## UPCOMING EVENTS

**March 3, 12-1 pm**  
Lunch and Learn  
Margaret Flesher on Memoirs

**March 5, 12:30 pm**  
Gourmet Group lunch at the Hamilton Park Restaurant. Make reservations with Patty Pollard.

**March 24, 12-1 pm**  
Lunch and Learn  
Dostoevsky and Balzac

**April 24** – Deadline to sign up for the YUWO Bus Tour to the Culinary Institute of America. Send your check to Winnie Seibert NOW to reserve your spot! A spouse or guest is welcome to attend.

**May 6** – Annual Meeting and Scholarship Awards Luncheon,  
New Haven Lawn Club

**May 20** – YUWO Bus Tour to Culinary Institute of America for gourmet lunch and tour of the school.

## SPRING LECTURE SERIES — IMPORTANT NOTICE!

We are asking all members to review the bios of the speakers for the upcoming the “Women at Yale” lecture series (see page 3) and to send all questions to be posed to the speakers prior to each of the lectures to sandrajogreer@gmail.com.

This will enable us to structure the interviews to be conducted on stage and prepare the speaker for conversations that will clearly offer interesting and engaging information regarding their journeys, challenges, contributions and other meaningful dialogue.

**Many thanks to all, and we hope to see you there every Wednesday in April!**

## NEWS for NEWCOMERS

The 2019/2020 Luncheon for all YUWO Newcomers will be held at 12 noon on **Saturday, March 28**, in the Captain’s Room at Mory’s Association, 306 York Street, New Haven.

All Newcomers are invited!

See page 4 for more details.

## ATTENTION GOURMET GROUP!

The Hamilton Park Restaurant at The Blake Hotel, New Haven, is delighted to welcome about twenty of us from our Luncheon Gourmet Group for lunch at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 5. Check with Patty Pollard to see if there is room for one more—You! The current luncheon menu is available online for you to enjoy.

### YUWO Members and Friends,

I’ve recently returned from a little respite in New Orleans so I am still thinking “Spring,” the holidays and rebirth ahead. In March we will be treated to two sessions of Lunch and Learn. One will be the first Tuesday, March 3, “Memoir Writing” and the second will be a later Tuesday, March 24, “Dostoevsky as a Translator of Balzac.” Details about these talks are in this Newsletter. The YUWO Finance Committee and the Nominating Committee are both working behind the scenes to plan for YUWO in 2020-2021. Please consider being part of those plans with your ideas and energy. The Yale Campus will be quiet between March 6 and the 23 during Yale’s Spring Break. Those two weeks will be a good time to go downtown to visit the Art Galleries or gather your YUWO small group friends for lunch. Be sure to mail in your reservations for the April Lecture Series and the May trip to the Culinary Institute. I hope to see you soon at Yale Visitor Center.

*Mary-Jo W. Warren, YUWO President & Landa Freeman, Vice President*
YUWO Monthly Book Groups – Read On!

Second Monday Afternoon at 2:00 pm:
Monday, March 9, The Desert Queen by Janet Wallach.
Contact Pat Goldstein (203-535-0734) or patgoldst@gmail.com

Second or Third Monday Afternoon at 2:00 pm:
Monday, March 16, Summer Hours at the Robbers Library: A Novel by Sue Halpern, at the Guilford Free Library.
Contact Patty Pollard (203-668-6019) or pollpatty@yahoo.com.

Second Tuesday Afternoon at 2:00 pm:
Tuesday, March 10, The Witch Elm by Tana French.
Contact Lyn Howe (203-606-0370) or lyn.howe66@gmail.com

Second Thursday Morning at 9:30 am:
Thursday, March 12, Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. Meeting at the home of Margaret Sipple, 177 State Street, Guilford.
Temporary Contact Vicki Smith (203-488-3352) or vssfleur@sbcglobal.net

Needlers’ News

We will meet this month on Tuesday, March 17, at 1:30 p.m. (We always meet on the third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.) If you would like to join us but are not on the email list, please contact Dinny Wakerley for information and directions at (203) 624-9343 or dinnyw999@gmail.com. As always, you are invited to bring your projects or just come for conversation. Everyone is welcome. (See additional Needlers News on page 5 of this issue).

Tennis

Contact Carol Munch munchcarol@gmail.com or (203) 278-3862 if you would like to be on the substitute list. We play doubles every Tuesday morning from 10–11:30 a.m. at the Yale Tennis Complex.

