of music that applied to the story. I came to see the novel in a new light and with new appreciation.

It truly does not get any better than playing a small roll in this superb university and being associated with the UNOWC. Happy New Year and thank you all for what you do to support UNO and UNOWC.

Mary Bernier
UNOWC President, 2013-2014

In this issue:
- Italian Cooking Lesson and Dinner on January 25th (RSVPs are due before January 23 – See the invitation on next page.)
- A “Thank You” from one of our scholarship recipients
- General Membership Spring Events
- Committee Notes, including Treasurer’s Report
- Interest Groups Club News
- List of Current Members
UNOWC Italian Cooking Lesson and Dinner

Mangia! Mangia!

Come Join the UNOWC Gourmet Club for an evening of Italian cooking and dining at the home of:

Place: Mary and Bob Bernier  
2809 Westgate Road

Date: Saturday, January 25, 2014

Time: 6:30 pm

Donation: Rather than contribute to the meal, please consider making a gift to the Darlene and Orville D. Menard Political Science Scholarship Fund. Checks should be written to the “University of Nebraska Foundation;” in the memo portion of the check, please write “Darlene and Orville D. Menard Political Science Scholarship Fund.”

RSVP: By January 23rd, call or email Mary Bernier, mbernier@nufoundation.org, 402-502-4108. If you’re not a member of the Gourmet Club yet, contact Mary.
UNO Women’s Club Newsletter
January 2014

UNO Women’s Club Spring Semester General Events

UNO Women’s Archive Project (WAP):
February 22nd luncheon
Dr. Tammie Kennedy, Assistant Professor and Director of the Women’s Archive Project, UNO Department of English, will be the speaker. We don’t have a place to hold it yet, but will soon. A separate flyer will be emailed (and mailed to those who don’t have email) closer to the date.

UNO Maverick Food Pantry Shower:
Saturday, April 12 at 11:00 a.m.
Katherine Keiser, LMHP, NCC, UNO Counseling Center and Maverick Food Pantry is the presenter. It will be a brunch, and people are asked to bring either a bag of nonperishable food items or a check to support the pantry. Again, we will email/mail a separate flyer soon.

Final Meeting and Election of Officers will be our last program in May. No date or place set yet.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS’ NOTES

We want to be there for our members during “life” events. Please send a quick email note to asjuts@nufoundation.org when you hear of a time in a fellow member’s life when it would be appropriate for UNOWC to reach out and provide support, friendship and caring. Thank you.

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS:
Long-time UNO Political Science professor Orville Menard died after falling victim to an aggressive illness. Darlene, his wife of 60 years and a long-standing member of UNOWC, was at his side.

Remember in your thoughts, prayers and cards Gina Pearson’s husband, Andre, for who is recovering from an extended illness.

Treasurer’s Report:
Currently, 75 members have paid dues.
Scholarship donations as of January 6: $2,530
Income to date: $1,200 (dues)
Expenses to date: $780.40

ARCHIVES
I would appreciate receiving any papers that members or past members have from the former UNO Faculty Women’s Club. The minutes of the meetings from the past secretaries would be especially important in tracking the history of the Club. Any historical material will eventually go to the UNO Archives. Thanks for helping. Contact me at ann.newton@centurylink.net or 402-556-5881.
We Want You!
The following UNOWC members have renewed their membership for 2013-2014. Membership Chair Cindy Osborne, cosborne@unomaha.edu, or committee member Angie Sedlacek, angelasedlacek@unomaha.edu, can answer any question you have about becoming a member.

Melba Acheson
Elaine Allen
Marge Armfield
Tessa Barney
Monica Bayles
Mary Bernier
Rose Bernstein
Kathy Blanke
Bridget Blomfield
Tatiana Bodrug
Melissa Boseman
Janine Brooks
Diane Boker
Lori Byrne
Betty Carrico
Anne Carroll
Jan Christensen
Connie Claussen
Tara Clawson
Eileen Conway
Laraine Conway
Betty Davis
Sharon Davis
Carol Ebdon
Roxie Freeman
Judith Gaeddert
Karen Garver
Jo Gilreath
Marylu Gouttierre
Patti Gregor
Amy Hanna
Judy Harrington
Rita Henry
Marty Hill
Jeanne Hoburg
Wilma Kuhlman

