MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Fall has arrived, and what a gorgeous fall it has been. The colors of the leaves seem to be particularly vibrant, and the flowers around campus match them in every way. As members of Northwestern University Circle, we have enjoyed these beautiful fall colors with an outing to Crab Tree Farm in Lake Bluff. In addition to the beautiful grounds, members enjoyed the exquisite crafts and décor of several restored buildings in a tour led by the knowledgeable staff. Circle members also were treated to the strong production of the annual Etopia play “Grounded” produced by Matthew Grayson.

In addition to these past activities, NU Circle invites you to get involved with upcoming events. Our annual wrapping party and cookie exchange which helps to support families from the Northwestern Settlement House in Chicago is being planned for December 10th, and we are also looking forward to a potluck dinner and NU theater production of Undine in January.

2015 marks the 100th Anniversary of University Circle! To commemorate those 100 years, we, as Circle members, have all been invited to President and Mrs. Schapiro’s home on April 22, 2015. Be sure to mark your calendars for this special event!

We all know that these events don’t happen on their own, and so would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, particularly our dedicated Executive Board, for sharing their energies and talents with us to make Northwestern University Circle the organization it is today. A very special thanks to Trink Newman, who has been a most able co-chair of Circle for these past two years. She will be moving to Olympia, Washington, at the end of November to be closer to her son and his family. We will miss her dearly, but hope she will spread the word about NU Circle to new friends in Washington as we look forward to our second century!

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MEET THE UNIVERSITY CIRCLE EXECUTIVE BOARD 2014-2015

L-R: Sally Dobroski, Pat Mathis, Margaret Schatz, Debbie Crimmins, Elisabeth Malthouse, Jane Dowding, Trink Newman, Pat Ulmer, Diane Unger, Eleanor Prince
MISSION
The mission of University Circle is to provide opportunities for Northwestern University women to participate in service, scholarship, and social activities that enhance the University community.

MEMBERSHIP
If you know of a woman who is interested in becoming part of University Circle, please bring her along to a special interest group or general membership program. You may also contact Margaret Schatz at 847-475-2365 and she will happily send membership information out by mail. You can find membership information on the University Circle web site: northwestern.edu/university-circle

BOARD MEETINGS
University Circle Board meetings are held at noon on the third Thursday of most months, at Parkes Hall, first floor, Room 122. All members are welcome. Meetings typically last one hour and are always lively and fun. Please contact one of the co-presidents if you plan to attend and/or if you have an item for the agenda.

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Spanish Conversation Nancy Allred
Piecemakers Quilters Margaret Schatz
Cathryn Timmers
Scholarship Gay Menges
Settlement House Claudia Krizek (Holiday Project)
Sylvia Tatlove (Kids’ Concert)
Eileen McGowan (Kids’ Concert)
Jane Wilson (Holiday Project)
Social Service Glenda Mockros (General Chair)
Marietta Paynter
International Women Joan Fragen
For information about other interest groups, please contact either co-president.
– by Gay Menges

Graduate students at the Bienen School of Music are fortunate to have the multi-talented Donna Su as the coordinator of Graduate Services and Financial Aid. Her administrative duties range across procedures for registration and financial aid to academic advising and career services—an unusual and complete package.

Donna’s work toward a Master’s Degree in Public Policy and Administration will increase her ability to advise the more than 250 graduate students in her care. Electives in human resources and non-profit administration extend the public policy focus of her course work and fit into her passion for volunteering.

The oldest of five children, Donna was born in Evanston where she attended Evanston schools until moving to California for high school. After college in California, she gladly returned to this area to work in corporate finance. She joined the Northwestern Student Loan Office and the Medill School of Journalism before coming to the Bienen School of Music. Her warm professionalism and strong skills have lead to steadily increasing work responsibilities.

Family life and a strong commitment to volunteer activities give Donna a very full and active life. Husband Kuan grew up in Wilmette, so they have deep ties to the North Shore. Their two young children attend Chiaravalle Montessori in Evanston as well as Kindermusik classes and Center for Talent Development at Northwestern.

Donna’s many volunteer activities include helping national and local organizations hold event fundraisers, develop financial and marketing plans, implement social media strategies, and many others. After an appointment to the City of Evanston Minority, Women, and Evanston Business Enterprise Development Committee, Donna coordinated a citywide procurement workshop for minority businesses seeking contracts with the city.

On the lighter side, she is also an AYSO soccer coach for her son and is a strong supporter of her husband’s newly opened acupuncture studio in Evanston. Donna’s goals include remaining at Northwestern and continuing her strong commitment to the success of the students she advises.

UNIVERSITY CIRCLE TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Each year University Circle awards scholarships toward tuition for NU employees enrolled in the School of Continuing Studies. Our scholarships depend on donations from our members and friends. Please consider making a donation to help us continue to support students who are working and continuing their studies. Our current winner, Donna Su, is an exemplary example of dedication and focus as she works toward her degree.
THE ANNUAL WRAPPING PARTY

by Claudia Krizek

Over 100 years ago, Northwestern University Settlement House was established in Chicago by members of the Northwestern Community to help people cope with the obstacles of poverty. This year, as in the past, Circle will be participating in the Northwestern Annual Adopt-a-Family Holiday Project.

We have agreed to assist four families which have been selected by Belna Reyes, Director of Emergency Services at Settlement. She coordinates the selection of families, choosing those in greatest need.

Circle members will supply donations of clothing, household necessities, toys for the children, and money for food, rent, and utility bills for these four families.

After collecting the gifts, a wrapping party will be held on Wednesday, December 10th, at the home of Glenda Mockros. When all gifts have been wrapped and boxed for delivery to Settlement, we have a cookie exchange and coffee.