Lunch and Learn

March 3 and March 24, 12-1:00 at the Yale Visitors Center, 149 Elm St. All are welcome to attend either or both lectures. Light refreshments will be served, and no RSVP is needed.

March 3 — Do you, like many people, want to share your life story as a legacy for your family and future generations? Or is it simply time to “walk in your own landscape,” to see where you’ve been and where you’re going? Margaret Flesher will share her experience facilitating groups of memoir writers and writing her own life story, using a technique that makes the process accessible and insightful. She will discuss the benefits of memoir writing and how to find the stories in your experience that will make your memoir interesting for both the writer and the reader. Along the way, she’ll share tools and resources that will help you discover the hidden gems in your memory and get started writing the story only you can tell.

March 24 — The speaker will be Dr. Julia Titus of the Yale Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures on “Dostoevsky as a Translator of Balzac.” Although considerable research exists on Dostoevsky’s novels, almost nothing has been written on his work as a literary translator. The talk will concern his first literary publication, his free translation of Eugenie Grandet, which was the first Russian edition of Balzac’s novel. Her upcoming book focuses on close comparative reading of the original and the translation, viewing Dostoevsky’s translation as a crucible for his own future create work and a predictor of future motifs and themes in his own writing.
YUWO Lecture Series, April 2020: “Celebrating Women at Yale”

The April 2020 Lecture Series will involve presentations by four women whose substantial contributions in furthering Yale University’s commitment to excellence, fellowship and giving back to the global community are well known and celebrated in this Year of the Woman at Yale.

**Wednesday, April 8:** Constance Royster, former director of Development for the Yale Divinity School, and currently the principal of Laurel Associates, LLC. A Yale graduate, Ms. Royster is among the first women admitted to Yale College in 1969. She is one of five students chronicled in the recently published book, “Yale Needs Women,” by Anne Gardiner Perkins

**Wednesday, April 15:** Susan Gibbons, Vice Provost for Collections and Scholarly Communications; Stephen F. Gates ’68 University Librarian. As Vice Provost, Dr. Gibbons’ focus is on further connecting Yale’s world-class collections with its mission of education, research, preservation, and practices. The impact of her leadership, professional knowledge and experience, and her clear vision for the University’s library and collections systems will be felt for many years to come.

**Wednesday, April 22:** Dorothy Robinson, General Counsel and an officer of the Yale Corporation. She received her BA from Swarthmore College and her JD from the University of California Berkeley School of Law. She was only the second female officer in Yale history, and her course of leadership and counsel spanned the terms of five Yale presidents. Yale’s current president Peter Salovey said, “Her advice and counsel, and her extraordinary legal hand, have supported innumerable university initiatives from Yale’s partnership with the City of New Haven to research and educational collaborations with other institutions in the United States and abroad, technology transfer, on-line education, and the return of ROTC to Yale College.”

**Wednesday, April 29:** Linda Greenhouse, Joseph Goldstein Lecturer in Law and Knight Distinguished Journalist in Residence at Yale Law School. She received her BA from Radcliffe College and MSL from Yale Law School, after which she covered the Supreme Court for the New York Times for 30 years. She was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1998 and the Goldsmith Career Award for Excellence in Journalism from Harvard University’s Kennedy School in 2004.


As this series will be in interview style, we are requesting that questions be forwarded to Sandra Greer BEFORE THE LECTURES at sandrajogreer@gmail.com.

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REGISTRATION FORM FOR YUWO SPRING LECTURE SERIES

Wednesdays, APRIL 8, 15, 22 & 29, 10:30 to Noon at the Yale West Campus Conference Center (just off I-95, Exit 41, Marsh Hill Rd).

The course is open to YUWO members and the public. Make checks out to YUWO, $65 per person for the series. (No individual tickets.) Mail to Sandra Greer, 38 Fernwood Rd, Hamden, CT 06517.

NAME___________________________________________________________

ADDRESS____________________________________________________________________

PHONE_____________________________ Email__________________________________

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A Stitch in Time Makes for Good Conversation
Needlers Group Welcomes New Members

Dinny Wakerley is currently working on a Persian carpet design for her latest needlepoint project. It might become a pillow cover or a framed picture, she isn’t sure which, but she enjoys working in community. She has been creating needlepoint projects for “decades—I don’t know, maybe I have made hundreds,” but it wasn’t until five years ago that she joined the YUWO Needlers Group.

Now she is part of a group that meets once a month to share their enthusiasm for any type of needlework. “We have fewer knitters than we did, and more needlepointers,” she said in a recent phone interview. “Some do cross-stitch or crochet, some bring mending, and others just come to talk.” No doubt if anyone would like to learn a new stitchery skill, there are those who could help.