Sue Kutschkau
Carole Langan
Kathleen Lyons
Sue Manley
Nicole Massara
Sherry Mead
Becky Means
Darlene Menard
Julie Messerole
Ann Newton
Marjorie O'Reilly
Cindy Osborne
Dorothy Patach
Gina Pearson
Inez Petrie
Janet Pol
Aretha Prodjinotho
Marjorie Pullen
Renee Reding
Mary Lynn Reiser
Katie Sup Rezac
Catherine Rokes
Sheila Runyon
Courtney Schaffert
Angela Sedlacek
Jeannine Sindt
Claudie Sires
Amanda Sjuts
Deb Smith-Howell
Bev Snowden
Sharon Trussell
Angela Valle
Marsha Vance
Lou Ann Weber
Judith Welk
Charlene Wilcox
Dorothy Willis
Tina Wilson
Cindy Wofford

The UNO Women’s Club Membership form is available online. A hard copy may be mailed to members who do not have Internet access. To access the online UNOWC Membership Form, click on this link and follow the instructions:

http://cba.unomaha.edu/unowc/unowc_member.cfm

If you want to join, please complete the online form, or send your completed paper form with your dues to our treasurer, Anne Carroll, at UNOWC, Unit 120, 6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68182.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Helen Keller
UNOWC Gourmet Group

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italian Cooking Lesson &amp; Culture (see enclosed invitation)</td>
<td>January 25 6:30-10 p.m.</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Bob Bernier's home</td>
<td>Mary and Bob host an Italian cooking lesson and dinner with a talk about Italian culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Cooking &amp; Culture</td>
<td>June (date and time TBA)</td>
<td>Location TBA</td>
<td>Carl and Fanny Macchiato host a lesson and dinner with a talk about Chinese culture</td>
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Ladies’ Brown Bag Lunch Mob

We are gearing up for an exciting New Year in our Ladies’ Lunch Mob. All Spring Semester events will be over the lunch hour. If you need a parking permit or accommodations to participate, please contact Janine Brooks at 402-554-2651 to make arrangements. *Also, a free shuttle bus is located off-campus at the Crossroads where you can park your vehicle without a parking permit. Please RSVP for events as space may be limited.*

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date Time &amp; Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Getting into (Bikini) Shape for the Summer (Schedule)</td>
<td>Thursday, January 23 12:05 p.m. HPER (meet in cafeteria area)</td>
<td>30-minute exercise session. Skylar Brooke, a Graduate Teaching Assistant in HPER, will lead us through some exercises we can do at our desks each day that will be beneficial to our health. Plan to bring your ‘healthy’ lunch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off Campus for (a late) Valentine’s Day</td>
<td>Thursday, February 20 12:05 p.m. Dudley's Pizza and Tavern, Aksarben Village</td>
<td>It’s February, so this is a good time to treat ourselves by wandering off campus to a delightful pizza/sandwich/hamburgers/salad place. Expect to pay about $10.00 for a meal. ‘I’ll need ahead count to RSVP, and to see if a deal can be worked out on our meal prices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What exactly is Biomechanics, anyway?</td>
<td>Thursday, March 27 at 12:05 p.m. BioMechanics Building</td>
<td>Arrangements have been made for us to learn hands-on a bit more about this program. Join us with your sack lunch knowing you may be back to your office about 15-minutes late caused by dawdling in fascination at all the ‘toys.’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What's Cooking in our Kitchens?</td>
<td>Thursday, April 17 at 12:05 p.m. MBSC Cafeteria</td>
<td>Come to MBSC to learn from the Catering Manager of the services that they offer and the different types of foods they have available.</td>
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Mystery Book Club

Calling all members: If you love reading mysteries and being a secret sleuth, consider joining the UNOWC Mystery Book Club. Not a formal discussion group, this group meets on the second Saturday of each month at Wohler’s Grocery on 67 & Center at 10:30 a.m. to exchange mystery books, recommend books and visit. Please contact Karen Garver, bkgarver@cox.net, 402-558-1895.

General Book Club

General Book Club meets on the third Monday of the month at 7 pm at members’ homes. New members are welcome. Contact Ann Newton, ann.newton@cox.net or 402-556-5881.