A letter with details about this project and how you can help will be sent out in the upcoming weeks.

A VISIT TO CRAB TREE FARM

by Elisabeth Malthouse

On October 8, a beautiful fall day, a group of 15 Circle members carpooled to Crab Tree Farm in Lake Bluff. The century old Crab Tree Farm is the only operating farm in Illinois located on Lake Michigan. But it is mainly known for its collections of Arts and Crafts furniture and decorative arts.

The Circle group was split up and each group received a two-hour tour of the various buildings and their collections. The buildings themselves were designed by Chicago architect Solon Spencer Beman (1853-1914), the architect of Pullman Village. Originally used as barns, stables and a garage, the buildings’ interiors have been renovated in the spirit of the Arts and Crafts movement and nicely showcase the collections, including among others furniture by Gustave Stickley, rugs by William Morris, and artwork by Charles Rennie Macintosh. The groups also toured the beautiful interior of Ellis house, a house actually built in 1993 but based on drawings by the architect Harvey Ellis which were published in The Craftsman in 1903.

One group also had the opportunity to meet the current artist in residence, woodworker Mike Jarvi, in his workshop and take a look at his contemporary furniture.

Circle members finished their outing with a tasty lunch at Wisma’s in downtown Lake Bluff.
The Piecemakers, the Circle quilting group, ended the year on a high stitch with a May dinner at Café Selmarie, Lincoln Square, enjoying the display of beautiful quilts made by member Melanie Anderson. Melanie, an NU alum, is a talented, creative and productive quilter, as well as one of the organizers of the Fine Art of Fiber Show held every year in early November at the Botanic Garden. Great work Melanie!

During the past year, Piecemakers completed three small puzzle pattern quilts (featured in the May Courier); two of these were donated to Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care. Two twin size quilts were completed for the Harbour, which provides emergency shelter and support for homeless north suburban youth. A lap size quilt is ready for an auction donation.

Piecemakers are currently working to answer a call from Project Linus for small quilts for boys which are given to children in local hospitals.

If you are a quilter or would like to join a quilting group, please contact Cathryn Timmers, c-timmers@northwestern.edu or Margaret Schatz, m-schatz@chem.northwestern.edu.

GROUPED, AN ETOPIA PLAY

Groups of Circle members attended Grounded, a play by George Brant, on two different days in September. The play was produced by Matthew Grayson under Etopia: The Engineering Transdisciplinary Outreach Project in the Arts and was organized by and performed at the McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Elizabeth Laidlaw, a Chicago actor, director and producer, rivetingly performed the role of a fighter pilot, who is “grounded” when she becomes pregnant and then assigned a job as a drone pilot working at a base outside Las Vegas, a stressful job that in the end leads to her breakdown.

After the play each of the groups went out for dinner, one to Noyes Street Cafe in Evanston and the other one to Convito Italiano in Wilmette.
– by Elisabeth Malthouse

On May 16, University Circle held its annual spring luncheon at The Farmhouse Restaurant in downtown Evanston.

The luncheon started with some Circle business, after which Bert Mount welcomed Stephanie Cisneros, last year’s Circle Scholarship winner. Stephanie is working toward a Master’s Degree in Liberal Studies with a focus on international education. Bert then introduced this year’s scholarship recipient Donna Su. Donna is completing a Master’s Degree in Public Policy and Administration at Northwestern University (see also Scholarship article on page 3).

After a tasty lunch and scrumptious key lime pie for dessert, T.J. Callahan, the owner of The Farmhouse, gave a talk and slideshow about the restaurant and its concept. The Farmhouse in Evanston is a restaurant that specializes in seasonal Midwestern food from local sources, and is also known for its wide selection of craft beers and liquor from smaller local distilleries. Callahan also talked about the first Farmhouse restaurant in Chicago and his Brown Dog Farm in Wisconsin, a farm that supplies his restaurants with some of their fruits and vegetables.

2014-15 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Circle events:

2014 - DECEMBER 10  Wrapping Party & Cookie Exchange

2015 - JANUARY  Ethnic Dining (TBA)

2015 - JANUARY 31  Potluck & Show

2015 - APRIL 22  Dinner at President Schapiro’s house

There will be emails and/or mailed flyers about these events. Please visit www.northwestern.edu/university-circle regularly to stay informed about the latest Circle news, upcoming programs and volunteer opportunities.
by Sally Dobroski

“Are you a staff member looking to get involved in an NU organization? Do you desire more engagement with the NU community outside your job? Do you have a special interest and wonder if a club exists that supports it?”

This quote is from the invitation to NU staff inviting them to the first ever Staff Activities Fair. Over 18 NU organizations were represented at the Fair, which was held on July 15, 2014 in the lobby of the Tech building. University Circle was one of those organizations that set up a table and welcomed all interested staff to find out more about Circle.

The morning went quickly as a number of women stopped by to chat, pick up a brochure and share their contact information. The membership committee has sent a welcoming letter and membership form to all staff members who expressed an interest in learning more about our organization. We are eager to reach out to the NU community and share all that Circle has to offer.

(L) Trink Newman and (R) Jean Wilson

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

THE UNIVERSITY CIRCLE EXECUTIVE BOARD meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month, in Parkes Hall, 1st floor Room 122, 12 noon - 1:00 pm on the following dates:

- November 20, 2014  Noon - 1:00 pm
- December 2014  no meeting
- January 15  May (TBA)
- February 19  Annual Meeting & Luncheon
- March 19  June (TBA)
- April 16  Year-end Potluck
- May  (TBA)

CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please make sure to renew your membership to the University Circle for the coming year. Letters with renewal forms were sent out in September. For more information or questions about the membership please contact Margaret Schatz, Sally Dobroski or Jean Wilson.