And just imagine how many interesting stories members of the group can share as they stitch away. For example, Dinny lived in London with her husband and children for fifteen years (1981-1994 and 1999-2001). A CPA, she worked with PricewaterhouseCoopers in the UK and the US for almost thirty years in all. Her specialties were 1) the US taxation of US citizens and residents living outside the US and 2) The design, development and delivery of tax training to tax professionals at all stages of their careers.

How did this group get started? Dinny thinks that members created a Yale Tricentennial Quilt “around the early 2000’s.” The Quilt currently hangs in the office of the Yale Provost. (Anyone with more information, please send it to the Newsletter Editor.)

Dinny estimates the group at thirty members, with ten coming regularly to members’ homes. Coffee, tea, and snacks are always available, and no end of conversation. Until January, they met twice a month, but cut back because of conflicts with book groups and other activities. All YUWO members are welcome to attend their meetings, the third Tuesday of every month. Just contact Dinny at dinnyw999@gmail.com or (203) 624-9343 to find out the meeting’s location.

Newcomers News!

Newcomers - Have you received your guest invitation yet? From the tables down at Mory’s… How “Yale” can you get? Invitations were sent out to Newcomers last week. If you didn’t get one, please let Mary Jane know. The 2019/2020 Luncheon for all YUWO Newcomers will be held at noon on Saturday, March 28, in the Captain’s Room at Mory’s Association, 306 York Street, New Haven. This is your chance to ask questions and meet one another as well as old-timers. Mary Jane Miller, Chair, urges all Newcomers who are new to YUWO to attend the event. Please contact her at mjmmiller@computerdesign.net for more information.
A Gastronomical Adventure Awaits on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, when you join YUWO for a day trip to THE CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

We’ll be traveling via bus for approximately two hours to historic Hyde Park, New York, to visit the 170-acre campus where CIA relocated from its humble beginnings in 1946 as a storefront cooking school in New Haven.

Upon arriving we’ll enjoy a gourmet experience of dining in an award-winning French restaurant, “Bocuse.” Following our signature three-course-lunch, we’ll be guided on a student-led tour and have an opportunity to learn more about CIA. The Culinary Institute of America prides itself on being in the forefront of innovation and for setting the standard for excellence in professional culinary education.

First Course
BLACK TRUFFLE SOUP V.G.E  Soupe aux Truffles Noires Elysee Paul Bocuse 1975
Beef broth, vegetables, black truffles, puff pastry

Main Course (choose one)
ARTIC CHAR  Omble Chevalier
Cucumber, stuffed zucchini flower and baby zucchini, carrots, carrot lemon sauce

MAGRET DUCK BREAST  Magret de Canard
Pickled cherries, turnip puree, Brussels sprouts, cherry Kirsh sauce
(Preparation note via Julia Child in Mastering the Art of French Cooking (page 273):
“French taste is for ducks roasted to a medium rare — the juices run slightly rosy when the meat is pricked.”)

Dessert Course with choice of Coffee/Tea/Iced Tea
Crème Brulee or Fruit Compote

Registration form for the Spring YUWO Bus Tour to the Culinary Institute of America
Wednesday, May 20, 2020
Send your check for $97 (payable to “YUWO”) with this form before Friday, April 24 to:
Winnie Seibert, 78 Fair Street, Guilford, CT 06437

Name and Address: _______________________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Cell Phone: _______________________________________
Email: _______________________________________________________________________________

Please arrive at the bus stop at least 15 minutes before time of departure in the morning. We will be leaving the CIA at 3:30 P.M. for the return trip.

I will board the bus at (check one):

________ 8:15 A.M. Guilford-at Exit 58 off I-95, Commuter Parking Lot
________ 8:45 A.M. North Haven-at Exit 10 off I-91, Lot A, corner of Devine & Hartford Turnpike.

MAIN COURSE CHOICE: ________ ARTIC CHAR                       ________MAGRET DUCK BREAST
Carol Sirot: A Profile

Have you met Carol Sirot? Surely you have read of the Gustave and Carol Lynn Sirot Scholarship Trust Fund, an endowed scholarship from Carol and her late husband, to be awarded to women who are associated with the Yale Community and whose formal education has been interrupted or delayed and who wish to resume their studies, to enhance careers with supplemental courses or to change careers entirely. The fund will continue to support these students as long as YUWO continues to exist. Perhaps you have shared a Luncheon Gourmet Group meal with her. Since joining YUWO in 1965, she co-founded the Gourmet Group and three other groups. At age 87, she remains one of the more active YUWO members and human beings in the Yale community.