Books selected for the rest of 2013/2014

- January 20: Boob Girls by Joy Johnson
- February 17: Sister by Rosamund Lupton
- March 17: A Lady Cyclist’s Guide to Kashgar by Suzanne Johnson
- April 21: My Life in France by Julia Child
- May 19: Review books for next year followed by no host dinner.
Two UNOWC Scholarship Recipients Answer the Question: “Why is a college education at UNO important to you?”

By Sheima Alkilidar (UNOWC General Fund & Josephine Bail scholarship)

I believe in the old saying “Seek education from the cradle to the grave.” I believe that education in general and college education in particular is not something that you should choose to have; it is something that would be essential to your success. Obtaining a college degree can provide self-fulfillment, more opportunities and a better standard of living, of course. By graduating from college, and especially with excellence, I can more confidently seek my dream job and start making at least some of my dreams a reality.

Having grown up in Iraq, I lived under a dictatorship regime and experienced two bloody wars. I lived through unfortunate events and lost a member of my family in the war. (Of course, like most of the Iraqi people, my family and I were on the good side, against the previous tyrannical regime.)

However, despite the bombs and the horrible war situation, I and many other kids at that time had never stopped learning and continued going to school, sometimes without electricity or good light, and almost all the time without air-conditioning. I had been taught that lack of education would cause any nation to steer backward. I had the commitment to continue my education and succeeded to get into college majoring in Biology, which was my passion, but in a provincial, badly-equipped University in Iraq.

However, while I was in my third year of college the so called “Desert fox” war started. I managed to leave the country to England and married my husband. Two years later, we came to the United States and had three children. While my family and I were living our American dream, I put my education on hold for seven years taking care of my three little kids, and their father, too, who I dearly love! After my children grew up and became a little independent, I went back to school and continued to pursue my degree in Biology at UNO as a part-time student.

I truly admire most of the faculty at UNO especially of the Biology and Chemistry departments. Some faculty at other colleges and want you to memorize and literally regurgitate what you remember in exams. Our Biology and Chemistry faculty on the other inspired me to learn and think further. The “self-learning” skills are what I believe will help me most after I graduate and take with me from this level of education. Therefore, college education in UNO is my only and greatest vehicle now to be a true professional and a good, life-long learner.

By Jennifer Blegen, (Margaret Naylor Scholarship)

A college education from UNO is important to me because UNO has a well-known business program. I knew when I started at Metro Community College that I was planning on transferring to UNO. I like the look and feel of the UNO campus. I have learned a great deal from attending UNO. I have also learned that employers looking for students who are UNO graduates.

I dropped out of high school at 15. When I turned 23 and had my first child I realized the importance of having a college degree. Without an education I found that it would have been very difficult to make a good living and provide for my family. I received my GED on the first attempt and immediately started taking classes at Metropolitan Community College. This will be my last year at UNO. I am a part time student. I also work 25 hours a week at Metropolitan Community College and am the mother of three children.
A Note of Appreciation from Emily Sulzle, Mary Macchietto Bernier Scholarship Recipient

Dear Mary,

Thank you so much for your investment in me. Your support is a deep breath of encouragement in my sometimes overwhelming life. I am fairly terrified with all the exciting changes that I know our family will face over the next year, but having you in my corner helps remind me that I’ve got this - I am going to do great things.

By granting me your scholarship, you’ve not only impacted me, but you are playing a part in making a better world for my kids. Thank you, more than you can imagine, for being part of the beauty in their world.

When I come to Omaha this Spring to talk with Career Services, I’ll make sure to let you know. Maybe we can meet for lunch, or at least a cup of coffee! I sincerely enjoyed meeting you, and would love to have the chance to chat in person again.

Again, thank you so much for the scholarship, and for taking the time to meet me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

2013 – 2014 UNO Women’s Club Scholarships Recipients
Sheima Alkilidar: UNOWC General Fund & Josephine Bail
Jennifer Blegen: Margaret Naylor
Terri Booth: UNOWC General Fund & Margaret Naylor
Catherine Melissa Campbell: Lou Ann Weber
Tara Ebbs: UNOWC General Fund
Samantha Folken: UNOWC General Fund & Lou Ann Weber
Jennifer Peterson: Josephine Bail
Keyla Sanchez: UNOWC General Fund
Emily Sulzle: Mary Macchietto Bernier
Maria Vargas: UNOWC General Fund & Dorothy Patach