To meet Carol is to be inspired. She uses words like self-made, a fighter, who is determined not to let health issues deter her from her mission, to help other people suffering from ME/CFS, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, which has affected her health since childhood. “My spirit is unwavering,” she wrote in her college yearbook. She is now very hard of hearing. And yet… and yet, she does not give in to her disabilities. Growing up in Port Chester, NY, a poor factory town between Rye, NY, and Greenwich, CT, she earned top grades and was the first in her family to attend college. She attended Smith College, where she was acquainted with the poet Sylvia Plath, on a scholarship and earned a teaching fellowship and M.A. in Art from Oberlin College. She is intensely curious about many things and speaks with determination. “Never underestimate a woman who believes that right is on her side.”

She was inspired to fund the YUWO scholarship in part because she believes deeply in the need for education, but also to foster the memory of her late husband, Gustave Sirot, a dermatologist. He always liked being around women who were curious, intelligent and well-educated, often thinking them brighter than their husbands. He was a woman’s libber ahead of his time, she said.

Several years ago, Carol endowed a professorship at the Quinnipiac Medical School focused on teaching about Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. This is a first for any medical school in the United States. The innovative curriculum has been shared with medical schools at Stanford and Harvard. She also supports LEAP, a program for teaching leadership to New Haven’s youth.

Always interested in drama and art, Carol enjoys attending local plays and exhibits with her partner, Dick Proffitt. Her daughter, Devra Sirot, MD, is a YUWO member currently living in Virginia. Carol also has a son, Jonathan, and three grandchildren who give her great joy. Getting to know Carol would give those YUWO members who don’t yet know her great joy as well.

A Note from a Recipient of the Gustave and Carol Lynn Sirot Scholarship

I am very grateful to the YUWO and Gustave and Carol Lynn Sirot for the scholarship to support my education. This support inspired me to continue my education despite many obstacles. The YUWO members understand how important it is to recognize and support other women as they continue their education. It was especially meaningful for me, an older student, because it gave me the motivation to complete my degree.

Before I went to the ceremony, I thought it was just a scholarship, but I realized that it is so much more. I found that I was more motivated and energized in my studies because of the recognition and support I felt from the women that I met. In addition to the scholarship, I was surprised to receive extra funding for books which really made a difference. I want to thank all of the members of the YUWO for their support and recognition, especially Carol Lynn Sirot. — Suzana Mutic
YUWO Scholarships:

A Brief History of the YUWO Annual Fund and the Trust Funds

The Yale University Women’s Organization (“YUWO”) was founded in 1965 “to provide an opportunity for women of the Yale community to meet and pursue common intellectual and social interests.” Five years later two founding women, Magee Fenn and Kay Ross, added another dimension to the YUWO purpose. In 1970 YUWO decided to raise money for scholarships for Yale-connected women to continue their interrupted education. The YUWO Scholarship Committee granted its first award of $100 in 1972.

All the YUWO scholarship funds are now held at the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven (CFGNH) for both growth and protection. There are now four scholarship accounts held at the CFGNH with a combined amount of over $250,000.00.

At the May Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon, the membership votes on the Annual Budget, which includes the Scholarship Awards. The YUWO Scholarship Committee works year-round seeking and choosing eligible candidates. The award recipients are presented at the Annual Meeting.

The four scholarship funds are:

1. The original 1970 Fund continues as the Annual Scholarship Fund. Donations to this account are held at CFGNH in an available “savings account” and are applied to the scholarship awards.

2. In 1977 the YUWO Board voted to secure some scholarship funds in perpetuity by protecting donations in the YUWO Trust Fund. Donations to this Trust add to the principal. This Trust generates annual distributions for scholarship awards.

3. In 1992 when Magee Fenn died, donations were sent to YUWO for a scholarship in her memory. That year the YUWO Board created the Magee Fenn Fund and in 2016, to protect the growing funds, including a $50,000 donation from the widower and Nobel Prize Winner, John Fenn, the YUWO Board created the Magee Fenn Trust Fund. Donations to this Trust add to the principal. This Trust generates annual distributions for the Fenn Scholarship award.

4. In 1999, Carol Sirot created the Carol and Gustave Sirot Fund at the CFGNH. Annual distributions from this endowed fund currently support the YUWO Sirot Scholarship recipients.
YUWO Newsletter for March 2020